

2019 Northwest Ottawa County Park and Recreation Community Survey Analysis & Report



Grand Haven
Coast Guard City USA



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Executive Summary

The Frost Research Center contracted with five North Ottawa Recreation Divisions (City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Charter Township, City of Ferrysburg, Village of Spring Lake, and Spring Lake Township) to obtain the



“One of the main attractions to live in Ottawa County for us is the bike paths! We love them and use them, as well as the parks system every single week!”
—Grand Haven Township

opinions of community residents on existing programs, park facilities, and future priorities to inform the upcoming Five-Year Plan.

Community surveys were implemented with 835 residents through online (721) and phone (114) surveys in September and October 2019. Further in-depth stakeholder surveys were conducted with advocates/program staff representing aging adults, residents with disabilities and coaches/program staff. The key take-away of these community-wide surveys across all five municipalities are summarized.

Survey respondents indicated:

- They visited Grand Haven State Park most often. In each municipality respondents specified visiting the following city parks most frequently: Coast Guard Park (Ferrysburg), Chinook Pier Park (City of Grand Haven), Pottawattomie Park (Grand Haven Charter Township), Rycenga Park (Spring Lake Township), and Mill Point Park (Village of Spring Lake).
- Natural areas (38%) and location (28%) are the **biggest factors** impacting respondents’ decisions to visit a park in the last year across all municipalities.
- Weather (41.1%), not having time (37.7%), and getting exercise and recreation through other outlets (10.3%) are listed as the **top three reasons residents do not go to parks when their usual routine of going to a park is interrupted.**
- Driving continues to be the **primary method (79%) of transportation used to get to the parks.**
- Picking up trash (29%), removing invasive species (18%), and “Adopt a Pathway” (17%) are the **volunteer opportunities** in which respondents are most interested.
- **13.4%** of respondents noted they or a household member have a **disability or condition** that makes it difficult to enjoy public spaces – of this population, 93% of respondents their disability limited mobility.
- Of those that indicated a disability in their family, respondents indicated social activities (28%) and outdoor adventure programs (23%) are most needed to serve this population.
- Nearly one fifth (18.7%) of respondents reported **using a stroller, wagon or other types of equipment that may present challenges at parks.** Many of these respondents suggested more paved or hard-surface walkways free of roots and other obstacles.

“We moved here from Western New York State three years ago and just love it here! We [have] been to many of the parks on this list already, but now we have seen that there are many more to go!...Thank you for taking such good care of all these natural areas. We love it here!”
—Grand Haven Township

Park Amenities and Updates

- Respondents indicated that “nature trails for hiking,” “paved walking / biking trails,” “beach/swimming access,” and “picnic facilities,” are the most important park amenities.

- When asked about the **most needed park outdoor facilities**, “nature trails for hiking (39.2%),” “paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized) (29.2%),” “updated bathroom facilities, (26.0%)” and “beach/swimming access (21.1%)” are most often selected.
- Updated bathroom facilities (46.7%), drinking fountains (25.5%), more shaded areas (20.1%), and wildflower fields (18.1%) were most often selected as the **most needed park updates**.
- Respondents are most interested in purchasing more land for parks and adding more programs and upgrades to current parks as opposed to adding more active or passive recreational facilities.

Conclusion and Final Comments

- Final comments from respondents offered **mostly praise** (86) for the municipal park systems. Other suggestions focused on **maintaining current park offerings and amenities** (29) and winter **upkeep of trails** (21).
- Continuing to involve residents through **volunteering** and **decision making** is worthwhile and appreciated.
- Residents indicated that **maintaining natural areas** is the most important to them and should be a focus area of the five year plan.
- It is clear that Northwest Ottawa County parks has made great efforts to make their parks **accessible**; however, there areas of opportunity to allow greater access to trails, playgrounds, and bathrooms.
- **Updating existing facilities and park amenities and facilities**—particularly bathrooms, trails (nature, paved, bike/mountain bike), expanding beach access/finishing sections of bike trails that are dangerous, and **maintaining the current parks** are themes that resonate across the municipalities for future efforts.

Introduction

The Frost Research Center contracted with the North Ottawa Recreation Divisions (City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Charter

"I love our parks. We are blessed with the planning and care." –*Spring Lake Township Resident*

Township, City of Ferrysburg, Village of Spring Lake, and Spring Lake Township) in

obtaining the opinions of community residents on existing programs, park facilities, and future priorities to inform the next Five-Year Plan. As partners in this work, the Frost Center worked alongside the

leadership of the five municipalities throughout the project. Together, the Frost Center and the North Ottawa leadership team developed a community survey instrument that was implemented through a multi-pronged approach to collect rich, meaningful and representative data on how residents would like to use and grow North Ottawa's park and recreation assets.

This approach included online and telephone surveys as well as a series of three stakeholder surveys to residents and advocates having a unique perspective on park and recreation planning (disabilities, aging residents, and coaches/park staff). Surveys were collected in September and October, 2019.



Methodology

Both phone and online surveys were administered to the five municipalities to gather residents opinions about future planning for the parks and recreation in the region. Telephone numbers, both cell and landline, were purchased from a third party vendor using the most up-to-date sampling technology available. Calls were made by trained Frost Center interviewers (Hope College students) Monday through Thursday and on Saturdays for approximately three weeks. Each phone number was called four times or until a respondent completed the survey or choose not to participate. Telephone surveys were more difficult to obtain. Online surveys were sent through email lists to three of the five municipalities. The other two municipalities posted the survey link on their city's Facebook page to recruit online responses. While telephone surveys overall did not reach the overall goal of 200 completed responses, the overall goal of 500 completed surveys was exceeded. There were multiple functions built into the survey to detect duplicate responses, including resident address and computer IP address. The table below outlines the number of surveys completed by region. Based on a response of 835 surveys for a population of 45,105 residents in the five municipalities, a confidence interval of $\pm 3.36\%$ can be assumed.

	Survey completion goal	Telephone Surveys	Online Surveys	All Surveys
City of Ferrysburg	30	29	10	39
City of Grand Haven	115	49	64	113
Grand Haven Charter Township	170	12	360	372
Spring Lake Township	160	22	229	251
Village of Spring Lake	25	6	54	60
Total	500	114	721	835

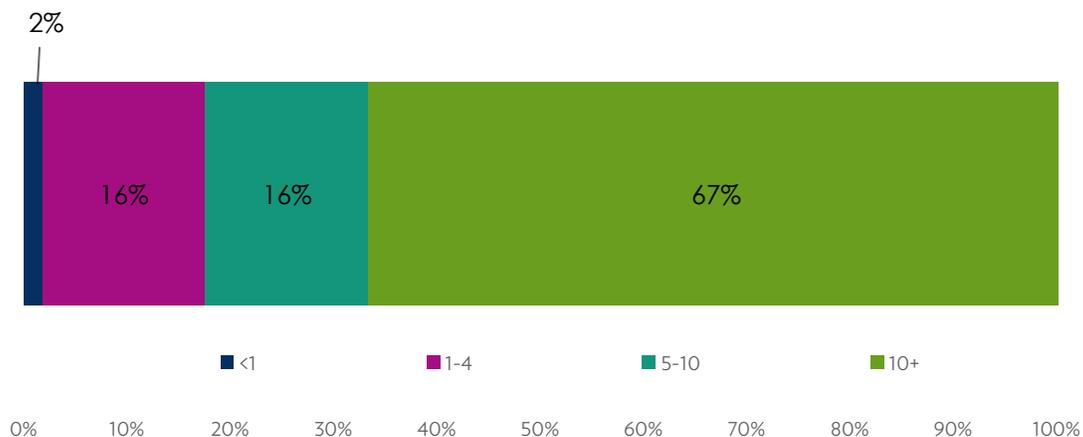
Stakeholder surveys were sent out to three different groups identified by the leadership of the municipalities. In addition, each of the contacts provided for each stakeholder group was encouraged to share the survey with others within their organization or advocacy/program area. The stakeholder survey findings are attached in an a report appendix. The disability stakeholder survey also aimed to collect responses from members of the community who indicated they/member of their family had a disability and they would be willing to take an additional survey about park accessibility. They were emailed a follow up survey.

Survey Results

Length of Residence

The majority (67%) of survey respondents have lived in the region more than 10 years, with only 18% living in the area less than four years. Distributions from all five communities look similarly yet respondents from Ferrysburg and Grand Haven Township reported a slightly greater percentage of long-standing residents (71.8% and 70.1%, respectively).

How many years have you been a resident of Northwest Ottawa County?

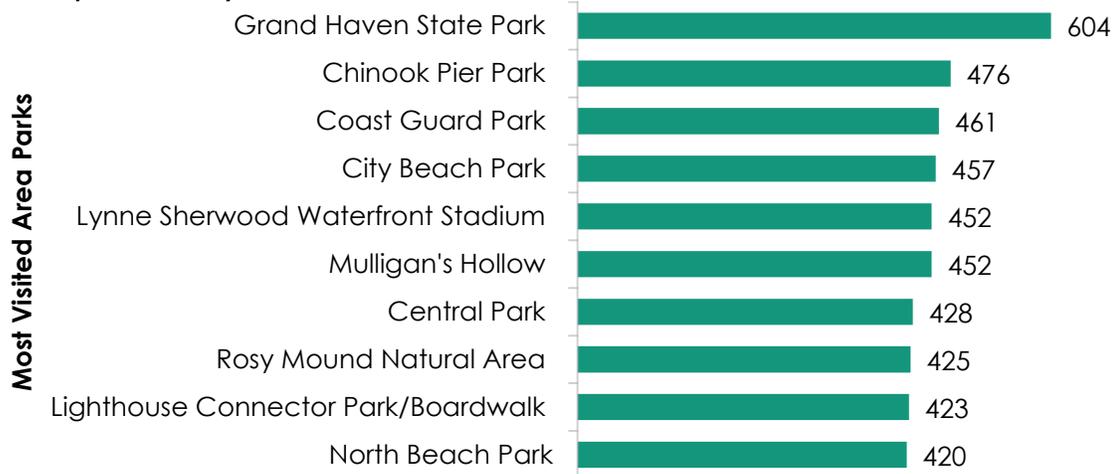


	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
< 1 Year	2 (5.1%)	--	7 (1.9%)	4 (1.6%)	2 (3.3%)	15 (1.8%)
1-4 Years	3 (7.7%)	21 (18.6%)	56 (15.1%)	41 (16.4%)	11 (18.3%)	132 (15.8%)
5-10 Years	6 (15.4%)	18 (15.9%)	48 (12.9%)	43 (17.2%)	10 (16.7%)	125 (15.0%)
10 + Years	28 (71.8%)	74 (65.5%)	260 (70.1%)	162 (64.8%)	37 (61.7%)	561 (67.3%)

Most Visited Parks

Respondents at large reported visiting Grand Haven State Park, Chinook Pier Park, Coast Guard Park, and City Beach Park most frequently. Respondents were least likely to have visited Shiawassee Access and Klaver Park.

Which parks have you visited in the last twelve months?



The tables below outline parks survey respondents indicated they visited in the past year by municipality. In each municipality respondents indicated visiting the following city parks the most frequently: Coast Guard Park (Ferrysburg), Chinook Pier Park (City of Grand Haven), Pottawattomie Park (Grand Haven Charter Township), Rycenga Park (Spring Lake Township), and Mill Point Park (Village of Spring Lake).

City of Ferrysburg	
Coast Guard Park	461 (55.2%)
Mike Herman Memorial Field	38 (4.6%)
Ferrysburg Nature Preserve	109 (13.1%)
Ottawa Sands	25 (35.3%)
Fire Barn Park	58 (6.9%)
Sunnyside Park	35 (4.2%)
North Beach Park	420 (50.3%)
William Ferry Park	122 (14.6%)
North Ottawa Dunes	253 (30.3%)
Waterfront Street Ends	68 (8.1%)
Kitchel-Linquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve	147 (17.6%)

City of Grand Haven	
Bicentennial Park	208 (24.9%)
Bolt Park	160 (19.2%)
Central Park	428 (51.3%)
Chinook Pier Park	476 (57.0%)
Duncan Woods Park	331 (39.6%)
City Beach Park	457 (54.7%)
East Grand River Park	131 (15.7%)
Escanaba Park	202 (24.2%)
Harbor Island and Launch	269 (32.2%)
William Hatton Park	31 (3.7%)
Lighthouse Connector Park/Boardwalk	423 (50.7%)
Johnston Park	22 (2.6%)
Klaver Park	16 (1.9%)
Klempel Park	22 (2.6%)
Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium	452 (54.1%)
Mulligan's Hollow	452 (54.1%)
North Shore Fisherman's Parking Lot	293 (35.1%)
Sluka Field	122 (14.6%)
Grand Haven State Park	604 (72.3%)
Riverside Park	114 (13.7%)
Rosy Mound Natural Area	425 (50.9%)
Non-motorized trails	129 (15.4%)

Grand Haven Township	
152 nd Access	63 (7.5%)
Bignell Access	32 (3.8%)
Brucker Access	92 (11.0%)
Buchanan Access	112 (13.4%)
Hofma Preserve	301 (36.0%)
Hofma Park	336 (40.2%)
Mercury Park	127 (15.2%)
Odawa/Battle Point Boat Launch	95 (11.4%)
Pottawattomie Park	355 (42.5%)
Shiawassee Access	17 (2.0%)
Non-motorized trails	135 (16.2%)

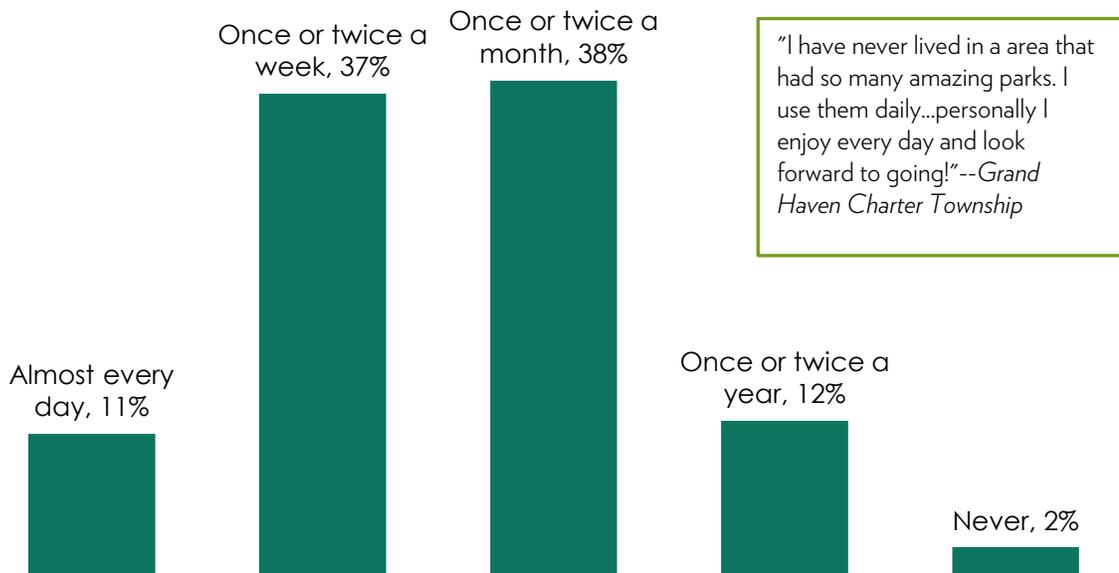
Spring Lake Township	
Black Lake Park	51 (6.1%)
Rycenga Park	227 (27.2%)
River Run Park	61 (7.3%)
Water Tower Park	52 (6.2%)
Non-motorized trails	156 (18.7%)

Village of Spring Lake	
N Buchanan Street End	30 (3.6%)
Central Park	285 (34.1%)
Cutler Street Kayak Launch	39 (4.7%)
N Division Street End	28 (3.4%)
Jackson St Dock	30 (3.6%)
Lakeside Beach	136 (16.3%)
Lakeside Trail	164 (19.6%)
Mill Point Park	348 (41.7%)
Parkhurst Street End	23 (2.8%)
Tanglefoot Park	90 (10.8%)
Whistle Stop Playground	148 (17.7%)

Visit Frequency

Overall, the residents surveyed are frequent users of local parks. Almost half, (47.9%) of residents surveyed visit a park at least once or twice a week, and 10.9% of the group visit almost every day. The open-ended remarks support these data—the community love, use and support the local parks on a regular basis. In 2014, these respondents reported even higher percentages on this question—with 16.45% reporting they go almost every day and 48.7% reporting they go every day. However, the 2014 data, (not collected by the Frost Center), but shared with us, was more likely to contain bias towards those visiting parks (a convenience sample). This year’s sample, while it may contain some bias from email lists and Facebook solicitation, did contain a random sample of phone participants and careful methods to detect duplicate entries/prevent ballot stuffing. Either way, both years demonstrate a high and frequent use of respondents’ park usage.

How often do you visit a local park?



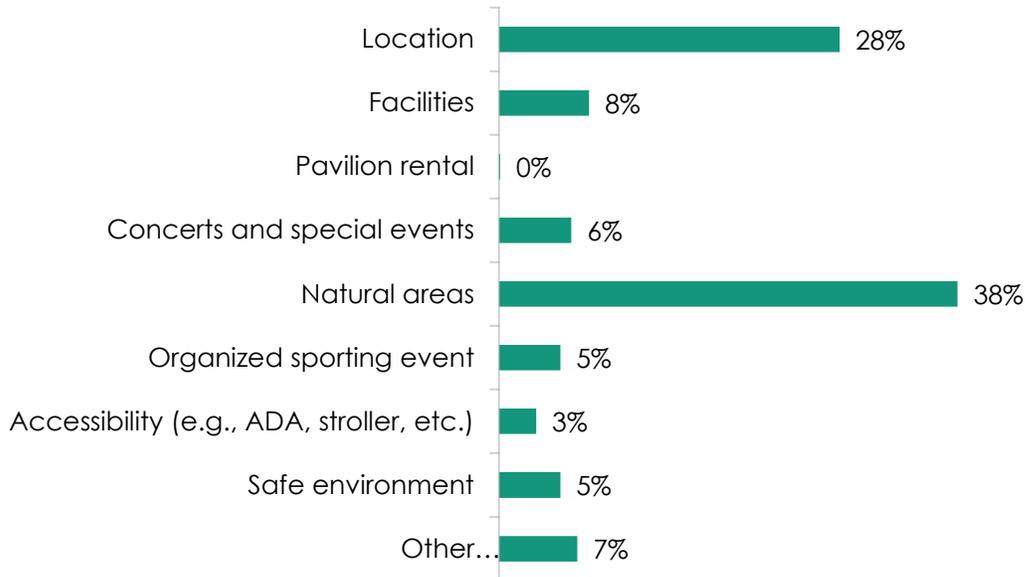
	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Almost every day	6 (16.7%)	13 (11.6%)	33 (8.9%)	29 (11.7%)	9 (15.3%)	90 (10.9%)
Once or twice a week	17 (47.2%)	47 (42.0%)	164 (44.2%)	91 (36.7%)	29 (49.2%)	306 (37.0%)
Once or twice a month	9 (25.0%)	39 (34.8%)	45 (12.1%)	87 (35.1%)	15 (25.4%)	314 (38.0%)
Once or twice a year	4 (11.1%)	11 (9.8%)	7 (1.9%)	33 (13.3%)	5 (8.5%)	98 (11.9%)
Never	0 (0.0%)	2 (1.8%)	7 (1.9%)	8 (3.2%)	1 (1.7%)	18 (2.2%)

Reasons for Visit

The most common reason respondents visited a park was the natural areas (38%) and the location (28%). Other responses listed for 'other' included dog friendly (8), exercise (8), boat launch (3), kid friendly (3), pickleball (3), and smaller crowds (2).

	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	Spring Lake	SLT	All
Location	11 (31.4%)	29 (26.6%)	107 (29.6%)	66 (27.6%)	15 (25.9%)	228 (28.4%)
Facilities	2 (5.7%)	13 (11.9%)	23 (6.4%)	20 (8.4%)	2 (3.4%)	60 (7.5%)
Pavilion rental	--	--	1 (.3%)	--	--	1 (0.1%)
Special events	--	5 (4.6%)	20 (5.5%)	17 (7.1%)	17 (7.1%)	48 (6.0%)
Natural areas	16(45.7%)	40 (36.7%)	142 (39.2%)	88 (36.8%)	88 (36.8%)	306 (38.1%)
Sporting event	1 (2.9%)	3 (2.8%)	23 (6.4%)	14 (5.9%)	14 (5.9%)	42 (5.2%)
Accessibility	1 (2.9%)	4 (3.7%)	9 (2.5%)	7 (2.9%)	7 (2.9%)	25 (3.1%)
Safe environment	2 (5.7%)	4 (3.7%)	14 (3.9%)	16 (6.7%)	16 (6.7%)	41 (5.1%)
Other	2 (5.7%)	11 (10.1%)	23 (6.4%)	11 (4.6%)	11 (4.6%)	52 (6.5%)

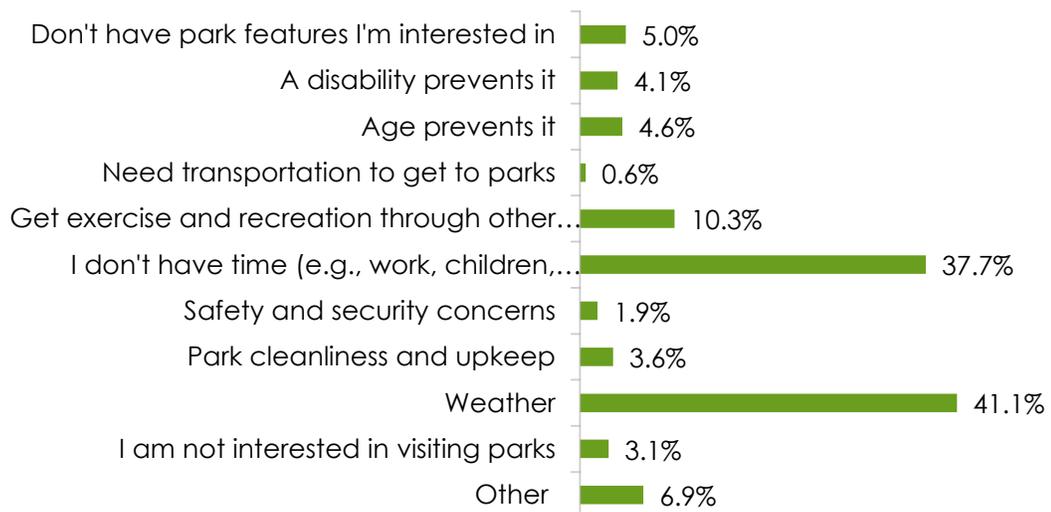
Which of the following is the biggest factor impacting your decision to visit a park in...



Reasons for not Visiting Park

Weather (41.1%) and a lack of time (37.7%) are the primary reasons that community members do not visit a park, or their regular visiting routines are interrupted. Transportation does not appear to be a major obstacle to park visits as only .6% of respondents specified this as a reason for not going. Other responses listed for 'other' included not being able to take one's dog (5), crowds (4), cost (2), and lack of/cost of parking (2).

If you don't go to a park often or when your typical routine of visiting the parks is interrupted, what are the reasons for not going? (select all that apply)

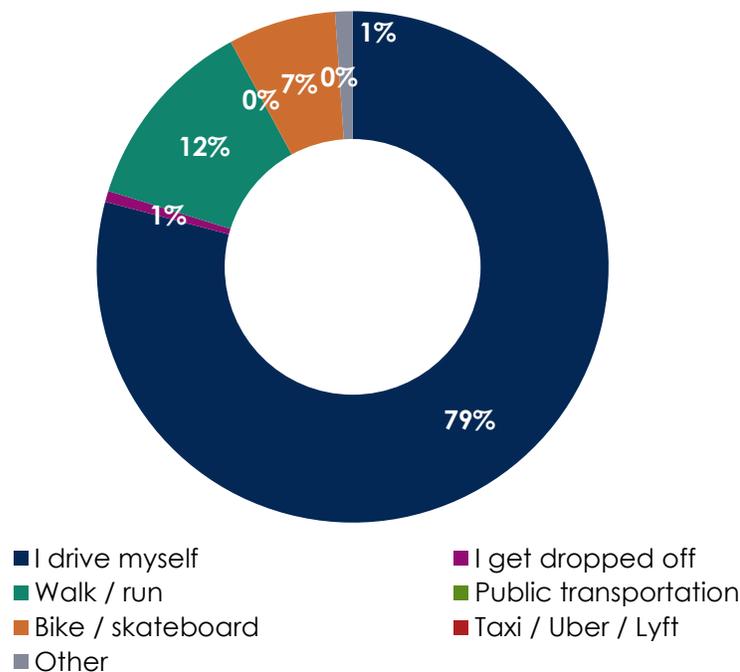


	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Don't have features I'm interested in	1 (2.6%)	4 (3.5%)	27 (7.3%)	8 (3.2%)	2 (3.3%)	42 (5.0%)
A disability prevents it	--	2 (1.8%)	20 (5.4%)	10 (4.0%)	2 (3.3%)	34 (4.1%)
Age prevents it	2 (5.1%)	5 (4.4%)	17 (4.6%)	11 (4.4%)	3 (5.0%)	38 (4.6%)
Need transportation to get to parks	1 (2.6%)	1 (0.9%)	2 (0.5%)	--	1 (1.67%)	5 (0.6%)
Get exercise through other sources	2 (5.1%)	4 (3.5%)	46 (12.4%)	28 (11.2%)	6 (10.0%)	86 (10.3%)
I don't have time	10 (25.5%)	50 (44.3%)	135 (36.3%)	102 (40.6%)	18 (30.0%)	315 (37.7%)
Safety and security concerns	1 (2.6%)	3 (2.7%)	7 (1.9%)	3 (1.2%)	2 (3.3%)	16 (1.9%)
Park cleanliness and upkeep	--	2 (1.8%)	12 (3.2%)	10 (4.0%)	6 (10.0%)	30 (3.6%)
Weather	12 (30.8%)	54 (47.8%)	159 (42.7%)	99 (39.4%)	19 (31.7%)	343 (41.1%)

Transportation

Driving continues to be the main transportation to the parks. 79% of respondents reported this as their primary method for getting to the parks. In 2014, 67% of respondents indicated they use driving most often. Respondents from the Village of Spring Lake and Ferrysburg were less likely than the City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Township, and Spring Lake Township to report driving as their primary means of transportation to the parks.

What mode of transportation do you most often use to travel to a park?

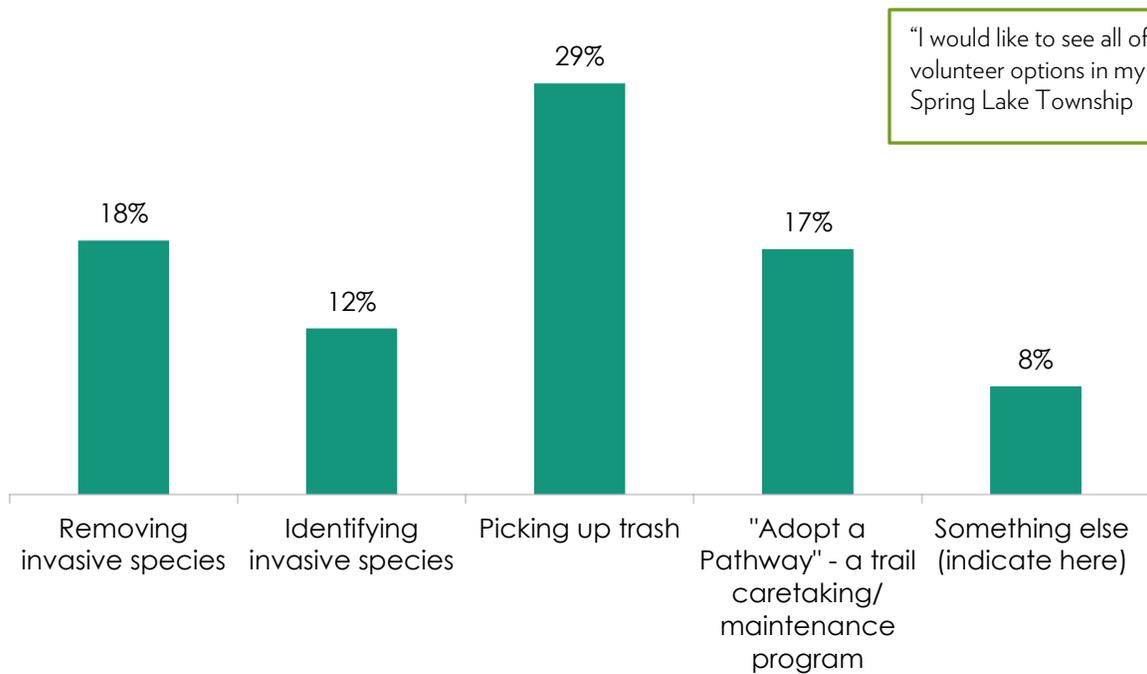


	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
I drive myself	21 (60.0%)	82 (73.2%)	322 (88.5%)	185 (75.5%)	34 (58.6%)	644 (79.1%)
I get dropped off	--	1 (1%)	3 (1%)	1 (.5%)	1 (1.7%)	6 (.7%)
Walk / run	11 (31.4%)	20 (17.9%)	19 (5.2%)	37 (15.1%)	13 (22.4%)	100 (12.3%)
Public transportation	--	--	--	--	--	--
Bike / skateboard	2 (5.7%)	5 (4.5%)	18 (4.9%)	21 (8.6%)	9 (15.5%)	55 (6.8%)
Taxi / Uber / Lyft	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other	1 (2.9%)	4 (3.6%)	2 (.5%)	1 (.4%)	1 (1.7%)	9 (1.1%)

Volunteer Opportunities

Survey respondents most frequently reported their interest in helping to pick up trash (29%) as well as removing invasive species (18%) and partaking in a trail caretaking / maintenance program (17%). Residents of Ferrysburg were more likely to volunteer for all potential opportunities than average.

Would you, or a group you belong to, be interested in the following volunteer opportunities? (select all that apply)



	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Removing invasive species	10 (25.6%)	22 (19.5%)	59 (15.9%)	43 (17.1%)	13 (21.7%)	147 (17.6%)
Identifying invasive species	5 (12.8%)	14 (12.4%)	40 (10.8%)	26 (10.4%)	11 (18.3%)	96 (11.5%)
Picking up trash	14 (35.9%)	42 (37.2%)	91 (24.5%)	75 (29.9%)	16 (26.7%)	238 (28.5%)
"Adopt a Pathway" program	8 (20.5%)	18 (15.9%)	54 (14.5%)	47 (18.7%)	15 (25.0%)	142 (17.0%)
Something else	3 (7.7%)	18 (15.9%)	18 (4.8%)	18 (7.2%)	6 (10.0%)	63 (7.5%)

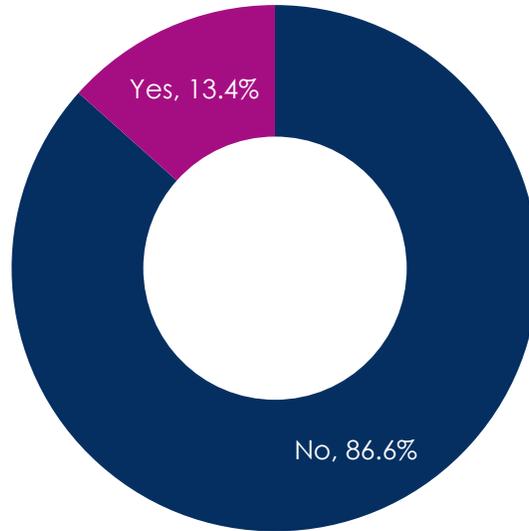
There was a wide variety of ideas shared by residents to utilize local volunteers, including:

- Bike path repair & maintenance, including building and maintaining mountain bike trails
- Utilizing Boy Scouts and Girls in projects
- Conducting frog or bird counts or work to save the Monarchs
- Recruiting groups (maybe church groups) to focus on specific projects such as building handicap service swings, update/add restrooms at Mulligans Hollow, or add signage to trails
- Hosting hiking events for families through local schools or toddler events at Hemlock Crossing
- Participating in alternative transportation to enhance the access to parks
- Involving residents in local planning efforts
- Using volunteering for planting and reforestation
- Trail building, development, and maintenance
- Advocacy efforts, such as trying to persuade GR water treatment plant to grant MUCH needed beach access at the end of Lake Michigan Drive.

Disability / Accessibility Concerns

Thirteen percent (13.4%) of respondents indicated either experiencing a disability themselves or having a household member with a disability or condition that makes it difficult to enjoy public spaces. A slightly higher percentage of respondents with a disability in the household lived in Ferrysburg and Grand Haven. A similar question was asked in 2014 with 9% of the respondents reporting a disability.

It is a goal to strive to make each park as barrier-free/ADA accessible as possible for the convenience and enjoyment of visitors with disabilities. Do you or a household member have a disability or condition that makes it challenging to enjoy public spaces?



Disability	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Yes	6 (16.7%)	19 (17.0%)	49 (13.4%)	27 (10.9%)	9 (15.3%)	110 (13.4%)
No	30 (83.3%)	93 (83.0%)	317 (86.6%)	221 (89.1%)	50 (84.7%)	711 (86.6%)

Disability Type

Of those that indicated a disability, 93% of respondents reported their or a household member’s disability affects mobility. Of those stating “other”, they explained it was either cognitive, a combination of age and disability, or sensory related.

Please indicate the type of disability or condition (Check all that apply):

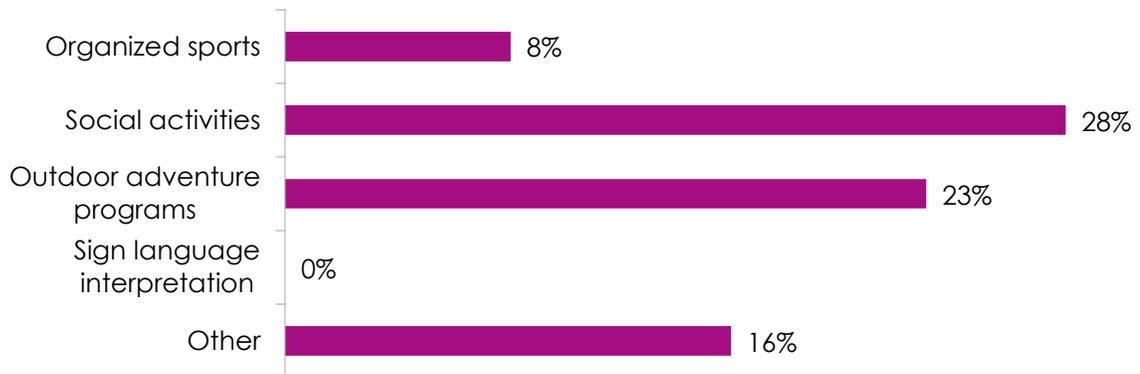


Disability	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Mobility	4 (66.7%)	18 (94.7%)	45 (91.8%)	26 (96.3%)	9 (100%)	102 (92.7%)
Visual	1 (16.7%)	-	4 (8.2%)	1 (3.7%)	-	6 (5.5%)
Hearing	1 (16.7%)	1 (5.3%)	4 (8.2%)	-	1 (11.1%)	7 (6.4%)
Other	2 (33.3%)	1 (5.3%)	6 (12.2%)	1 (3.7%)	-	10 (9.1%)

Programs for those with Disabilities

Respondents reporting disabilities in the household are most interested in social activities (28%) or outdoor adventure programs (23%). Municipality breakouts are varied but this volatility is most likely due to the relatively small number of respondents in these groups.

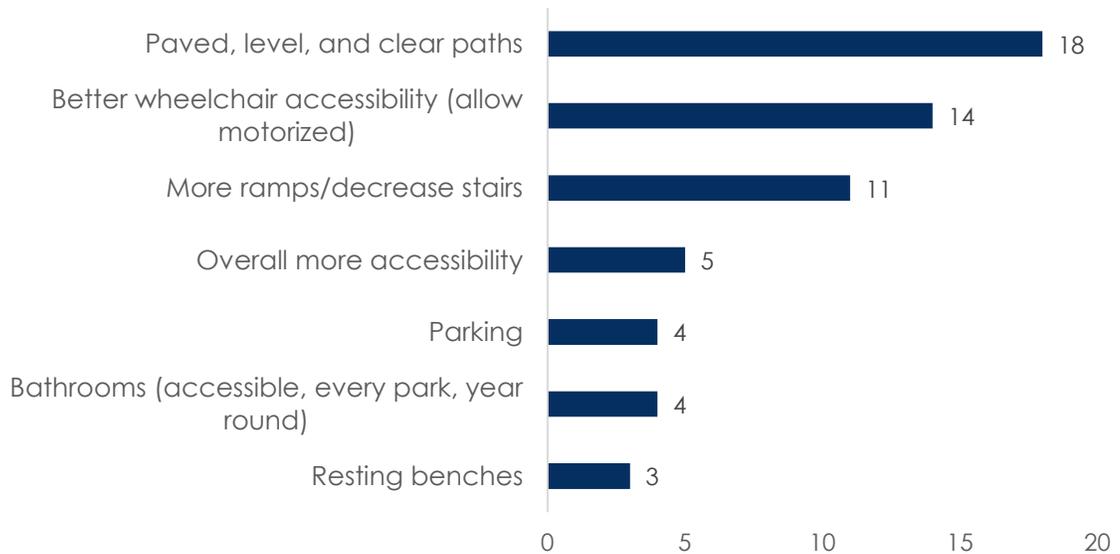
What types of programs are needed to serve people with disabilities in your family? (Check all that apply)



Programming	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Organized sports	1 (16.6%)	1 (5.2%)	6 (12.2%)	--	1 (11.1%)	9 (8.2%)
Social activities	--	3 (15.7%)	16 (32.6%)	9 (33.3%)	3 (33.3%)	31 (28.1%)
Outdoor adventure	1 (16.6%)	3 (15.7%)	14 (28.6%)	2 (7.4%)	5 (55.5%)	25 (22.7%)
Sign language	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	2 (33.3%)	5 (26.3%)	6 (12.2%)	3 (11.1%)	2 (22.2%)	18 (16.4%)

Park Updates for Residents with Disabilities

What updates need to be done at your local park so that people with disabilities in your family can fully engage and use the park facilities? (n=45)



Respondents were asked to explain what could be updated at the park so that members of their family could more fully engage. The chart above captures that the most frequent updates mentioned was ensuring paths were paved, clear of ice and debris, and level to ensure wheel chairs, walkers, canes, and walkers could more easily access them. Other items mentioned that are not in the chart below were handrails, ensuring dogs are on leashes, resting benches, having paths to picnic tables, playgrounds with access for ALL, and continued maintenance to ensure equipment and facilities are accessible.

A few of the specific suggestions and quotations shared by respondents included:

Our Granddaughter visits us frequently and she has a severe disability. We would like to be able to go on trails but they are not accessible by wheelchair. --Village of Spring Lake Resident

Our local parks need to be not only for the young and active, but also for the seniors of the area. Sometimes activities which many people enjoy place those with disabilities, and/or

seniors at risk of injury...would it be too much for a few sections be reserved for just enjoying nature? Maybe even permitting motorized wheelchairs and providing signs that indicate such, only for motorized accessible vehicles.” Village of Spring Lake Resident

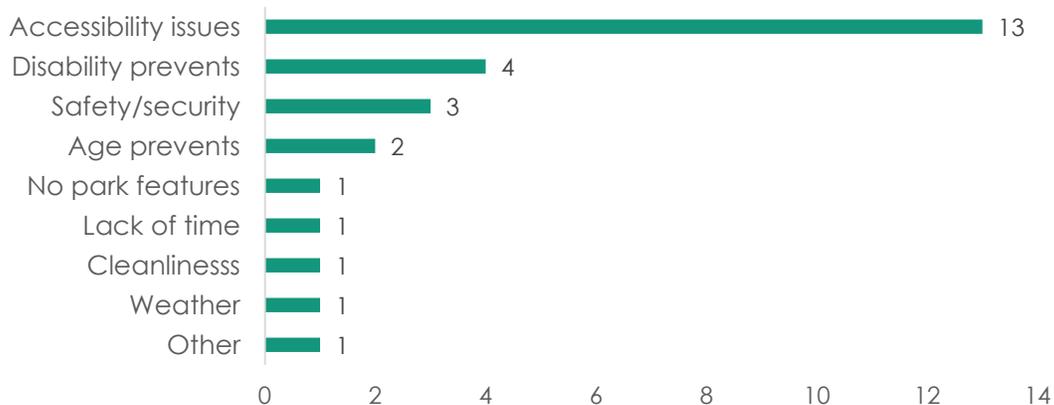
There needs to be some sort of restroom at all facilities. Grand Haven Charter Township Resident

Our daughter is mildly CP, but mobile. Paved trails would be beneficial for wheelchair bound citizens. Grand Haven Charter Township Resident

Survey respondents taking the community survey were asked to indicate if they or a household member had a disability that made it challenging to use parks or public spaces. As a follow-up, they were then asked if they would be willing to answer an additional survey about park access. Seventeen respondents from all five municipalities answered these questions, summarized below:

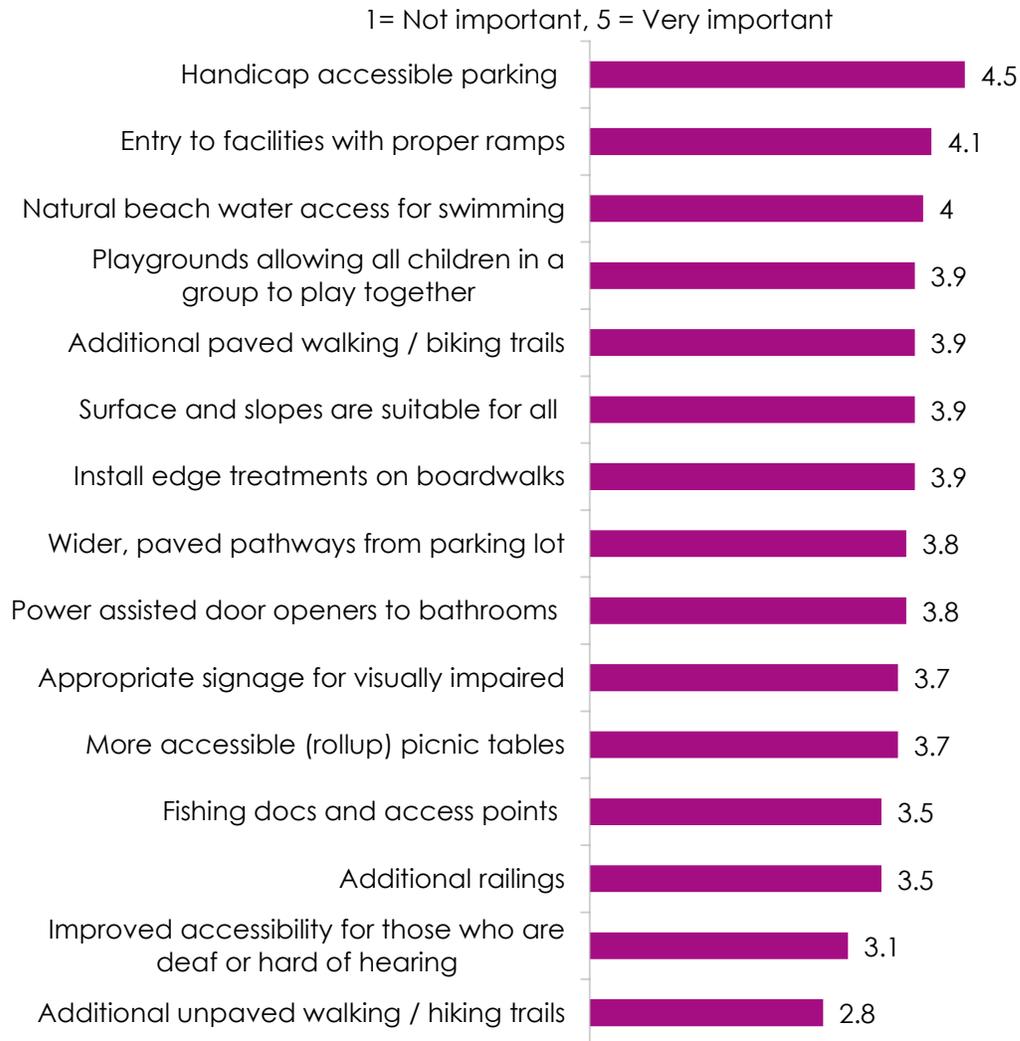
Ferrysburg	1
City of Grand Haven	3
Grand Haven Charter Township	10
Spring Lake Township	2
Village of Spring Lake	1
Total	17

What are the typical reasons you/a household member with disabilities may not visit a park? (n=17)



Accessibility issues was mentioned by 13 (76%) of the respondents taking the survey as a reason they may not visit a park. No one selected needing transportation, getting exercise elsewhere, or a lack of interest as a reason for not visiting a park.

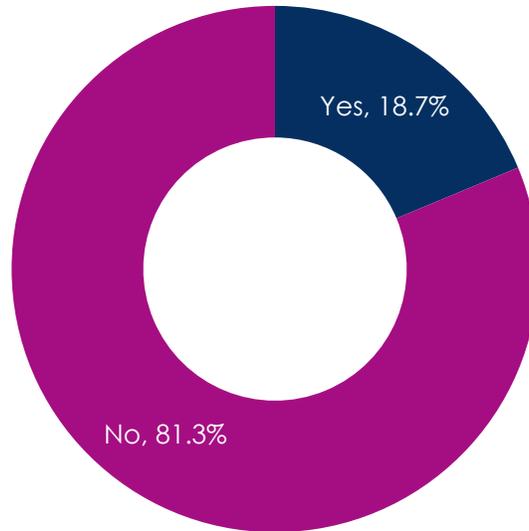
Please rate the importance of the following items to improve accessibility for residents with disabilities within local parks. (n=17)



Stroller / Wagon / Equipment Usage

Nearly one fifth (18.7%) of respondents reported using a stroller, wagon or other types of equipment that may present challenges at parks. Responding residents from Ferrysburg (27.3%) and the Village of Spring Lake (23.2%) were more likely to report using this type of equipment than other communities.

Do you or a household member use items such as strollers, wagons or other types of equipment at parks that may present challenges with barriers at parks?



Stroller / Wagons	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Yes	9 (27.3%)	22 (19.6%)	65 (18.1%)	42 (17.1%)	13 (23.2%)	151 (18.7%)
No	24 (72.7%)	90 (8.4%)	294 (81.9%)	204 (82.9%)	43 (76.8%)	655 (81.3%)

Suggestions for Parks with use of Equipment

What suggestion do you have for improving your experience at the park with a stroller, wagon, etc. ?

Many survey respondents using strollers or wagons at local parks provided feedback for ways that their experience could be improved. The primary suggestion (22) was ensuring that walkways and sidewalks were paved with a hard surface and connected to one another. For example, the walkway from the parking lot to the playground was one continuous paved, hard surface, path. Many respondents also indicated (14) the importance of ensuring the pathways remain clear and level. Sand, snow, and tree roots make it difficult to navigate. Additional suggestions include adding additional ramps at curbs and each of the stairways (8), and adding more paved paths/ramps to water (6). There were a few parks mentioned that were specifically well suited for strollers (State Park, North Shore, Kirk, Hofma) but respondents mentioned that it



“We typically look for parks with paved paths for our little ones, or places where stroller accessibility is easy for playgrounds.”
 -- Resident, Grand Haven Charter Township

would be good if more were well suited for stroller access as well. Several mentioned that they feel they are “in the way” when they have their strollers, and they block the path.

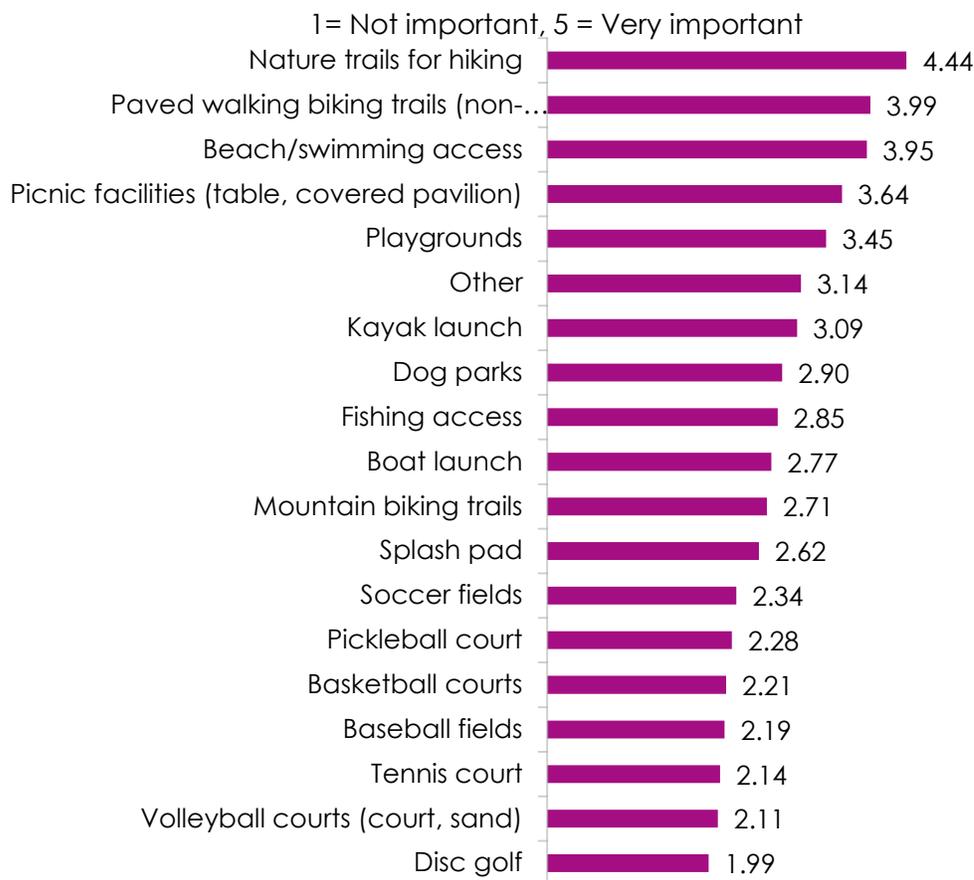
Importance of Park Amenities

Respondents indicated that nature trails for hiking, paved walking / biking trails, beach / swimming access, and picnic facilities, are the most important park amenities. Disc golf, volleyball courts, and tennis courts rated as least important. There was some themes but also variation when dividing this data by community and age of respondent. For instance playgrounds are more important to respondents of typical parent and grandparent age whereas swimming / beach access falls in importance for residents 80 and older.

The next set of questions will ask you about your satisfaction with your local parks and what improvements you would like to see in the next five years.



When imagining the facilities available through community parks and recreation, how important are the following amenities to you (or members of your family)....



Other: Additional amenities written in by survey respondents for this item by at least two respondents included: updated bathroom facilities (13), dog restrictions/more fenced in areas (4), ice rink/hockey rink (4), drinking fountains (3), community pool (3), trail markers (2), winter sports (2), camping (2), hunting (2), open space (2), and accessibility (2).

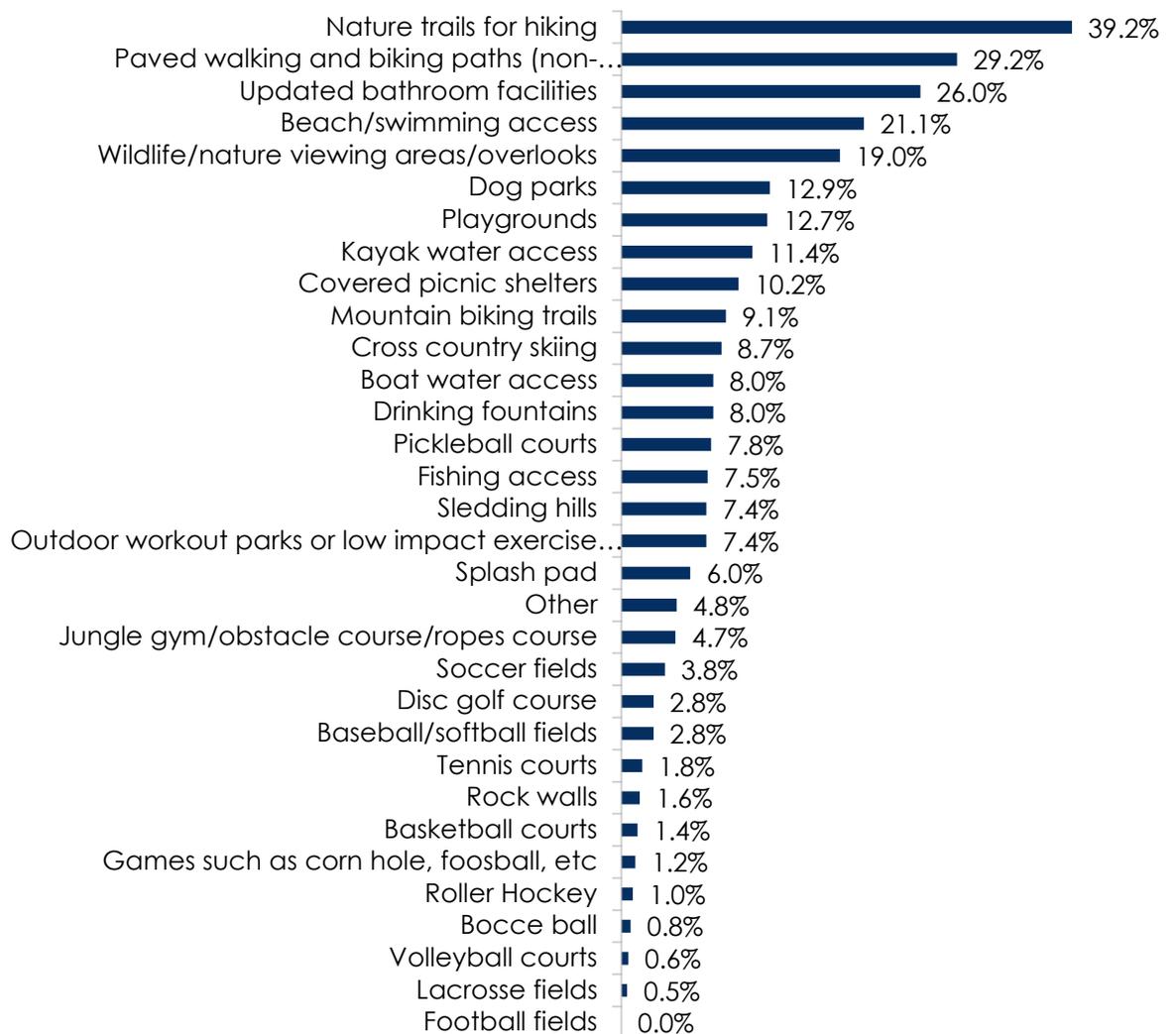
Average Importance	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Baseball fields	2.06	2.33	2.19	2.08	2.51	2.19
Basketball courts	2.41	2.49	2.11	2.18	2.31	2.21
Beach/swimming access	3.85	4.22	3.92	3.90	3.87	3.95
Boat launch	2.45	2.77	2.75	2.77	3.11	2.77
Disc golf	1.94	2.20	1.98	1.94	1.93	1.99
Dog parks	3.21	3.33	2.78	2.81	3.06	2.90
Fishing access	2.41	3.04	2.85	2.77	3.07	2.85
Kayak launch	3.09	3.21	3.08	2.97	3.36	3.09
Mountain biking trails	2.50	2.98	2.66	2.67	2.87	2.71
Nature trails	4.44	4.47	4.47	4.40	4.38	4.44
Non-motorized trails	3.47	3.96	3.97	4.04	4.33	3.99
Pickleball court	2.27	2.20	2.28	2.28	2.49	2.28
Picnic facilities	3.82	3.83	3.61	3.55	3.76	3.64
Playgrounds	3.67	3.83	3.32	3.37	3.64	3.45
Soccer fields	2.30	2.59	2.28	2.29	2.35	2.34
Splash pad	2.53	2.64	2.59	2.58	2.93	2.62
Tennis court	2.30	2.28	2.03	2.16	2.28	2.14
Volleyball courts	2.12	2.56	1.98	2.00	2.41	2.11
Other	3.00	4.11	3.31	2.50	3.00	3.14

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-79	80 or older
6 most important amenities by age	Beach / swimming access	Nature trails	Nature trails	Nature trails	Nature trails	Nature trails	Nature trails
	Nature Trails	Playground	Beach / swimming access	Other	Beach / swimming access	Paved walking/biking trails	Paved walking / biking trails
	Dog parks	Paved walking / biking trails	Playground	Beach / swimming access	Paved walking / biking trails	Beach / swimming access	Picnic facilities
	Playground	Beach / swimming access	Paved walking / biking trails	Paved walking / biking trails	Picnic facilities	Picnic facilities	Beach / swimming access
	Mountain biking trails	Picnic facilities	Other	Picnic facilities	Playground	Playground	Playground
	Kayak launch	Splash pad	Picnic facilities	Kayak launch	Kayak launch	Fishing access	Fishing access

Needed Outdoor Facilities

When asked about the most needed park outdoor facilities, respondents most often specified nature trails for hiking (39.2%), paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized) (29.2%), updated bathroom facilities, (26.0%) and beach/swimming access (21.1%). All communities most commonly reported the need for nature trails for hiking but respondents from Grand Haven Township and the Village of Spring Lake indicated a desire for updated bathroom facilities second most whereas the City of Grand Haven and Spring Lake Township specified a need for paved walking and biking paths.

We are interested in learning what you think are the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.



Other: Additional outdoor facilities written in by survey respondents for this item by at least two respondents included: ice rink (4), community pool (3), hunting (2), and Frisbee golf (2). See Appendix B for a list of the locations residents wished to see non-motorized trails, by municipality.

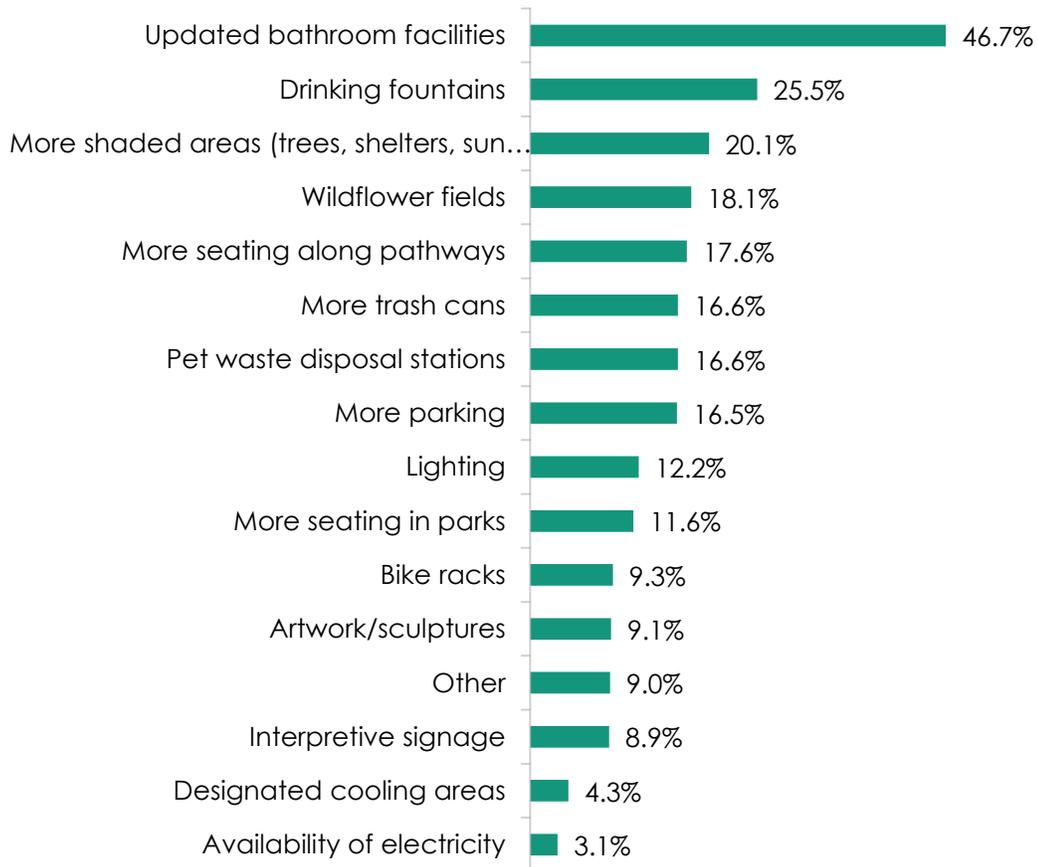
	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake
Most often selected outdoor public recreation facilities	Nature trails for hiking				
	Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks	Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)	Updated bathroom facilities	Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)	Updated bathroom facilities
	Updated bathroom facilities	Beach/swimming access	Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)	Updated bathroom facilities	Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)
	Playgrounds	Updated bathroom facilities	Beach/swimming access	Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks	Kayak water access
	Beach/swimming access	Covered picnic shelters	Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks	Beach/swimming access	Playgrounds
	Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)	Playgrounds	Kayak water access	Dog parks	Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks
	Dog parks	Dog parks	Dog parks	Playgrounds	Beach/swimming access
	Kayak water access	Fishing access	Playgrounds	Mountain biking trails	Dog parks

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-79	80 or older
Most often selected outdoor public recreation by age	Beach swimming access	Nature trails for hiking	Nature trails for hiking	Nature trails for hiking	Nature trails for hiking	Nature trails for hiking	Paved walking and biking paths
	Paved walking and biking paths	Paved walking and biking paths	Updated bathrooms	Beach / swimming access	Paved walking and biking paths	Paved walking and biking paths	Nature trails for hiking
	Nature trails for hiking	Splash pad	Beach / swimming access	Updated bathrooms	Beach / swimming access	Updated bathroom facilities	Updated bathroom facilities
	Updated bathrooms	Playgrounds	Playgrounds	Paved walking and biking paths	Updated bathroom facilities	Wildlife / nature viewing areas	Wildlife / nature viewing areas
	Covered picnic shelters	Updated bathrooms	Mountain biking trails	Wildlife / nature viewing areas	Wildlife / nature viewing areas	Beach / swimming access	Drinking fountains
	Tennis courts	Beach / swimming access	Paved walking and biking paths	Mountain bike trails	Kayak water access	Dog parks	Kayak water access

Needed Park Updates

Updated bathroom facilities (46.7%), drinking fountains (25.5%), more shaded areas (20.1%), and wildflower fields (18.1%) were most often selected as the most needed park updates. Respondents from Ferrysburg and Spring Lake were more likely to indicate a need for more shaded areas than the other communities. The need for updated bathroom facilities and drinking fountains was constant throughout the various age categories.

Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area:



Other: Additional outdoor facilities written in by survey respondents for this item by at least two respondents included: Trail and park upkeep and maintenance (10), updated playgrounds (7), including equipment suitable for younger children, more accessible for strollers and wheelchairs (5), mountain bike trail (4), bathrooms/upgraded or open year round (4), better trail maps/markers (3), park safety and security (3), concessions and grills (3), foot wash and water, fountains/water bottle fills (3), cellular and wi-fi access (2), recycling (2), picnic and pavilion rental (2), dog friendly (2), and community pool (2).

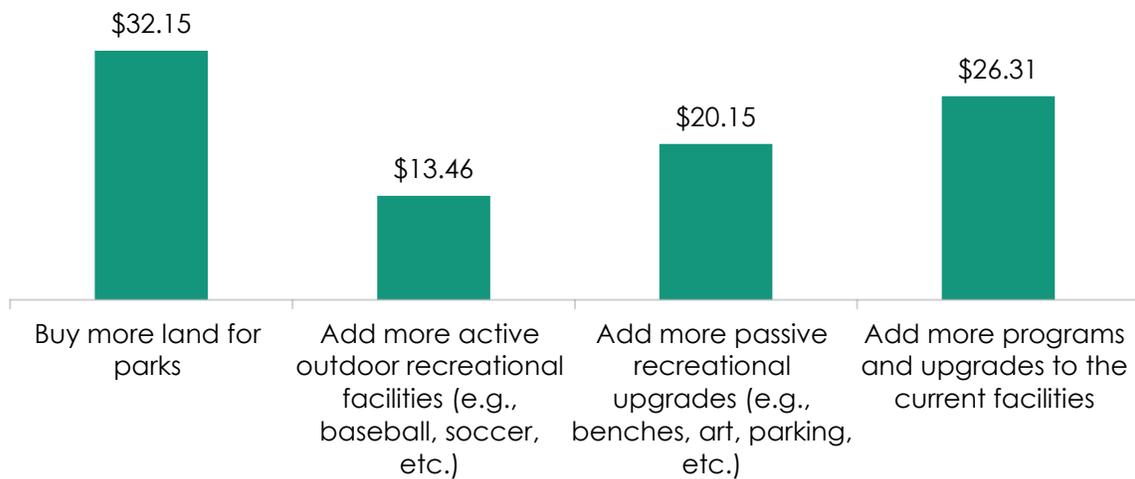
	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake
Most often selected park updates	More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.)	Updated bathroom facilities	Updated bathroom facilities	Updated bathroom facilities	More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.)
	Wildflower fields	Drinking fountains	Drinking fountains	Drinking fountains	Updated bathroom facilities
	Updated bathroom facilities	More parking	More seating along pathways	More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.)	Drinking fountains
	Pet waste disposal stations	More trash cans	Wildflower fields	Wildflower fields	Artwork/sculptures
	Other	Other	More parking	More trash cans	Wildflower fields
	Artwork/sculptures	More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.)	More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.)	More seating along pathways	More seating in parks
	More seating along pathways	Pet waste disposal stations			
	More trash cans	Lighting	More trash cans	More parking	Lighting
	Drinking fountains	More seating in parks	More seating in parks	Lighting	Bike racks
	Lighting	Wildflower fields	Interpretive signage	Artwork/sculptures	More seating along pathways

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-79	80 or older
Most often selected park updates by age	Updated bathroom facilities	Drinking fountains					
	Drinking fountains	More shaded areas	Drinking fountains	Drinking fountains	Drinking fountains	More seating along pathways	Updated bathroom facilities
	More trash cans	Drinking fountains	Wildflower fields	More trash cans	Pet waste disposal stations	More shaded areas	More seating in parks
	More parking	More trash cans	more shaded areas	More parking	More seating along pathways	Drinking fountains	Wildflower fields
	Pet waste disposal stations	More parking	Lighting	Wildflower fields	More shaded areas	Wildflower fields	More seating along pathways

Resource Allocation

Respondents felt it is most important to buy more land for parks with community resources. Respondents felt it is least important to add more active outdoor recreational facilities within the communities. Residents from the Village of Spring Lake were more likely to allocated a larger dollar amount to adding passive recreation facilities than other communities.

If it were up to you, how would you allocate \$100 among each of the following parks and recreation facility areas for the Northwest Ottawa Area?



	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	SLT	Village of Spring Lake	All
Buy more land for parks	\$37.42	\$34.72	\$31.35	\$31.71	\$30.63	\$32.15
Add more active outdoor recreational facilities (e.g., baseball, soccer, etc.)	\$10.69	\$12.71	\$14.22	\$13.21	\$13.00	\$13.46
Add more passive recreational upgrades (e.g., benches, art, parking, etc.)	\$18.22	\$24.81	\$18.57	\$19.04	\$27.33	\$20.15
Add more programs and upgrades to the current facilities	\$28.39	\$21.89	\$27.80	\$27.16	\$20.51	\$26.31

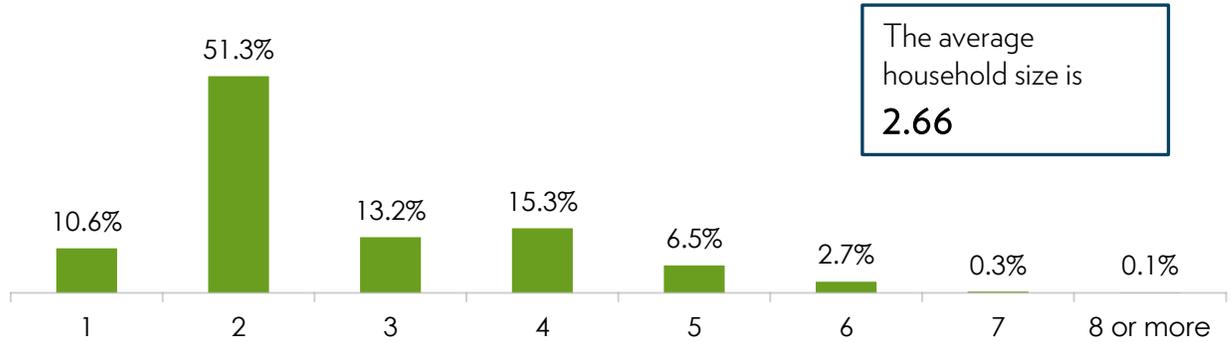
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-79	80 or older
Buy more land for parks	\$36.00	\$25.16	\$30.45	\$34.46	\$35.51	\$33.37	\$23.00
Add more active outdoor recreational facilities (e.g., baseball, soccer, etc.)	\$12.27	\$15.00	\$18.81	\$15.88	\$12.71	\$12.27	\$6.30
Add more passive recreational upgrades (e.g., benches, art, parking, etc.)	\$21.82	\$22.97	\$17.36	\$18.71	\$17.91	\$23.23	\$17.09
Add more programs and upgrades to the current facilities	\$24.09	\$30.62	\$34.58	\$26.32	\$24.82	\$24.81	\$20.30

Demographics

Household Members

The majority of respondents reported living in a household with two people.

Including yourself, how many people live in your household?

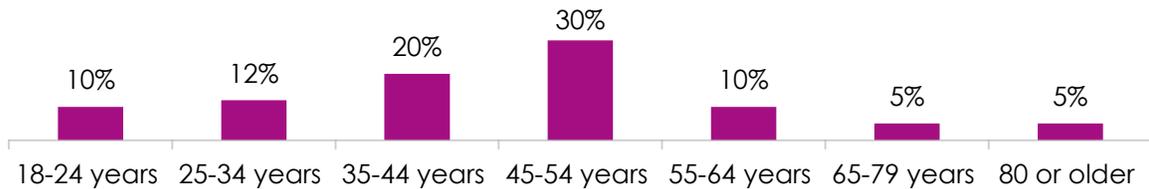


Household Size	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	Spring Lake	SLT	All
Mean	2.588	2.85	2.57	2.72	2.57	2.66

Age

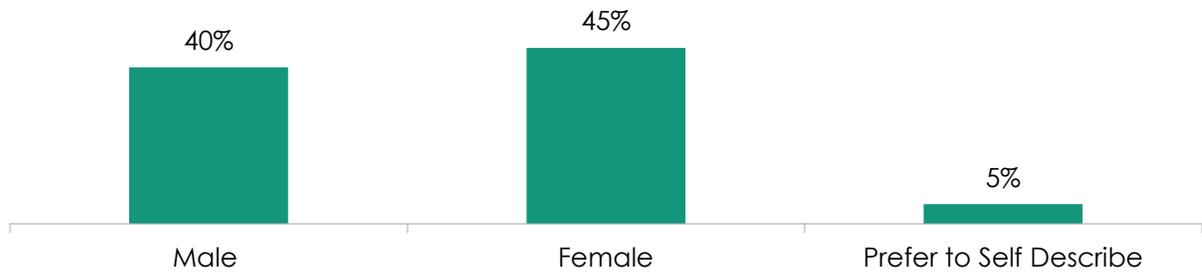
Respondents were most commonly aged 45-54 years old. When comparing these age groups to overall community demographics, the survey sample is skewed slightly older than the true population. For data points in which age is likely to affect responses, a breakout by age is provided.

What is your age?



Age	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	Spring Lake	SLT	All
18-24 years	---	8 (7.5%)	1 (.3%)	1 (.4%)	1 (1.9%)	11 (1.4%)
25-34 years	2 (5.7%)	18 (16.8%)	18 (5.2%)	18 (7.5%)	8 (15.1%)	64 (8.2%)
35-44 years	9 (25.7%)	14 (13.1%)	36 (10.3%)	35 (14.6%)	5 (9.4%)	99 (12.6%)
45-54 years	4 (11.4%)	16 (15.0%)	58 (16.6%)	40 (16.7%)	7 (13.2%)	125 (16.0%)
55-64 years	9 (25.7%)	22 (20.6%)	72 (20.6%)	47 (19.7%)	20 (37.7%)	170 (21.7%)
65-79 years	10 (28.6%)	21 (19.6%)	144 (41.3%)	87 (36.4%)	10 (18.9%)	272 (34.7%)
80 or older	1 (2.9%)	7 (6.5%)	13 (3.7%)	10 (4.2%)	2 (3.8%)	33 (4.2%)
Prefer not to answer	--	1 (.9%)	7 (2.0%)	1 (.4%)	0 (0.0%)	9 (1.1%)

What is your gender?

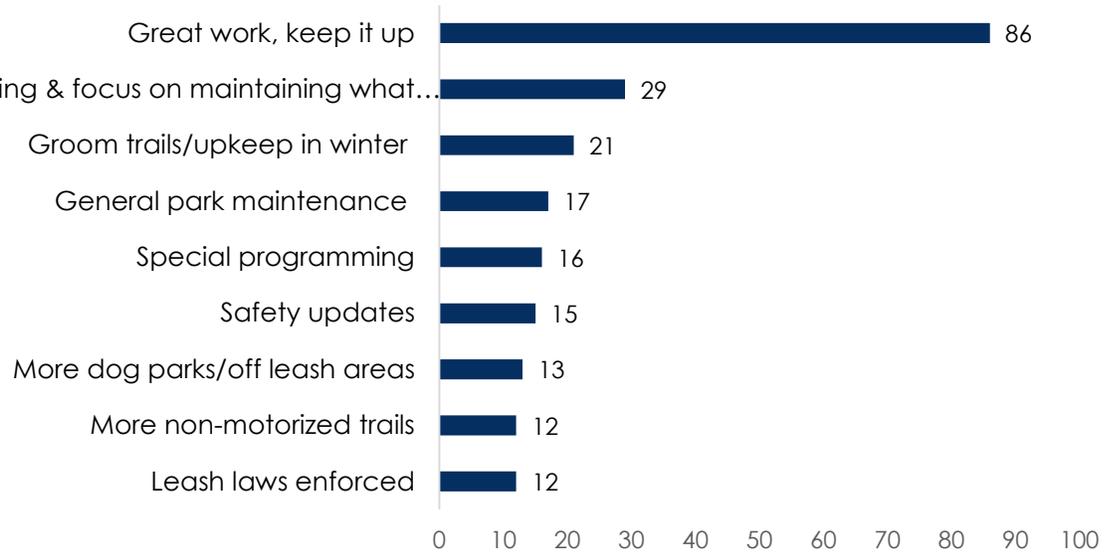


Gender	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	Spring Lake	SLT	All
Female	25 (71.4%)	(58.3%)	167 (47.7%)	111 (46.1%)	23(43.4%)	389 (49.4%)
Male	10 (28.6%)	44 (40.7%)	163 (46.6%)	123 (51.0%)	27 (50.9%)	367 (46.6%)
Prefer to Self-Describe	--	1 (.9%)	6 (1.7%)	3 (1.2%)	--	10 (1.3%)
Prefer not to answer	--	--	14 (4.0%)	4 (1.7%)	3 (5.7%)	21 (2.7%)

Please use the space below to share any additional comments that can assist the region in improving the parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, programs or services.



The table below summarizes the key themes shared by respondents in the open ended remarks across all five municipalities—with the most common remark being one of gratitude for the parks and facilities offered in the region.



	Ferrysburg	Grand Haven	GHT	Spring Lake	SLT	All
Doing great job	3 (23.1%)	10 (28.6%)	33 (28.7%)	3 (16.7%)	37 (40.2%)	86 (31.5%)
Keep open space & protect it	4 (30.8%)	5 (14.3%)	10 (8.7%)	4 (22.2%)	6 (6.5%)	29 (10.6%)
Stop building & focus on maintaining	1 (7.7%)	2 (5.7%)	8 (7.0%)	2 (11.1%)	8 (8.7%)	21 (7.7%)
Groom trails/upkeep	1 (7.7%)	1 (2.9%)	4 (3.5%)	2 (11.1%)	9 (9.8%)	17 (6.2%)
General maintenance	--	1 (2.9%)	6 (5.2%)	2 (11.1%)	7 (7.6%)	16 (5.9%)
Special programming	--	3 (8.6%)	8 (7.0%)	--	4 (4.3%)	15 (5.5%)
Safety updates	--	1 (2.9%)	3(2.6%)	1 (5.6%)	8 (8.7%)	13 (4.8%)
More dog park/off leash areas	1 (7.7%)	--	7 (6.1%)	--	4 (4.3%)	12 (4.4%)
non-motorized trails	--	1 (2.9%)	2 (1.7%)	--	9 (9.8%)	12 (4.4%)
Leash law enforcement	--	2 (5.7%)	5 (4.3%)	--	2 (2.2%)	9 (3.3%)



Other items noted frequently were the need for increased pet waste receptacles, especially on the trails, and new and innovative ways to fund parks—perhaps through a fund or donations. One respondent said that he was so motivated to improve the mountain bike trails that he would even be willing to help pay for them personally, if he knew how to make that happen! Another resident provided his contact information to help brainstorm how to fundraise to bring back a hockey rink to the area.

Overall, many of the comments were positive comments about how the local parks were an asset to the area. Residents sing praises for their local parks!

We are very appreciative of the wonderful parks and proud of their upkeep. --Ferrysburg Resident

Thank you for all that you do! We appreciate the opportunity to add our input. So many of the visitors we have from other states are impressed with the quality and quantity of our parks—keep up the fantastic work! City of --Grand Haven Resident

Keep up the good work. The parks are a big reason my wife and I choose to move to Grand Haven Township/Ottawa County. --Grand Haven Charter Township Resident

We love hiking the parks. Also, all the programs you offer at the different parks is very nice....please continue. --Grand Haven Charter Township Resident

I firmly believe that Ottawa County owns many of the best public parks in the country already. --Spring Lake Township Resident

I love that we are investing in preserving open space in this area. --Spring Lake Township Resident

I'm glad there are various parks that preserve green spaces and encourage community building. --Village of Spring Lake Resident

However, a clear theme from the open-ended responses across all of the municipalities was also that many of the facilities needed maintenance and care and that should be a priority before expanding or considering new facilities. A few of these key quotations include:

I wish they would stop building, work more on improving--Ferrysburg

Instead of always looking for more park land and trail land to purchase, let's keep up the maintenance and upgrade the quality of the land and facilities we already have.--Grand Haven Charter Township

Please add a bridge for the bike path on 152nd to connect bike paths over Lloyd's Bayou. The path on 152nd goes out into the road between Oak Point and Pruin. This is a dangerous area for kids and walkers as people drive fast on 152nd. It prohibits many parents from allowing their kids to ride bikes to schools or friends' houses.--Spring Lake Township

The parks are great - I say just update and keep clean what we have! --City of Grand Haven

Upgrade and maintain what we have and forget buying more. --Spring Lake Township

First Things First! Repair / maintain what you have as #1 PRIORITY. --Village of Spring Lake

Keep walking trails clear in the winter. --City of Grand Haven

Proper maintenance of current parks should be a priority...Is there a place to go online to let parks no when you find something that needs to be fixed? --Grand Haven Charter Township

Conclusion & Next Steps

Residents across all five municipalities love the park system and reported using the various amenities frequently. Residents appreciated the opportunity to weigh in on the planning process through the community surveys, and expressed opinions about what they value and want to see prioritized moving forward.

"I am grateful for this survey and your commitment to our outdoor spaces. I moved here just for your outdoor spaces and its availability." Grand Haven Charter Township

- Continuing to involve residents in decisions and planning is worthwhile. In open-ended responses residents expressed appreciating being asked their opinions, and many were eager to volunteer time and money to maintain park resources—in particular bike trails, beaches, open land, and wildlife.
- Weather and location are factors that strongly influence how often someone visits a park—things that are beyond the leadership team’s control, but residents also indicated that maintaining natural areas is the most important to them and should be a focus area of the five year plan.
- It is clear that Northwest Ottawa County parks has made great efforts to make their

"North Ottawa is a great place to live because of the vast selection of parks and recreation activities. By just enhancing the programs and maintaining the present facilities is the best use of time and money over the next five year plan."
Grand Haven Charter Township

parks accessible—residents with disabilities and/or using a stroller talk about ramps and trails that are usable. However, there are areas of opportunity to allow greater access to trails, playgrounds, and bathrooms.

- Updating existing facilities and park amenities and facilities—particularly bathrooms, trails (nature, paved, bike/mountain bike), expanding beach access/finishing sections of bike trails that are dangerous, and maintaining the current parks are themes that resonate across the municipalities.

As the leadership team considers these findings and moves into the writing of the five year plan, there are several appendices that will provide further data and context for consideration:

- 1) Appendix A: a summary of the stakeholder surveys
- 2) Appendix B: a list of where residents would like see more non-motorized trails built
- 3) Appendix C: the raw open-ended data.
- 4) Appendix D: The survey instruments (community survey and stakeholder surveys, for your reference).

Appendix A - Stakeholder Surveys

Executive Summary

Coaches / Recreation Staff

- The most utilized parks in each community for recreation and organized sporting events are:
 - Coast Guard Park (City of Ferrysburg)
 - Harbor Island and Launch (City of Grand Haven)
 - Hofma Park (Grand Haven Township)
 - Rycenga Park (Spring Lake Township)
 - Central Park / Lakeside Beach (Village of Spring Lake)
- Coaches are most interested in adding **soccer fields** to the outdoor recreation facilities in Northwest Ottawa County.
- Coaches indicated that park **bathroom facilities** are the most needed park update.
- On average, when coaches were asked how they would allocate resources, they added more **active outdoor recreation facilities** and the purchase of more land.

Disability Stakeholders

- Disability advocates were most interested in adding **playgrounds** to the outdoor recreation facilities in Northwest Ottawa County.
- Respondents indicated that **park bathroom facilities** are the most needed park update.
- When asked how they would allocate resources, disability advocates chose to allocate half of the resources to adding **more passive recreation facilities**.
- Respondents were most likely to select **safety and security concerns, limited park features, and disability related reasons** as barriers to regular park usage.
- Disability advocates feel **playgrounds that allow all children to play together** are most important to improve accessibility for residents with disabilities.

Aging Population Stakeholders

- Representatives of the aging population are most interested in adding **updated bathroom facilities** to the outdoor recreation facilities in Northwest Ottawa County.
- Respondents reported **more seating along pathways and in parks** as the most needed park update.
- Representatives of the aging population chose to allocate the largest percentage of resources to **passive recreation**, followed by **adding more programs and updates to the current facilities**.
- Respondents were most likely to report the **weather** as being the top reason why an aging adult may not visit a park.
- Representatives of the aging population feel entry to **facilities with proper ramps** is most important for park accessibility.

Survey Results

To gain a better understanding of some aspects of the needs and opportunities in the Northwest Ottawa region, surveys were administered to area leaders in three stakeholder groups: coaches/park staff, representatives for the aging population, and advocates for residents with disabilities. Leaders from each municipality helped identify and provide contact information for key individuals in the region that might have insights into specific challenges, barriers, and needs that should be considered in the five year plan. Although nearly half of participants chose not to specify their information, responding stakeholders held the following positions in area organizations:

Coaches / Staff:

- NORA, Recreation Assistant, Coach
- Private Teams (AYSO, Riptide), Coach, Department Manager
- SLARA, Recreation Director, Coach
- Other, Coach

Disabilities Stakeholders:

- Owner, The Shoreline Center
- Transition, Lakeshore Disabilities Network,
- Director, Autism Support of West Michigan

Aging Population Stakeholders:

- Assistant Director of Operations, Heritage Property Management (The Village at Rosy Mound)
- Chairman Planning Commission, The Village of Spring Lake
- Case Coordinator and Options Counselor (Social Worker), Four Pointes Center for Successful Aging
- Wellness Director, Four Pointes Center for Successful Aging

Below is a distribution of how many surveys were completed for each stakeholder group by municipality (they work and/or reside).

	Coaches/Staff (n=16)	Disabilities (n=6)	Aging Population (n=7)
City of Ferrysburg	2	1	1
City of Grand Haven	10	3	4
Grand Haven Charter Township	4	2	2
Spring Lake Township	4	3	2
Village of Spring Lake	3	3	3

*respondents could indicate more than one response, i.e., work and live in different areas or coach in more than one area.

Below is a list of the various parks coaches indicated they coached in the past twelve months. The parks used most often by coaches in each municipality are Coast Guard Park (eight coaches, Ferrysburg), Harbor Island and Launch (six coaches, City of Grand Haven), Hofma Park (eight coaches, Grand Haven Charter Township), Rycenga Park (four coaches, Spring Lake Township), and Central Park and Lakeside Beach (two coaches, Village of Spring Lake).

Please specify in which Northwest Ottawa County park(s) you coached in the past twelve months.

City of Ferrysburg	
Coast Guard Park	8 (50.0%)
Mike Herman Memorial Field	1 (6.3%)
Ottawa Sands	1 (6.3%)
Fire Barn Park	1 (6.3%)
Sunnyside Park	1 (6.3%)
North Beach Park	2 (12.5%)
William Ferry Park	1 (6.3%)
North Ottawa Dunes	1 (6.3%)
Waterfront Street Ends	1 (6.3%)
Kitchel-Linquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve	1 (6.3%)

City of Grand Haven	
Bolt Park	2 (12.5%)
Central Park	3 (18.8%)
Chinook Pier Park	1 (6.3%)
Duncan Woods Park	1 (6.3%)
City Beach Park	1 (6.3%)
East Grand River Park	3 (18.8%)
Harbor Island and Launch	6 (37.5%)
Lighthouse Connector Park/Boardwalk	1 (6.3%)
Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium	2 (12.5%)
Mulligan's Hollow	3 (18.8%)
North shore Fisherman's Parking Lot	1 (6.3%)
Sluka Field	5 (31.3%)
Grand Haven State Park	3 (18.8%)
Riverside Park	1 (6.3%)
Rosy Mound Natural Area	1 (6.3%)
Non-motorized trails	1 (6.3%)

Grand Haven Township	
Buchanan Access	1 (6.3%)
Hofma Preserve	1 (6.3%)
Hofma Park	8 (50.0%)
Mercury Park	4 (25.0%)

Odawa/Battle Point Boat Launch	2 (12.5%)
Pottawattomie Park	5 (31.3%)
Non-motorized trails	1 (6.3%)

Spring Lake Township	
Black Lake Park	1 (6.3%)
Rycenga Park	4 (25.0%)
Non-motorized trails	1 (6.3%)

Village of Spring Lake	
Central Park	2 (12.5%)
Lakeside Beach	2 (12.5%)
Mill Point Park	1 (6.3%)
Whistle Stop Playground	1 (6.3%)

We are interested in learning what you think are the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

	Coaches	Disabilities	Aging population
Baseball/softball fields	2	0	0
Basketball courts	1	0	0
Beach/swimming access	1	1	1
Boat water access	1	0	0
Bocce ball	0	0	0
Covered picnic shelters	1	1	2
Cross country skiing	1	0	0
Disc golf course	1	0	0
Dog parks	3	0	0
Drinking fountains	0	1	0
Fishing access	0	0	0
Football fields	0	0	0
Games such as corn hole, foosball	0	2	1
Jungle gym/obstacle course/ropes course	0	0	0
Kayak water access	3	0	1
Lacrosse fields	0	0	0
Mountain biking trails	2	0	0
Nature trails for hiking	3	0	0
Other	0	0	1
Outdoor workout parks or low impact exercise stations	0	0	1
Paved walking and biking paths (non-	0	2	2

motorized trails)			
Pickleball courts	1	0	1
Playgrounds	1	3	0
Rock walls	0	0	0
Roller Hockey	0	0	0
Sledding hills	1	1	0
Soccer fields	7	0	0
Splash pad	1	1	0
Tennis courts	1	0	0
Updated bathroom facilities	3	2	3
Volleyball courts	0	0	0
Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks	0	1	2

Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

	Coaches	Disabilities	Aging population
Artwork/sculptures	1	0	0
Availability of electricity	0	0	0
Bike racks	1	0	0
Designated cooling areas	1	0	1
Drinking fountains	4	1	1
Interpretive signage	2	1	0
Lighting	3	1	1
More parking	0	0	2
More seating along pathways	2	2	3
More seating in parks	0	2	3
More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.)	2	3	1
More trash cans	3	0	0
Other	2	0	0
Pet waste disposal stations	2	0	0
Updated bathroom facilities	8	4	2
Wildflowerfields	1	0	0

If it were up to you, how would you allocate \$100 among each of the following parks and recreation facility areas for the Northwest Ottawa Area?



What are the typical reasons someone from the population you represent may not visit a park?

	Aging population	Disabilities
Don't have park features they are interested in	2	2
A disability prevents it	2	2
Age prevents it	3	
Need transportation to get to parks	2	1
Get exercise and recreation through other sources	2	
Lack of time	3	1
Safety and security concerns	2	2
Park cleanliness and upkeep	3	
Weather	4	1
No interest in visiting parks	3	1
Other	0	1

Please rate the importance of the following items to improve accessibility for residents with disabilities within local parks:

1= Not at all Important, 5=Very Important	Disabilities	Aging Population
Playgrounds allowing all children to play together	5	--
Wider, paved pathways from parking lot	4.8	3.6
Additional paved walking / biking trails	4.6	3.0
More accessible (rollup) picnic tables	4.6	3.4
Additional railings	4.4	3.3
Natural beach water access for swimming	4.4	3.0

Surface and slopes for all mobility types	4.4	3.2
Entry to facilities with proper ramps	4.2	4.0
Fishing docks and access points with accessibility	4.2	3.6
Handicap accessible parking available throughout park	4.2	--
Power assisted door openers to bathrooms	4.2	3.4
Appropriate signage for visually impaired	4.0	
Improved accessibility for those who are deaf/ hard of hearing	4.0	3.0
Install edge treatments on boardwalks	4.0	--
Additional unpaved walking / hiking trails	3.6	2
Parking available throughout the park	--	3.6

What other amenities would improve recreation programs in Northwest Ottawa County area?

Open ended:

Coaches

- What other amenities would improve recreation programs in Northwest Ottawa County area?
- Shade. Opportunity to rent/borrow equipment
- Lights in parks where outdoor recreation for youth/adults occurs. Off-leash dog trails (not just a fenced in field but actual fenced in trails similar to Grand Ravines Park. More indoor recreation facility space to hold programs without infringing on school activities.
- High quality sports facilities for kids not yet in high school. Youth programs are dependent on county, city, township parks where the field surface is difficult to maintain and can become dangerous for players (holes or patches of dirt in playing fields, long grass that hasn't been mowed, etc.).
- All-weather surfaces such as turf fields, with lighting, so they can be used for multi sports and are not as reliant on the weather.

Disabilities

- Our group (individuals with autism spectrum disorder) need safety first which would be areas away from mid to high traffic areas, safe walking paths (paved not entirely necessary) and a playground area with accessible bathrooms and drinking fountains. The Sensory Trail at Grand River Park meets and exceeds all those specifications.
- Playgrounds that are inclusive for individuals with all disabilities. Accessible signage along trail markers and parks.

Conclusion

- Overall, stakeholder groups did not vary far from the community in their vision for the parks five year plan. However, they do have specific ideas and input that will help inform how the park and recreation divisions can best serve the various groups and perhaps leverage this information when applying for grants to meet these specific needs.

Appendix B – Non-Motorized Trails: Desired Locations

Where would you like to see more non-motorized paths created?

City of Ferrysburg

- All over, as many areas as possible
- Almost any park.
- Ottawa Sands
- Would like to see bike trails that connect the trails that already exist so can go on longer rides

City of Grand Haven

- Along the west side Moreland St from Robbins Rd to Mercury Dr.
- At the State Park
- Closer to the city
- Connecting Connor Bayou to Grand Haven
- Hofma Preserve
- I think the effort that GH Township is putting in to bike paths is terrific, more is better!
- In Grand Haven but separate from where people walk (ie the boardwalk)
- IN THE WOODED AREAS
- Somewhere that takes you down to the beach that would work for those in wheelchairs
- The parks already have good trails
- Would like to see some extended

Grand Haven Charter Township

- All major co roads
- All of Robbins Road west of Mercury Drive. All of Mercury/Green/Cedar. All of 144th to M-45 and all of Lincoln.
- All parks with nature trails. Similar to the Outdoor Discovery Center in Holland. It's very stroller friendly. Hofma Park in particular along with access from Groesbeck Street or one of the side streets like Payne Forest.
- All parks!
- All the parks should have paved trails so it is easier for those in wheel chairs to have more access.
- Along any major roadway that does not have one; such as, Lake Michigan Drive.
- Around the city
- Around the Robinson Twp area
- Beach
- Between Grand Haven and Muskegon
- Between Spring Lake and Grand Rapids
- Bridge or Tunnel at US31 at any of existing pathways to make crossing safe.
- Connect 144th and Mercury to Conner park. Connect 120th and Leonard to North Bank trail.
- Connect North Bank trail to Musketawa.

- DOING PRETTY GOOD ON IT
- Every where (3)
- Finish the connector making biking to GR possible.
- Finish the path along Mercury to connect to 231 and then Nunica and Spring Lake
- Grand Haven (2)
- Grand Haven Township (3)
- Hofma preserve (2)
- I am happy to see them spreading in Grand Haven Township. It would be nice to continue them so they connect and you can go from the East side of highway to West side. Also, the bike path along Lakeshore is getting pretty bumpy as are the sidewalks downtown. We like to ride our bikes from the East side of the Township to downtown GH.
- I like seeing them everywhere. I think everyone would love to be able to walk just outside their house.
- I would like to see the current paths connected so I could get across 31 safely to access those paths.
- I would like to see the Ottawa County bike paths connected to Kent County.
- In a coordinated fashion across the area, not just as recreational paths, but to provide a convenient alternative transportation opportunities.
- Lake drive.
- Leonard St & Green St
- M45 between US 131 and Lakeshore
- Near the shoreline
- Non motorized paths can be added anywhere and everywhere.
- Placement irrelevant - just need publicity of where they are.
- Repaving of Lakeshore Avenue path from Grand Haven south.
- Robinson Township and City of Grand Haven (designated bike lanes)
- Sands park
- South and east of Grand Haven
- The new Schmidt park would be perfect.
- Where ever it is practical. As the population ages it will keep people and their care providers engaged in the outdoors.

Spring Lake Village

- 130 th street to I96
- 130th to Nunica
- Along 104
- Along the river
- Anywhere connecting the tri-cities and outwards to Muskegon and Grand Rapids
- Between Ferrysburg and Muskegon
- Bike path to Grand Rapids
- Black Lake Area
- By the water
- Connect the existing ones, to make the Tri-Cities more accessible by bikes and walkers!
- Don't necessarily need "more" trails, but put money into maintaining current bike paths— plow them better in the winter so people can safely walk off the roadway.

- Everywhere possible
- Ferrysburg
- Finish current trail plans
- Forests, beach areas, waterfront
- Harbor Island area
- Hickory Street between 148th and Fruitport Road. There is no shoulder yet there are walkers, runners and bikers daily. Also, extension of the North Bank Trail past 136th (or 130th...not sure which road it ends at).
- In between the Lakeside trail and North Beach Park. There are sections near Taft & 168th, 172nd that could use them.
- In places where there is less traffic and it is quiet
- In the Spring Lake Township area, it would be nice to have non-motorized paths other than the bike trails that run along the roads.
- Keep connecting paths we have
- Laakes path connected into Grand Rapids going south.
- Leonard road
- More related to maintenance and cleanliness (debris removal) than "more." Bike path throughout Spring Lake Township is in suboptimal condition and usually covered with debris. Gets a lot of use in season and could be better maintained.
- More trails that strive to interconnect existing trails such as the Musketawa Trail to Spring Lake trails to and through Grand Haven to the Lakeshore Ave trail that goes to Holland.
- Only if they are accessible and have a firm foundation and railings! Don't spend money that the County doesn't have!!!
- Ottawa Sands (2)
- Our paths all connect and there are miles upon miles. I think it's incredible and don't even know where new ones would be created.
- Regional Connections throughout the area
- Spring Lake Township
- Spring Lake township (Van Wagoner Rd)
- Spring Lake Township, a paved path needs to be put in on 152nd street, to connect the existing path at the entrance to the Oak Point subdivision at Oak Point Drive, south, until it connects to the existing bike path that is opposite the entrance to the Wildfield Drive subdivision.
- The paths we have are sufficient but could be better maintained (trees encroach, weeds encroach...)
- Through areas of the forest that are still very dense. The small winding path that is at coast guard park on the North side is absolutely beautiful and fun because it twists and turns, but really short.
- Up to and around Little Black Lake and from North Ottawa Sands up to Hoffmaster
- Walking paths around each park
- Wooded area that are not too hilly (2)

Village of Spring Lake

- Along river.
- Everywhere! (2)
- Hoffa park

- I think what we have is awesome. I don't see more needed in the Village.
- Maintain & Repair current paths first - Priority between Mill Point & Tanglefoot!
- Some areas of Ottawa Sands where it wouldn't disrupt the dunes (My family LOVES this park!! Please consider not developing it too much).
- Spring lake
- Yes, need to finish north bank trail

Appendix C – Open-Ended Comments

Q16_10: Which of the following is the biggest factor impacting your decision to visit a park in the last year?

City of Ferrysburg

- Can bring dog
- Dog friendly
- Playground and restroom
- Swing at playground

City of Grand Haven

- Cleanliness
- Do something different
- Dog friendly (2)
- Exercise /ice cream
- Facilities, specifically year-round bathrooms
- Fun for my children
- Less people
- Personal recreation, swimming, hiking, nature, meeting friends
- Pickleball

Grand Haven Charter Township

- Cleanliness and bathrooms
- Dogs allowed
- Hiking trails
- Kid friendly
- Lake views
- Meet up to use a bike trail
- Number of People
- Parking availability
- Pickelball courts
- Places to walk dog
- Riding my bike
- Typical work related
- Walking
- Walking or biking
- Walking trails

- We tend to stay away from areas that have a lot of bugs during the buggy seasons. Shade and access to clean water is important as well as natural beauty and kid stuff. I go to parks for adulating, for the natural beauty and don't care about kid stuff. I will avoid places that are too developed yet don't have cleared trails. I don't want to get ticks, but I do want to see nature. Wide paths are important!

Spring Lake Township

- Boat launch
- Dog friendly
- Exercise
- Location (accessible via bike path) and playground
- Pickleball (2)
- Playground
- Playground equipment
- RUNNING!
- Trails
- Walk the dog
- Where the kids want to go

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Boat launch
- Physical activity
- Showing visitors

Q17: If you don't go to a park often or when your typical routine of visiting the parks is interrupted, what are the reasons for not going? (select all that apply)

City of Ferrysburg

- Drinking/drugs
- Facilities
- Lives on the beach

City of Grand Haven

- Out of town
- Too busy
- Various unexpected things

Grand Haven Charter Township

- Health issues this summer

- I have a medical condition where I am unable to be out in the heat for very long so I don't get to use the parks during the summer.
- If I am not using the parks I am most likely out of town.
- Just busy schedule
- Lack of interest in participating for different reasons.
- Mosquitos and sweat flies
- Not dog friendly
- Pickelball courts
- Rules prevent me from using the park. (i.e. no bikes, no dogs etc.)
- Short term injury that restricts/prevents activities
- Sometimes the cost -- around Lake Michigan.
- Typically use the parks that are close to me or on other occasions that allow.

Spring Lake Township

- Can't take my dog
- Cost, crowds, and sometimes parking are also factors
- Depends on where the kids where to go. East end park bathrooms are nasty -- we have watched the people not clean them sufficiently.
- Haven't been here long enough to know all the parks and their location
- Hoffma Park dog owners not putting dog on leashes. My dog has been attacked two times this year
- I only go to a park when a specific event I'm interested in is held there
- Lack of parking
- Not dog friendly (2)
- Other activities occupy my time
- Recovering from an injury
- Too many other people there

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Lazy
- Tourists

Q19_5: Would you, or a group you belong to, be interested in volunteer opportunities? (select all that apply)

City of Ferrysburg

- christina.scarpino@gmail.com

City of Grand Haven

- Company adopts highways (JR Automation)
- Hosting hiking events for families through our schools

- Toddler events like at Hemlock Crossing

Grand Haven Charter Township

- Building/maintaining mountain bike trails
- Frog or bird counts
- I always pick up trash and move branches off the path already
- I serve on the OC Parks Foundation Board
- Just cleaning up after we have used a park
- Participating in alternative transportation to enhance the access.
- Planning efforts
- Signage
- Trail development and maintenance
- Trying to persuade GR water treatment plant to grant MUCH needed beach access at the end of Lake Michigan Drive!

Spring Lake Township

- Boy Scouts do these activities
- Probably a project that church group could do.
- Restrooms at Mulligans Hollow
- Trail building
- Trail building (non-paved)
- Trail maintenance
- Would like to see all options in my area

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Bike path repair & maintenance
- Handicap service swings
- Planting - reforestation
- Saving the Monarchs

Q21: Type of Disability Text

City of Ferrysburg

- Cognitive
- Deteriorating bad heart

City of Grand Haven

- Child with cognitive difficulties

Grand Haven Charter Township

- Age and illness
- Chronic fatigue and fibromyalgia. need restroom facilities for Crohn's
- Sensory, agoraphobia/social anxiety. Large crowds are an issue, but the smaller beaches are physically more difficult to access. It is hard for our family to enjoy the outdoors together.

Spring Lake Township

--

Village of Spring Lake Township

--

Q27: What suggestion do you have for improving your experience at the park with a stroller, wagon, etc.?

City of Ferrysburg

- North Shore & State Park in GH make it easier with the "sidewalk" they have. If that could be implemented Where necessary that would be great for people who need assistance
- Pathways that can accommodate wheels.
- The biggest challenge is the sand that blows onto the sidewalks. Must be blown off.

City of Grand Haven

- Accessibility when using a stroller
- Easier way to get across the sand
- I love to bring my stroller...it's a huge factor in enjoying the parks. We go to Hofma daily--very accessible!
- Keep debris and sand off walkways, Have more walkways
- Make accessible parking for those with wheelchairs and strollers
- More amenable paths/areas for all parks, not just some - Hofma has good paths, but the bathrooms (even just something like a port-a-potty) aren't open year-round, etc.
- Most trails I've been on are ok for strollers, but continued maintenance of trails to remove obstacles
- Ramps, less curves
- Sand based areas hard to walk on
- Sidewalks, ramps for curbs
- Would like to see something on website that says stroller accessible or signs that say that

Grand Haven Charter Township

- A cement or boardwalk down to water
- An area to safely leave it to explore
- Clean accessible trails

- Connect walks at beach outliers to parking lots at North Beach. This will also shorten path to bathrooms from the beach area.
- Enough space on the path for people to walk along side of.
- H/C approaches when practical to Park layout and activities.
- Hard surfaces
- Hardened beach path access
- Installation of more paved pathways and/or ramps.
- Keep paths clean
- Kirk Park would be nice to have a ramp down the hill that is pretty steep.
- Level paths and parking lots
- Level paths would encourage use of “walkers”
- More boardwalks
- No curbs
- NO WOODCHIPS! Having ground covering that allows wheels to move freely!
- Open space around play structure and more parks with rubber ground!
- Ramps (2)
- Ramps along with stairs.
- Ramps and beach pathways
- Ramps not steps
- Remove more tree roots in the path.
- Smooth surface
- Smooth, soft surfaces
- Tree root control as the paths can be difficult to traverse
- We typically look for parks with paved paths for our little ones, or places where stroller accessibility is easy for playgrounds. Luckily for us, Ottawa County has lots of these parks
- Widen the paths and make them smooth enough for strollers or wagons

Spring Lake Township

- Continuous flat pathways with minimal slopes
- I would like to see more stroller-friendly walking trails in parks. Dirt trails can work for many strollers, but sand and roots make some local trails difficult for stroller usage.
- Make sure there is a hard surface for rollers
- None. Very stroller-friendly parks
- Paved areas, like the bike path, make it easier on us for stroller use
- Paved paths, gate accessibility
- Ramps with railings wherever possible
- Sidewalks
- Smooth surfaces where wheels don't sink in
- The aluminum walkways/ramps at the beach are helpful. Maybe have more access to those at different parts of the larger beaches.
- We use a baby-stroller; but have not had issues with barriers at any parks

- We usually have good access, but our items often feel in the way when they are parked on a small pathway. Not such a big deal when there is grass, but the sandy parks we don't want to drag our carts through.
- Well paved walks near parking areas

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Bathroom doors. Play area not smooth for wheels. No play equipment for a weak person to set in.
- Ensure there are access ramps.
- Smoother surfaces
- Stroller friendly paths
- Would like to see asphalt walkways or firm gravel.

Q29: For each item I list, please indicate on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being not at all important and 5 being extremely important, how you rate the following amenities: OTHER

City of Ferrysburg

- Benches for resting
- Parking, toilets, maps, trail markers
- Restrooms

City of Grand Haven

- Bring back our hockey rink!
- Camping
- Dogs on leash
- Quiet reading areas
- Rest room facilities

Grand Haven Charter Township

- Add a pool
- Alternative transportation access
- Attract wildlife to parks
- Bathrooms (5)
- Clean & functional restrooms
- Clean safe bathroom
- Community pool
- Cross Country skiing
- Dog friendly
- Golf courses
- Green spaces
- Grills

- Hockey Rink
- Hunting access (2)
- Ice rink
- Lacrosse fields
- LIGHTED Tennis Courts and a WALL to hit against; There used to be a wall on the courts behind White Pines, until they inexplicably tore it down.
- Motorized vehicles
- Mountain Bike Trails!!
- No dogs! Not everyone is comfortable with them and not all owners follow leash rules or clean up after their dog
- Obstacle courses
- Playground
- Rest room facilities
- Restrooms, drinking fountain
- Separate area for dogs-away from others that don't appreciate being jumped on by free running dogs
- Softball fields
- SUP launch access
- Trees, tables, dog enclosure areas
- Water fountain
- Winter sport activities

Spring Lake Township

- Bike paths
- Dog-friendly hiking
- Drinking fountain
- Ice skating rink for the winter months
- Mountain bike trails
- Nature trails for running
- Open space
- Paid boat launches
- Restrooms
- Rustic group camping for scout groups.
- Splash pad for older children
- Swimming/kayaking

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Bathrooms
- Fix Bike Path!!!
- Handicapped beach access chairs
- Natural area

- Shade
- Swings for handicap people. No steps

Q30: We are interested in learning what you think are the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

City of Ferrysburg

- No recommendations
- Walks with staff- nature

City of Grand Haven

- Camping
- Concession stand at Grand Haven State Park
- Extreme Sports
- Family friendly areas
- Frisbee golf, more lit trails—especially in winter
- Handicap access at Ottawa Sands
- Harbor Island public park, not campground
- Just in general, making sure that whatever is put in is maintained.
- Last section was last one completed
- Trails to dunes
- Trash cans
- We need a multipurpose outdoor year round hockey rink in town.
- Wooden walking areas by river areas

Grand Haven Charter Township

- All natural with a path like Hofma
- Bathrooms
- Bike Paths
- Community pool
- Dog park to help keep them off the other trails
- Hunting (2)
- Ice rink (2)
- Not sure I understand this question - chose what I enjoy most
- Outdoor swimming pool for competition meets
- Pool
- Shuffleboard courts (ala Ludington)
- Yoga areas

Spring Lake Township

- Addition of a Bike Path Bridge on Dangerous stretch of 152nd Ave in Spring Lake (between Oak Point and Pruin, over Lloyds Bayou).
- Benches and seating for those with a physical problem and for senior citizens or those who tire easily/quickly. Accessible benches with side rails so people can pull themselves up from a seating position. A somewhat firm base for the benches not sand which is slippery and makes for standing from a sitting position difficult when one is weak or has joint limitations.
- Good set up, Later times being open
- Ice Rinks
- None
- Skate park
- Splash pad like Grand Haven's
- Winter sports: ice skating, hockey, skiing....something to keep active in winter

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Playground equipment for disabled children

Q31: Where would you like to see more paved walking / biking paths created?

City of Ferrysburg

- All over, as many areas as possible
- Almost any park
- N/A
- Ottawa Sands
- Would like to see bike trails that connect the trails that already exist so can go on longer rides

City of Grand Haven

- Along the west side Moreland Street from Robbins Road to Mercury Drive.
- At the state parks
- Closer to the city
- Connecting Connor Bayou to Grand Haven
- Hofma Preserve
- I don't know
- I think the effort that GH Township is putting in to bike paths is terrific, more is better!
- In Grand Haven but separate from where people walk (i.e. the boardwalk)
- In the wooded areas
- N/A (2)
- Somewhere that takes you down to the beach that would work for those in wheelchairs
- The parks already have good trails
- Would like to see some extended

- Yes

Grand Haven Charter Township

- All major county roads
- All of Robbins Road west of Mercury Drive. All of Mercury/Green/Cedar. All of 144th to M-45 and all of Lincoln.
- All parks with nature trails. Similar to the Outdoor Discovery Center in Holland. It's very stroller friendly. Hofma Park in particular along with access from Groesbeck Street or one of the side streets like Payne Forest.
- All parks!
- All the parks should have paved trails so it is easier for those in wheel chairs to have more access.
- Along any major roadway that does not have one; such as, Lake Michigan Drive.
- Around the city
- Around the Robinson Twp area
- Beach
- Between Grand Haven and Muskegon; Between Spring Lake and Grand Rapids
- Bridge or tunnel at US31 at any of existing pathways to make crossing safe.
- Connect 144th and Mercury to Conner Park. Connect 120th and Leonard to North Bank trail. Connect North Bank trail to Musketawa.
- Doing pretty good on it
- Everywhere (3)
- Finish the connector making biking to Grand Rapids possible.
- Finish the path along Mercury to connect to 231 and then Nunica and Spring Lake
- Given my short time in the community, I do not feel qualified to say.
- Grand Haven (2)
- Grand Haven Township (3)
- Hofma Preserve (2)
- I am happy to see them spreading in Grand Haven Township. It would be nice to continue them so they connect and you can go from the east side of highway to west side. Also, the bike path along Lakeshore is getting pretty bumpy as are the sidewalks downtown. We like to ride our bikes from the east side of the township to downtown Grand Haven.
- I like seeing them everywhere. I think everyone would love to be able to walk just outside their house.
- I would like to see the current paths connected so I could get across 31 safely to access those paths.
- I would like to see the Ottawa County bike paths connected to Kent County.
- In a coordinated fashion across the area, not just as recreational paths, but to provide a convenient alternative transportation opportunities.
- Lake Drive.
- Leonard Street & Green Street
- M45 between US 131 and Lakeshore
- N/A

- Near the shoreline
- Neutral
- No improvements
- Non-motorized paths can be added anywhere and everywhere.
- Not sure (2)
- Placement irrelevant - just need publicity of where they are.
- Repaving of Lakeshore Avenue path from Grand Haven south.
- Robinson Township and City of Grand Haven (designated bike lanes)
- Sands Park
- South and east of Grand Haven
- The new Schmidt Park would be perfect.
- The places I have noted where I have been
- Where ever it is practical. As the population ages it will keep people and their care providers engaged in the outdoors.
- Yes (5)

Spring Lake Township

- 130th street to I96
- 130th to Nunica
- Along 104
- Along the river
- Anywhere connecting the tri-cities and outwards to Muskegon and Grand Rapids
- Between Ferrysburg and Muskegon
- Bike path to Grand Rapids
- Black Lake Area
- By the water
- Connect the existing ones, to make the Tri-Cities more accessible by bikes and walkers!
- Does not matter
- Don't necessarily need "more" trails, but put money into maintaining current bike paths— plow them better in the winter so people can safely walk off the roadway.
- Everywhere possible
- Ferrysburg
- Finish current trail plans
- Forests, beach areas, waterfront
- Harbor Island area
- Hickory Street between 148th and Fruitport Road. There is no shoulder yet there are walkers, runners and bikers daily. Also, extension of the North Bank Trail past 136th (or 130th...not sure which road it ends at).
- I would like to see more paved paths, not so much as any additional paths. But that's just my preference for walking. I do get quite a bit of pain walking through the sand and dirt in the North Ottawa trails. Not having paved paths does not stop me from using them.

- In between the Lakeside Tail and North Beach Park. There are sections near Taft & 168th, 172nd that could use them.
- In places where there is less traffic and it is quiet
- In the Spring Lake Township area, it would be nice to have non-motorized paths other than the bike trails that run along the roads.
- Keep connecting paths we have
- Lakes Path connected into Grand Rapids going south.
- Leonard Road
- More related to maintenance and cleanliness (debris removal) than "more." Bike path throughout Spring Lake Township is in suboptimal condition and usually covered with debris. Gets a lot of use in season and could be better maintained.
- More trails that strive to interconnect existing trails such as the Musketawa Trail to Spring Lake Trails to and through Grand Haven to the Lakeshore Ave Trail that goes to Holland.
- No particular location
- Only if they are accessible and have a firm foundation and railings! Don't spend money that the County doesn't have!!!
- Ottawa Sands (2)
- Our paths all connect and there are miles upon miles. I think it's incredible and don't even know where new ones would be created.
- Regional connections throughout the area
- Spring Lake Township
- Spring Lake township (Van Wagoner Rd)
- Spring Lake Township, a paved path needs to be put in on 152nd Street, to connect the existing path at the entrance to the Oak Point subdivision at Oak Point Drive south, until it connects to the existing bike path that is opposite the entrance to the Wildfield Drive subdivision.
- The paths we have are sufficient but could be better maintained (trees encroach, weeds encroach...)
- Through areas of the forest that are still very dense. The small winding path that is at Coast Guard park on the north side is absolutely beautiful and fun because it twists and turns, but really short.
- Unsure
- Up to and around Little Black Lake and from North Ottawa Sands up to Hoffmaster
- Walking paths around each park
- Wooded area that are not too hilly
- Wooded areas
- Yes (2)

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Along river.
- Everywhere (2)
- Hoffma Park
- I think what we have is awesome. I don't see more needed in the Village.
- Maintain & Repair current paths first - Priority between Mill Point & Tanglefoot!

- Some areas of Ottawa Sands where it wouldn't disrupt the dunes (My family LOVES this park!! Please consider not developing it too much).
- Spring Lake
- Yes -- need to finish north bank trail

Q32: We are interested in learning what you view as the top THREE most needed park updates. Reader note: There are a lot of items on the list. To narrow it down to the top three, read through the list. Mark each of the items they indicate as important, then read their choices back to narrow it down to three if necessary. - Other – Text

City of Ferrysburg

- Clean play structures
- Groomed cross country ski trails
- Lighted trails
- Playground (accessibility)
- Recycling cans
- Water bottle fillers (water fountain attachment)

City of Grand Haven

- Bathrooms!!! (year-round)
- Better trail signage
- Concession stands
- Cooking supplies/grills
- Family restrooms for stroller access
- Foot wash station from sand
- Handicap parking
- Least amount of human landmarks as possible
- More pavilion rental, and more grills
- North shore Park(?) beach cellular coverage is really bad and needs to be fixed for safety reasons. Or an emergency phone needs to be added.
- Partial complete
- Remove pickle ball courts
- Safe activities for young folks not interested in traditional sports
- Safety for women
- Trail maintenance AND someone overseeing the park such as an info desk
- Trail upkeep
- Updated/maintained playground equipment

Grand Haven Charter Township

- Clean up Buchanan Street beach and install a bathroom
- Community pool

- Fishing docks
- Flush bathrooms, wheelchair access to the beach
- Free WiFi (poor signal for emergencies in many locations)
- Hunting
- Ice fishing access
- Invasive species management
- More wildlife within our parks
- Natural playgrounds
- Overlooks
- Proper maintenance
- Radio-controlled car track
- Resident free parking
- Security cameras
- Toddler playgrounds
- Updating playground equipment (2)

Spring Lake Township

- Better upkeep of existing parks (i.e. River Run)
- Gravel for parking, cross country access, landscaping
- Groomed trails
- Hand railings along paths!
- Less goose poop
- More dog friendly
- Mountain bike trails (3)
- Recycling; refilling water bottle stations/drinking fountains
- Restrooms, walking areas, playgrounds
- Some parks need improved signage for hiking
- Splash pads
- Trails groomed (remove trip hazards roots) I'm a runner

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Better trail maps
- Mountain bike trails
- Multi-use space ,concerts ,picnics , reunions ,weddings
- Playground equipment

Q39: Do you have any additional comments that can assist in improving the parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, programs or services?

City of Ferrysburg

- Ferrysburg has too many parks. Sell the FNP and develop nice housing to add to the tax base

- Ferrysburg is known for its natural resources. Many are drawn to live here because of the water access, beaches, hiking trails, parks, and recreation opportunities. Some choose to live by the water because that is what they value and some choose to live near the woods and open space for the same reason.

Open space and natural areas within the city are vital to both quality and desirability of property within the city, and all over the world, the most valuable and expensive real estate in the City abuts the open space. Central Park in New York is a prime example as is lakefront property in Chicago. Quality of life within the City should be the clear goal of all city planners, committees, and elected city legislators wherever they may be.

- I support natural parks, such as the FNP in Ferrysburg.
- I would like to see more about FNP to encourage the community to use so they can understand what a treasure it is to our community. I also would love to see some minor grooming of trails for cross country, particularly in North Ottawa Dunes and Ottawa Sands.
- Need to add more pet waste disposal stations. Also would like to see rules about having dogs on their leashes at all times
- Ottawa County does a great job with parks
- Stop wasting and selling appreciating assets like property and parks to fund special interest bridges and shady development deals that will bankrupt the city in 10 years.
- Think Ottawa County does a good job taking care of the parks.
- We are so lucky to have so many parks. We try not to go to parks that don't have clean restrooms. Our favorite parks have shaded picnic tables.
- We are very appreciative of the wonderful parks and proud of their upkeep. It is difficult to please all interests and ages even though we don't have a dog, add more areas permitting dogs and more disposal containers where dogs are allowed.
- We love the Ferrysburg Nature Preserve.
- We need to continue saving and protecting open space all over the world! Start in our own backyards. Our parks and open space are the reasons why people want to live in Ottawa County.
- Wish they would stop building, work more on improving

City of Grand Haven

- It is very important to not develop Harbor Island into a campground but instead into a park. Open land plus a playground is a great idea. Picnic facility would be nice there.
- Allocate more towards parks
- At Ottawa Sands would strongly like to see camping grounds and also scuba diving.
- Bring back the concession stand at the Grand Haven State Park.
- Continue to do what's been done. Ottawa County is doing a fantastic job
- Do not destroy natural hiking areas with man-made landmarks like concrete whenever possible.
- Do not lose land to development; dedicate all park lands.
- Donations/legacy funds established specifically for continued high quality maintenance of existing parks and amenities. Same for any new parkland, park expansions or for equipment replacement, as needed.

- Find a way to enforce leash laws. Dogs not under immediate control have been a problem for me especially when out with grandkids.
- General maintenance
- Have "bring your book to the park" day
- Hemlock Crossing is great. We love it.
- Keep parks as natural as possible with few man-made landmarks; put money on preserving the natural sites and removing invasive species. Also, Ottawa Sands is a great park and the county is doing a great job.
- Keep walking trails clear in the winter.
- Mailing residents information on park locations.
- Make parks a lot more handicap friendly.
- More lighting, make more bike lanes on pier/boardwalk so pedestrians can walk safely.
- Ottawa County has many beautiful facilities. It would be great to see our schools elementary to high school using these areas to teach stewardship and care to our local resources. If we start the kids early, they will take care for future generations.
- Ottawa County does a great job with parks.
- Please do not allow dogs off leashes on trails. The owners rarely have them under "immediate control" as the signs say at Hofma Preserve & other places. We love going to Hofma, but the dogs running wild definitely keep us from going as often as we would like. Many families with small children have expressed concern over this. Also, as a runner, I've had many dogs chase me there. I believe it would be a great improvement to require leashes on every trail at every park.
- Praise for the parks.
- Remove pickle ball courts.
- Right now I feel that it's most important to add as much park/natural space as possible and avoid overdevelopment. The natural beauty of the area must be preserved!
- Thank you for all that you do! We appreciate the opportunity to add our input. So many of the visitors we have from other states are impressed with the quality and quantity of our parks—keep up the fantastic work!
- Thanks for asking these questions. The parks are great - I say just update and keep clean what we have!
- The area is in dire need of more pickleball courts. The courts that are available are extremely crowded during peak hours - mornings and evenings. The sport continues to grow exponentially and, as younger players are being introduced in schools, there seems to be more growth coming.
- The county parks are the favorite.
- The new parks are good. Would like to continue to update the old parks as well.
- trash
- Trash cans; keeping trails cleaned
- We are blessed to have some awesome parks in the area and the upkeep on them is usually great. It was a shame watching Mercury Park get torn down and no rink built in its place. Hockey is very key part of this area. I started in playing through NORP in the mid-90s. And I understand the sport is nowhere near as popular as it was in the 2000s, but to just to take access away from our local rink

and put a field there in its place? Where are we supposed to skate? People still like to play hockey. Not everyone can make it to the rink in Spring Lake.

- A multi season rink (built with boards that are for summer and winter) should be built downtown at Mulligans where we currently skate in the winter. For more input feel free to reach out! - Justin Forrest 616-502-7803.
- We have nine grandchildren under age 8 so are very interested in any park with activities such as fishing, playgrounds that they can enjoy
- We love parks
- We're blessed with a lot of nice parks, and they do a good job of upkeep and improvements, and it's nice that they listen to the customers' suggestions.
- Would like to see upgraded restroom facilities

Grand Haven Charter Township

- "Road Ends" on Lake Michigan could be improved with ADA access as could Ottawa County North Shore Beach and Kirk Park. Better coordination with Ottawa County parks and recreation development is needed!
- A really good splash pad like in Allendale for children would be so beneficial to our area. Softball fields also
- A soccer complex would be amazing! Seems like there's a need in our area. Harbor Island isn't ideal for soccer.
- We sure do love our parks & the great outdoors!
- Artwork, sculptures, and similar enhancements are important to the community but are overlooked. Especially in Grand Haven Township where there does not appear to have any art whatsoever.
- Being seniors, it would be nice to have a Senior Class area where we can gather and relax. Also, include pet area enclosed.
- Build it and they will come!
- Coordinate with the wonderful Ottawa County Parks program and facilities.
- Consider exercise stations at some of the parks to provide basic conditioning opportunities for anyone to use and include appropriate explanatory instructions.
- Consider growing electric bicycle movement in terms of off-road trails and or paved trails designed exclusively for their use.
- Continue excellent work in developing park system. Draw people in to participate. Thought the spring walks were excellent way to get people out Ottawa County is great.
- Continue to emphasize and pursue donations of land, money, etc. from all citizens. Emphasize the importance and need for volunteers.
- Directional maps and lighting for safety. Access to water!
- Disc golf facilities
- Do NOT widen or add aggregate to new or existing trails or walking paths within natural areas such as Hofma Preserve and North Ottawa Dunes. Thank you
- Dogs on leashes should be allowed at more of the parks - i.e. Rosy Mound.
- Dogs on leashes. Dog parks are great. Free Parking for residents

- Don't compromise nature for these park functions ...i.e.: trails thru sensitive areas: it goes against what we are trying to do just for "feel good"
- Educational opportunities related to restoration of native species; invasive plants; conservation; environmental issues.
- Expansion without upkeep to existing parks is not a favorable way to operate. Developed parks are not always needed. Green-spaces are often enough as long as minor maintenance is performed routinely.
- Free parking, trails, free programs
- Grand Haven Township needs a dog park
- Great parks already!
- Having areas also to use off road bikes and 4x4 vehicles for winter and summer use would be fantastic.
- How about allowing horseback riding on foot trails off 168th? And more beach access!
- How can the schools that have facilities augment or be included in their playground activities?
- I am grateful for this survey and your commitment to our outdoor spaces. I moved here just for your outdoor spaces and its availability.
- I am very grateful for the wonderful parks in Ottawa County.
- I cocross country trails at some parks
- I congratulate you on the design of the survey. Reaching out for citizen input as you have done and cooperation between governmental units is outstanding governmental service. Thank you.
- I have been a frequent park visitor in the past. My least favorite ones were over-developed, but the world is different today, so I cannot really comment on current use. I would love to still be able to hike, but I have so many wonderful memories to hang onto.
- I have dogs but am not a fan of dog parks because too many irresponsible people allow their poorly trained dogs to run wild. I would like to see leashed dogs allowed on the trails in all parks. At each trailhead waste disposal bags could be offered along with covered trash cans to dispose of the waste.
- I heard a rumor that the farmland on Ferris is slated to be developed into athletic fields for soccer and such. I think this is needed and a GREAT idea!!
- I love our parks! I'm always hopeful for more parks and continued improvement to the amazing parks we already have. If I was to pick one thing I would love more of for my family, it would be hiking trails!
- I love the park system in the Tri Cities, it is one of the reasons I moved here over 15 yrs ago.
- I would really like to see mountain biking trails as a priority for the park system. With multiple bike shops and countless mountain bikers in town, it is an improvement to the parks that is long overdue. I understand our sandy soil present a problem with bike trail development but trail building has changed a lot in the past 20 yrs and there are park properties with compatible trail soils.
- Bike trail development would improve quality of life in our region and possibly capitalize on tourist groups that our region has overlooked. Thanks for your consideration.
- I love the parks. The only "real" concern I have is with increased sound. Specifically worship on the waterfront setting up early Sunday afternoon and doing sound checks... test. test. Sunday relaxing on the hill (park) isn't really possible anymore.... been taken away. Also the decibel readings at the

stadium often exceeds 95db. I think this will be a concern for quite a few people through the coming seasons. It appears to be driving some people away from the parks.

- I strongly think building on what is currently there would make the most sense with today's economy.
- I also find it odd how more bike paths are made and there are more bikers on the ROAD....such a hazard....
- I think our park service does a great job and is headed in the right direction. With present developments gobbling up land I would like to see an emphasis on preserving as much land as possible for future and expanded public use. I also think we need more winter activity focus. Trails should be groomed for hikers not just skiers since we have a long winter with lots of snow and not everyone wants to ski. Also, there is very little access for ice fishing other than Millhouse Bayou which is over fished and has virtually no parking. I don't understand why the parking lot at Potawatomi Park is closed all winter. Is plowing that lot really THAT expensive when there seems to be an endless budget for bike trails?
- I was on the Park Commission for many years and really appreciate the value Ottawa County has for parks. Use of Ferris Street addition will be a challenge and on the front of determining usage.
- I would give the Grand Haven area a "1" on a 1-10 scale with regards to mountain biking in the area. "Good" trails are in Muskegon and Kent County. I, and many, many others travel weekly to trails outside the area because of the lack of good trails here. Coast Guard Park (before the Parks Department got it) was a very popular mountain bike trail. With today's sustainable trail building techniques, combined with the larger tires of today's mountain/fat bikes, Coast Guard Park could be a destination trail for many, and would keep our spending local. Don't believe the bias against it by the previous Park Manager.
- I would like to make sure that we preserve as much natural area as possible, reduce invasive species, use native plants for any plantings rather than non-native ornamentals, use permeable surfaces as much as possible to absorb rainwater and prevent run-off.
- I would like to see more playgrounds fenced in for safety purposes. We love Imagination Station but wish they could add a gate where the entrance is so kids can't just run out. Also, we would like to see development of the Schmidt land donation.
- I would like to see the residential construction in the area slow down. If we continue to grow, population-wise, we need to grow our rec areas to compensate. Nothing worse than an overcrowded hiking trail or waiting to park/access a beach on the weekend.
- I would love to see a more involved Dog Park area. Something that has off leash trails that allows the dog to run without being constrained by a leash. A way to entertain them without being confined to the same little area.
- I'd like to see a space for flying radio-controlled aircraft and drones.
- Improve what you already have instead of always looking to purchase additional park land.
- In general we are very happy with the trails, bike paths, and parks available in Ottawa County. I think that any improvements or additions made will only make them better.
- It would make sense to expend some of the funds to achieve a coordinated alternative transportation system instead of adding more parking. The parks should not be isolated areas that users have to drive to get to. The alternative transportation system should enhance the equity of the area so that everyone does not have to own a car to live in this area.

- Just wanted to say we are blessed to have such beautiful parks, trails, rec facilities & all of the above. Our family has made countless memories at the beaches, hiking & participating in many recreation facilities. Thank you for all you do to continue to provide any additional improvements for everyone to use in countless ways.
- Keep dog parks and trails separate from the general public
- Keep up the good work already being done, thanks!
- Keep up the good work. The parks are a big reason my wife and I choose to move to Grand Haven Township/Ottawa County
- Less sporting facilities
- Let all the people be able to use your excessive amount of land but limit it to only extremists who don't and a snail or a rock be moved. This is ridiculous
- Level walkways, benches and shelters.
- Many of the activities listed as basketball, softball etc. I cannot participate in however I think such activities are very important for the parks.
- An active education program addressing pathway etiquette. Numerous times I have had bikers and runners either fly past me with no warning or as they are about to pass me. This is a very dangerous practice especially while walking a dog. Even on a three foot leash most dogs will react to the unexpected presence of a rapidly moving person or object.
- More areas for hunting
- More bathrooms. Benches to rest on or just enjoy
- More pickle ball courts, and launches for kayaks.
- Most of the park that we use are very nice and they have everything that we need.
- Need more park trails
- Need more pickle ball courts like the ones in Central Park in Spring Lake on the East side of 31.
- Need outdoor competition pool
- Never enough parks
- Never lived in an area that had so many amazing parks use them daily, great crew that works in most all locations personally I enjoy every day and look forward to going!
- NO SMOKING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- North Ottawa is a great place to live because of the vast selection of parks and recreation activities. By just enhancing the programs and maintaining the present facilities is the best use of time and money over the next five year plan.
- One of the main attractions to live in Ottawa County for us is the bike paths! We love them and use them, as well as the parks system every single week, weather permitting!
- Open space at Mercury Park would be perfect for pickle ball courts!!! Please add. (Where in-line hockey used to be). Also, bike path along Lake Shore Drive between Grand Haven and Holland is in great need of resurfacing!! Many bikers, including us, use that trail. Thank you for considering this!!!
- Opening hunting in more of the park areas would be nice. Even if on a lottery basis.
- Ottawa County and Grand Haven Township are doing an excellent job in creating parks and walkways.

- Ottawa County is a beautiful community. Instead of always looking for more park land and trail land to purchase, let's keep up the maintenance and upgrade the quality of the land and facilities we already have. We have miles and miles of paved pathways yet they are totally underutilized most of the year. Rarely do I see any bicyclists using any paved pathway even though there is a paved pathway right next to where they are riding in the street. Since the new state law passed, all bicyclists have taken to the streets and abandoned the paved pathways. With all of Ottawa's two lane roads, motorists are now being forced over the center lines because bicyclists are usually using the whole three feet law. It's ridiculous that the law change was so shortsighted in not requiring bicyclists to use a paved pathway where available. Grand Haven Township just spent \$2M on a pathway to nowhere where no one is really going to use it. Let's study park and pathway utilization before embarking on any further expansion. Thanks for this opportunity to share my comments and concerns. I will gladly share more and/or discuss with county officials.

Tim Tarczynski

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616-268-9125

- Ottawa County is doing a great job in their parks division. However, they should recognize that the dog park at Kirk Park is not a good plan. Too small, unhealthy and disruptive to the rest of beach goers. I am a dog owner and will never expose her to that type of environment.
- Ottawa parks are beautiful and greatly valued! I think that proper maintenance, which is apparent, should be continued. Drinking fountains would be great.
- Ottawa County has enough parks. I would prefer that they don't purchase more.
- Our area has a need for recreational facilities for our youth. Currently, our fields are located all over the place. It would be nice to have an area with soccer fields, baseball/softball fields all in the same area. I like what is going to happen with the Schmidt (spelling) property in Grand Haven Township. I personally feel that the airport would be another area that could fill this need. At the current time, our airport is of little use to anyone except for a recent business that is involved in parachuting. What a waste of space!
- Our parks have very little wildlife. Is there anything which can attract more wildlife? Don't place so much emphasis on hard surfaces that it becomes burdensome to maintain. More walking, hiking, biking, and groomed cross country skiing trails.
- Overall, the park system throughout this area is managed and maintained exceptionally. More awareness to native species and the benefits to the environment would be a nice addition.
- Parking is sometimes a problem and a danger hazard. Parks are well kept. Keep up the good work.
- Perhaps using an environmentally safe mold killer on the steps in the parks would be very helpful. They get very slippery in the spring and fall because of all of the foliage and mold.
- Pickle ball keeps all who play healthy; most people that don't play haven't been exposed yet, or they would be playing
- Proper maintenance of current parks should be a priority. Grand Haven has forgotten about sand removal. Is there a place to go online to let parks know when you find something that needs to be fixed?
- Protect our beaches
- Public open space with unrestricted hunting access needs to be increased.

- Really dislike that Rosy Mound charges a fee – causes me not to go!
- Restroom facilities are a big issue for many parks. Adding porta potties would make them much more family friendly, especially for those with younger kids. Offer some free/low cost fun programs for kids and families. I would love to see low key, fun type sports offerings for kids in middle and high school....like volleyball, soft/baseball, roller hockey, basketball, soccer, etc. There is very little for teens that don't make the school sports teams but just want to play for fun once a week.
- Right now I think you are doing a pretty good job
- Soccer is huge in this community and we need a designated soccer facility with multiple fields.
- Some of Grand Haven Township parks are starting to show their age. There should be some focus on updating/rehabilitating existing parks before creating new ones.
- Speed zone: near parks (slow) Kirk Park is 55!
- Stairs and elevated walkways in Lake Michigan beach parks are highly valued and are a top priority for maintenance and repair
- Thank you for conducting this survey! Northwest Ottawa County is a great place to live. Our parks are very nice as they currently are and we appreciate the opportunity to try to make them even better!
- Thank you for doing this.
- Thank you for the opportunity to share
- Thank you for what you do offer.
- Thank-you for asking the communities' thoughts.
- The above parks so forth are some of the reasons we located here
- The County has done a great job accumulating park land in the past years. The bike paths are greatly appreciated. Thanks
- Think our parks are great. I actually don't see a great need for improvement as long as the current facilities are kept in great shape, which they seem to be currently.
- This area is in desperate need of decent recreational fields for soccer, lacrosse, etc. There is a very large and successful youth soccer program but very poor facilities compared to many other communities.
- Unleashed dogs are a nuisance at Hoffma Park. It's a very nice park but we don't go there anymore.
- Using an address is not the proper way to assure that only one survey is collected per household. IP address tracking should have been used instead. My address should not be improvement to this survey.
- We enjoy your parks, keep up the good work.
- We have enough soccer, basketball, etc. places to play. We need a large community pool to swim when the beaches are red flag. The only option if you don't have a pool is to pay an expensive membership to the Y or aquatic center. Open swim at the schools isn't enough variety of hours and is costly
- We love finding unique parks and playgrounds for our kids and are willing to drive if a park or playground is unique
- We love hiking the parks. Also, all the programs you offer at the different parks is very nice....please continue.
- We love the parks in Ottawa County.

- We moved here from Western New York State three years ago and just love it here! We love the outdoors and exploring -- been to many of the parks on this list already, but now we have seen that there are many more to go! Can't wait to get started! Thank you for taking such good care of all these natural areas. We love it here!
- We moved to the area from St. Louis , MO in November 2017. The parks have been integral to us becoming involved in our community. Please consider how the County might find a way to provide more public funding for staff and programming.
- We need another public pool facility in this area. Sad two were filled in. The high school pool is packed all the time. A facility like Spring Lake or Holland could be well-utilized.
- We need more and improvements to the current softball fields. I'm hoping that the Schmidt Park will help with this concern.
- We need to maintain our current facilities before we build more.
- We strongly feel that art work is not necessary to improve the beautiful outdoor areas that we have available.
- Wonderful parks! Need variety of upgrades and maintenance depending on specific location.
- Would like to see continued coordination between County, Township, Village, and City efforts
- Would like to see large maintained outdoor ice skating rinks.
- You're doing a nice job. Would like to see large maintained outdoor ice skating rinks.
- You're doing a nice job.

Spring Lake Township

- A mountain bike trail is much needed. Bike paths are great, and if those could be plowed routinely in winter, more people could walk / run. But we need an off road bicycle path. For mountain bikes to ride on dirt. A single track trail, please.
- A mountain bike trail would be wonderful! Eastern Michigan has dozens of wonderful trails, while Grand Haven/Spring Lake/Ferrysburg have exactly zero! I would be more than happy to support and donate to a nice mountain bike trail in this area.
- A place allowing campfires would be nice.
- Although I live by myself, I involve my grandchildren in park and recreational activities.
- As a Spring Lake resident, the bike paths are one of the best features we have -- for everyone (adults, children, and pets). We use these bike paths often, however there is one dangerous stretch on 152nd Ave in Spring Lake (between Oak Point and Pruin) where the road dips down to Lloyds Bayou and the bike path ends and becomes a narrow shoulder of the road. Cars go near 50 mph down this road, there is poor visibility due to the dip in the road, and there are consistently empty liquor bottles thrown into the water there, so some drivers are intoxicated as well -- it is extremely dangerous for walkers and their dogs, children and families biking, etc. The highest priority for Spring Lake parks funding should be the safety of its residents and thereby adding a bike path bridge (or at least vastly widening the shoulder to add a bike path section that is separated from the road) on this dangerous stretch of 152nd Ave in Spring Lake (between Oak Point and Pruin, at Lloyds Bayou). Thank you.

- Clean up the goose poop. Ottawa County sheriff's department does an amazing job cleaning up. I want to see this program stay in effect because they do a better job than the city cleaning up.
- Cooperation and coordination of recreational departments and the Y.
- Defibrillators, even on the piers, and an alarm for them.
- Develop more lake areas
- Do not do anything to Ottawa Sands. No camping, kayaking, etc. Leave it the way it is.
- Encourage residents to plant trees.
- Find place Scout and other youth groups can camp is getting harder; be nicer if we have local options all year around.
- Local mountain bike trails would also be nice.
- For some reason, the bike path along Kruger Street was not plowed last winter. It does not make sense to build a bridge so people can walk into Spring Lake, and then plow 152nd Street bike path, but not the bike path going over the bridge heading west into Spring Lake. I observed people having to walk through 12 inches of snow carrying bags of groceries from Orchard Foods. Keep up the good work. Thank you.
- Great area and facilities
- Have restroom facilities open year around
- How about just taking better care of the parks we have? Lakeside Beach is disgusting. Just because the water level is high, doesn't mean the Village or Townships can't dump a few loads of beach sand to make it better? The sidewalk is about ready to cave in. How come no one is taking care of that beach?
- I am happy!
- I am interested in participating in more programs, but weekdays are difficult for me. Weekend options would be ideal (for things like organized group walks). I would also like more group hiking programs.
- I am often alone with my young children in the parks because we homeschool but my husband works. I only go to areas that feel safe. We traveled trails, cameras, nature centers, DNR patrols, etc.
- I appreciate programs that educate young and old about the native plants and nature education.
- I appreciate your commitment to parks in our area.
- I don't think the purchase of more land is needed, just maintain what we have. We enjoy the bike path for walking and biking as well as the beach and water access to Lake Michigan. Love the dunes and trails near North Shore Beach and Rosy Mound. We ride our bikes around Spring Lake and enjoy the little park in Ferrysburg across from Old Boys but I don't know the name. Sorry! My husband also mountain bikes.
- I firmly believe that Ottawa County owns many of the best public parks in the country already. Put the money into 1. Maintaining current parks, and plowing the bike paths so people can walk safely in the winter, 2. Creating a mountain bike path. Mountain bikers travel to trails. This will bring new commerce to the area, as well.
- I haven't been able to enjoy my favorite parks this summer due to no parking and filthy restrooms.
- I like the bike trails, I use them often. I appreciate the drinking fountains along the bike trail in Spring Lake. I like the idea of a splash pad. I really have no complaints. I do like the murals-painting in town. Excited about all the development in Spring Lake.

- I live at an unofficial entrance of Ottawa Dunes. I don't enjoy people parking at the base of my driveway in the wintertime blocking access for me to get in and out safely or the fall deer hunt. I enjoy the deer. I love the rest and my family enjoys the parks immensely. Great job!!
- I love our parks. We are blessed with the planning and care.
- I love that we are investing in preserving open space in this area.
- I really love our parks and have been happily walking in them for over 30 years. I'm still walking in them.
- I think you do a great job acquiring land for parks and developing them. I'm excited about the possibilities for the Hofma Park area. I have said for the last 30 years that the Tri-cities needed a soccer complex with adequate fields and facilities for the amount of teams that play. I am not as active as I should be, but I do follow my grandchildren's games. Thank you for the opportunity to complete this questionnaire.
- I use the trails almost every day for walking and running. They are amazing and one of the things I have enjoyed the most about living here. Great job!
- I want an area that I can walk and it would be great if it had distances labeled. Let's get people moving in Ottawa County!
- I would like to see more dog waste disposal stations. When I am out and about there seems to be a lack of waste stations...except at the designated dog parks. They're typically well-maintained. I really do enjoy the lakeshore and all the trails and park options we have access to use. Moving to the Ottawa County only two-and-a-half years ago has really given me a new appreciation for nature and all it has to offer. I can't imagine living anywhere else.
- I would really like for people to pick up their dog waste from paths and parks.
- I'm transitioning from a lot of paved trail running and running races on roads to much more running and racing on trails. I love running trails in North Ottawa Dunes and Hoffmaster State Park, either solo or with friends. I hope to run several trails races next year and fewer road races (this year I will have run 17 or 18 races including two half marathons). A number of my friends in their 50s and 60s are discovering they prefer trails to hard surfaces.
- Intelligent design, damming of water, low impact, low carbon footprint
- Keep the bike path looking nice and inviting, not have overgrown grass/weeds by the bike path where no one lives.
- Like to see Ottawa Sands open up the park more. Tables, trash cans maybe one hard pack trail around the lake.
- Love all the connected bike trails. The more of these the better. Also love the beach/water access. Need more parking around some of the facilities on busy days.
- Love all the parks
- Love the parks. I use Hoffmaster the most for swimming. Yet, I love Ottawa Sands
- Love the recreation facilities, parks, and trails in our area! We use them often and have no real points of negative feedback. Would love some of the beaches to be more dog friendly, but know there are a number of dog-friendly beaches in the area available to us.
- Love to see more family friendly outings to encourage use of the parks.
- Make boat launches free; Make pet poop trash cans available at every park; make parks more inclusive for dogs with open areas for them to run in.

- Minimize the long term tax implications.
- More attention to nature and native species.
- More dog leash-less areas, severe penalties for dogs not under full control, and for not picking up dog waste.
- More supervision around dogs and how people don't pick up the waste from dogs.
- More trail signage
- Need water warning system at North Shore Park. Should be green, yellow, red flags at gate house and by beach like ones in Grand Haven.
- No camping
- None
- Not at this time
- Ottawa County/Township parks are one of the reasons we moved to Spring Lake. We have some of the most beautiful parks in the state. Specific changes I'd like to see.... Tanglefoot and Mill Point redesigned and updated. Parks, boat and fishing access, farmers market, etc. Also keep adding sidewalks in and around the area. We use the sidewalks and lakeside trail daily for running, walking and bike riding. It was a major factor in what house we built. Keep making the area beautiful and accessible to all! Thank you!
- Ottawa County along with the local areas are doing a GREAT job. So keep it up!
- Our bike path system around Spring Lake is great but needs better routine maintenance/cleaning. We have a lot of parks and I think money would best be spent updating/upgrading the current parks.
- Our family loves our trails and beaches, the ones not overrun by tourists. We have so many great amenities already that I'd like to see art as well.
- Our use of local parks, trails, etc., is limited by mobility.
- It would be best to consult with younger families with children and/or grandchildren.
- Overall I think the park system is very well-maintained and managed
- Overall I think you are doing a great job
- Parks are great but please keep the taxpayers' wallets in mind. We are overtaxed.
- Perhaps there is already a resource like this, but having just moved here one year ago from across the country, I would love to see a central website where I can access information on all the outdoor activities this amazing area has to offer -- maps/descriptions of all the parks with playgrounds, dog parks, tennis courts, pickle ball courts, soccer fields, etc. We have discovered many parks just by chance, which is a great way to find them as well. Best of luck!
- Please add a bridge for the bike path on 152nd to connect bike paths over Lloyds Bayou. The path on 152nd goes out into the road between Oak Point and Pruin. This is a dangerous area for kids and walkers as people drive fast on 152nd. It prohibits many parents from allowing their kids to ride bikes to schools or friends' houses.
- Please have Tanglewood mowed or weeded. Eye sore
- Really happy with the parks overall in this area since we moved here six years ago. Top notch
- Spring Lake Township is managed very well. So impressed with what we have (right out our back door). Thank you for all you do! Keep developing trails, bike paths, access for all residents to the natural world in our area.

- Spring Lake Township maintenance needs to step up and take better care of their areas.. Mowing, trimming. More trash cans needed please. Lighting at North Bank trailhead parking lot.
- Some of these parks I have never heard of. Perhaps enhance promotion.
- Spring Lake does a great job with waste disposal bags and keeping it clean.
- Take into consideration the "old folks" who built this community with many years of taxes and make the spaces et al accessible BUT add features to make them easy for older people to use and be safe while using them. Everyone isn't 50 and agile and able or five and able and agile.....good survey!
- Thank you for caring so much about our land and for being good stewards!
- The Northwest Ottawa area should work together and determine what types of projects they can collaborate on, including concepts like "Trail Towns" that enhance the whole area for bicyclists and pedestrians while benefiting local businesses.
- The Ottawa County park system is OUTSTANDING!! Greatly appreciated!!
- The parks and programs have improved a lot in the 20 years I've lived in the area. While I believe that protecting significant natural areas is important, maintaining and improving the parks we have is equally important.
- The Spring Lake Dog Park is in need of dire repairs. There is broken concrete, holes, broken benches and broken fencing. Many of these have sharp edges and are very dangerous.
- The villages, cities, and townships have done a great job of providing parks and facilities in our area and it is one of the reasons I live here. Being able to access nature and access to water are most important to me and my family. I thank God that there have been wise people who have protected large shoreline and forest areas from commercial and residential development. Spring Lake Township needs to complete the paved connector on Palm Drive between Hickory and the Muskegon County line! It is dangerous. I don't recall there being questions about bike paths. We need to continue connecting counties with paved or gravel trails.
- There is a handicap canoe/kayak launch in Lake City, Michigan which is incredible for a lake and city that size. It would be awesome if we could get that on one of our water ways.
- There was mention of possible campground in Ottawa Sands. Please don't. It would ruin a beautiful area.
- Upgrade and maintain what we have and forget buying more.
- We have wonderful facilities in this area
- We are already blessed with so much park space in our area. It is nice to see a commitment to these resources. Thank you.
- We are pretty satisfied with the parks situation as we know it but we don't utilize the parks as often as we'd like but that's because of us not the parks.
- We have nice parks that are kept up and are greatly appreciated. Can't thank you enough.
- We have plenty of land, improve facilities and maintain them, not buy more land.
- We love all the parks in the area, keep up the good work!
- We mostly use the open spaces that allow dogs to be off leash. I would like to see these areas better kept. We have grandchildren who visit and would like to see more outdoor spaces for them. The splash pad would be great!
- We moved to the area because of the bike trails and parks. Glad to see you are trying to keep up the good work!

- We need a bike path connecting 152nd and Krueger down to 148th Ave.
- We use the parks primarily to get exercise (walk) and breathe fresh air.
- Wish Spring Lake would keep a trailer park, as more RV spaces are needed
- Would like to see the bike paths connected everywhere - especially on 152nd where it disconnects going down the hill btw Oak Point and Pruin...this is very dangerous for children and adults walking or riding their bike on the road here and I believe it's a matter of time before or a biker or walk is hit and killed.
- Would love to see the region invest in an all-sports complex so the area could host large soccer, lacrosse, football, baseball, cross-country, volleyball, hockey, etc. tournaments which would bring additional revenue to our local businesses which, in turn, would feed additional income back into the parks system. Let's make something truly unique and special that could create a snowball effect!
- You are excellent stewards of our natural resources
- You may be able to tell, I LOVE pickle ball.... this is the fastest growing sport and as it grows, we just don't have enough courts to do right for those who want to learn and play!!!!

Village of Spring Lake Township

- Accessibility is huge! Parks get so filled in the summer but it's so backed up because there is no room. Has to be a better way to get people in and out of the places.
- Always add some type of fun for handicap folks.
- Everybody thinks horseshoe pits are old-fashioned but I know a lot of people, including women who would throw horseshoes if there were pits available. They are easy to make and install as well. Only need like two and they don't take up much space. Just a thought.
- First Things First! Repair/maintain what you have as #1 PRIORITY -- bike path between Mill Point & Tanglefoot, Mill Point water flooding & boat launch, Tanglefoot, Dog Park grass at Central Park.
- FOCUS on keeping up and maintaining the current resources before diluting resources.
- I would love to see better use of waterfront property in the village.
- I'm glad there are various parks that preserve green spaces and encourage community building.
- Keep the land as original to the natural landscape as possible, keep the trees. One thing that is the most ironic is Spring Lake's slogan is "Where nature smiles for seven miles" yet plenty of trees are being cut down needlessly or to make space on the sides of streets for another boring looking building. It's getting to the point that this slogan is no longer true. Nature can't smile for seven miles if decisions keep being made to reduce the amount of "nature".
- Let's preserve and highlight the natural beauty that we're lucky enough to have here.
- N/A
- Ottawa County Parks are the best.
- Please do not destroy Ottawa Sands by over development. We also greatly need some good mountain bike opportunities
- Rather than build many more bike paths we need to keep paths we have repaved and in good shape.
- There isn't enough money put forward to make the parks viable. Each park cannot be everything for everyone. Some have to be specialized for an activity and supervised as such.

- They feel very blessed with the parks.
- Update bathrooms!
- Water, shade and restrooms at Mulligan's Hollow pickle ball courts
Shade and seating at Central Park pickle ball courts
- We have enough playgrounds for children in our area. A park with a gazebo, art such as sculptures, nice benches and facilities would be preferred.
- We have some of the best parks and environment in the State of Michigan and today it is finally becoming an attraction for new families and visitors. But with this new popularity comes the challenge to keep it safe and clean, so we must remember the reason why people move here and not try to become something different. Please.
- Would be willing to pay more property tax to go towards parks

Appendix D – Survey Instruments

Community Surveys

Email Invitation

Dear Northwest Ottawa County Residents,

Your help is needed to shape the future of parks and recreation in your community!

As you may know, residents of Ferrysburg, Grand Haven, Grand Haven Township, Spring Lake and the Village of Spring Lake have initiated a community-based planning process to update our Parks and Recreation master plan, and the results will inform a comprehensive five-year recreation plan. Your input is critical to the success of this project.

The following survey will ask a series of questions about how you currently use the recreational facilities in your area and what you might hope to see in the future.

You have been selected at random to receive this survey, and because a limited number of residents have been selected to take the survey, your participation is important! The Frost Research Center at Hope College, an independent firm, is conducting the survey, compiling the data and presenting the results. Responses will remain confidential.

Northwest Ottawa County will establish priorities and make decisions based on the needs and feedback from residents. Many of the major projects completed in the Parks Departments in the recent years are a result of the 2014 comprehensive plan.

To track responses and ensure we hear from a representative sample residents from your community, we will ask you a couple of questions about yourself. This information will not be shared or sold and will be destroyed. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact us at the Frost Research Center at Hope College: 616.395.7556 or frostcenter@hope.edu.

Please complete the survey by October 2, 2019 via the link below:

[\\${://SurveyLink?d=Take the Survey}](#)

Or copy and paste the URL below into your internet browser:

[\\${://SurveyURL}](#)

Thank you in advance for your participation,
Northwest Ottawa County Recreation Planning Group

Community Wide Recreation Survey - Online

Start of Block: Default Question Block

Q1 Your community would like your input to help determine the park and recreation priorities of Northwest Ottawa County. We greatly appreciate your time!

Q2 Are you 18 years or older?

Yes (4)

No (5)

Display This Question:

If Are you 18 years or older? = No

Q3 Is there someone that is 18 years or older that can complete the survey?

Yes (5)

No (6)

Skip To: End of Survey If Is there someone that is 18 years or older that can complete the survey? = No

Display This Question:

If Is there someone that is 18 years or older that can complete the survey? = Yes

Q4 If there is someone that is 18 years or older and is willing to take the survey, please ask them to answer the following questions. Thank you.

Page Break

Q5 In which municipality do you live?

- City of Ferrysburg (1)
- City of Grand Haven (2)
- Grand Haven Charter Township (3)
- Spring Lake Township (4)
- Village of Spring Lake (5)
- None of the above (6) _____

Skip To: End of Survey If In which municipality do you live? = None of the above

Q6 What is your address? (Note: This information is being collected to assure that only one survey is collected per household. Reports will be made only in aggregate and your address will remain separate from your answers.)

- Address (e.g., 2245 Main) (1) _____
 - City (2) _____
 - Zip (3) _____
-

Q7 How many years have you been a resident of Northwest Ottawa County? (City of Ferrysburg, City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Charter Township, Spring Lake Township, Village of Spring Lake)

- Less than a year (1)
- 1 to 4 years (2)
- 5 to 10 years (3)
- Over 10 years (4)

Q8 We are interested in knowing which parks you have visited in Northwest Ottawa County **in the past twelve months**. Please indicate which parks you have visited for each of the following communities.

Q9 **Ferrysburg** (select all that apply)

- Coast Guard Park (1)
 - Ferrysburg Nature Preserve (2)
 - Fire Barn Park (3)
 - North Beach Park (9)
 - North Ottawa Dunes (10)
 - Kitchel-Linquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve (4)
 - Mike Herman Memorial Field (5)
 - Ottawa Sands (11)
 - Sunnyside Park (6)
 - William Ferry Park (7)
 - Waterfront Street Ends (8)
 - None (12)
-

Q10 **Grand Haven** (select all that apply)

- Bicentennial Park (1)
- Bolt Park (2)
- Central Park (3)
- Chinook Pier Park (4)
- Duncan Woods Park (5)
- City Beach Park (6)
- East Grand River Park (7)
- Escanaba Park (8)
- Harbor Island and Launch (9)
- William Hatton Park (10)
- Lighthouse Connector Park/Boardwalk (11)
- Johnston Park (12)
- Klaver Park (13)
- Klempel Park (14)
- Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium (18)
- Mulligan's Hollow (15)
- North shore Fisherman's Parking Lot (16)
- Sluka Field (17)

Grand Haven State Park (19)

Riverside Park (20)

Rosy Mound Natural Area (21)

Non-motorized trails (23)

None (24)

Q11 **Grand Haven Township** (select all that apply)

152nd Access (1)

Bignell Access (2)

Brucker Access (3)

Buchanan Access (10)

Hofma Preserve (4)

Hofma Park (9)

Mercury Park (5)

Odawa/Battle Point Boat Launch (6)

Pottawattomie Park (7)

Shiawassee Access (8)

Non-motorized trails (13)

None (14)

Q12 **Spring Lake Township** (select all that apply)

Black Lake Park (4)

Rycenga Park (1)

River Run Park (2)

Water Tower Park (3)

Non-motorized trails (5)

None (6)

Q13 **Spring Lake** (select all that apply)

Alden Street End (1)

N Buchanan Street End (2)

Central Park (3)

Cutler Street Kayak Launch (4)

N Division Street End (5)

Jackson St Dock (6)

Lakeside Beach (7)

Lakeside Trail (12)

Mill Point Park (8)

Parkhurst Street End (9)

Tanglefoot Park (10)

Whistle Stop Playground (11)

None (13)

Q14 Are there other parks that you have visited in your community in the past 12 months that are not listed above? Please list those below:

Page Break

Q15 How often do you visit a local park?

- Almost every day (1)
 - Once or twice a week (2)
 - Once or twice a month (3)
 - Once or twice a year (4)
 - Never (5)
-

Q16 Which of the following is the **biggest factor** impacting your decision to visit a park in the last year?

- Location (1)
 - Facilities (2)
 - Pavilion rental (3)
 - Concerts and special events (4)
 - Natural areas (5)
 - Organized sporting event (6)
 - Accessibility (e.g., ADA, stroller, etc.) (7)
 - Safe environment (8)
 - Other (10) _____
-

Page Break _____



Q17 If you don't go to a park often or when your typical routine of visiting the parks is interrupted, what are the reasons for not going? (select all that apply)

- Don't have park features I'm interested in (340)
 - A disability prevents it (341)
 - Age prevents it (342)
 - Need transportation to get to parks (343)
 - Get exercise and recreation through other sources, e.g., private gym or club (344)
 - I don't have time (e.g., work, children, family, other obligations) (345)
 - Safety and security concerns (346)
 - Park cleanliness and upkeep (347)
 - Weather (350)
 - I am not interested in visiting parks (348)
 - Other (349) _____
-

Q18 What mode of transportation do you **most often** use to travel to a park?

- I drive myself (1)
 - I get dropped off (2)
 - Walk / run (3)
 - Public transportation (8)
 - Bike / skateboard (4)
 - Taxi / Uber / Lyft (6)
 - Other (7) _____
-

Q19 Would you, or a group you belong to, be interested in the following volunteer opportunities? (select all that apply)

- Removing invasive species (1)
 - Identifying invasive species (2)
 - Picking up trash (3)
 - "Adopt a Pathway" - a trail caretaking/ maintenance program (4)
 - Something else (indicate here) (5) _____
-

Page Break _____

Q20

It is a goal to strive to make each park as barrier-free/ADA accessible as possible for the convenience and enjoyment of visitors with disabilities. Do you or a household member have a disability or condition that makes it challenging to enjoy public spaces?

Yes (5)

No (6)

Display This Question:

If It is a goal to strive to make each park as barrier-free/ADA accessible as possible for the convenience and enjoyment of visitors with disabilities. Do you or a household member have a disability or condition that makes it challenging to enjoy public spaces? = Yes

Q21 Please indicate the type of disability or condition (Check all that apply):

Mobility (1)

Visual (2)

Hearing (3)

Other (4) _____

Display This Question:

If It is a goal to strive to make each park as barrier-free/ADA accessible as possible for the convenience and enjoyment of visitors with disabilities. Do you or a household member have a disability or condition that makes it challenging to enjoy public spaces? = Yes

Q22 What types of programs are needed to serve people with disabilities in your family? (Check all that apply)

Organized sports (1)

Social activities (2)

Outdoor adventure programs (3)

Sign language interpretation (4)

Other (5) _____

Display This Question:

If It is a goal to strive to make each park as barrier-free/ADA accessible as possible for the conve... = Yes

Q23 What updates need to be done at your local park so that people with disabilities in your family can fully engage and use the park facilities?

Display This Question:

If It is a goal to strive to make each park as barrier-free/ADA accessible as possible for the conve... = Yes

Q24 Would you be willing to take an additional short survey online focused on how future park planning can focus on serving those with disabilities?

Yes (4)

No (5)

Display This Question:

If Would you be willing to take an additional short survey online focused on how future park plannin... = Yes

Q25 What is the best email address to send this survey?

Q26 Do you or a household member use items such as strollers, wagons or other types of equipment at parks that may present challenges with barriers at parks?

Yes (1)

No (2)

Display This Question:

If Do you or a household member use items such as strollers, wagons or other types of equipment at p... = Yes

Q27 What suggestion do you have for improving your experience at the park with a stroller, wagon, etc?

Q28 The next set of questions will ask you about your satisfaction with your local parks and what improvements you would like to see in the next five years.

Q29 When imagining the facilities available through community parks and recreation, how important are the following amenities to you (or members of your family)...

	(5) Extremely important (5)	4 (4)	3 (3)	2 (2)	(1) Not at all important (1)
Baseball fields (978)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Basketball courts (979)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Beach/swimming access (980)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boat launch (981)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disc golf (982)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dog parks (983)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing access (984)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kayak launch (997)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mountain biking trails (985)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nature trails for hiking (986)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paved walking biking trails (non-motorized) (988)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pickleball court (989)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Picnic facilities (table, covered pavilion) (990)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Playgrounds (991)	<input type="radio"/>				
Soccer fields (992)	<input type="radio"/>				
Splash pad (993)	<input type="radio"/>				
Tennis court (994)	<input type="radio"/>				
Volleyball courts (court, sand) (995)	<input type="radio"/>				
Other (996)	<input type="radio"/>				

Q30 We are interested in learning what you think are the the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

- Covered picnic shelters (1327)
- Basketball courts (1328)
- Tennis courts (1329)
- Pickleball courts (1330)
- Volleyball courts (1331)
- Playgrounds (1332)
- Boat water access (1359)
- Kayak water access (1333)
- Disc golf course (1334)
- Football fields (1335)
- Baseball/softball fields (1336)
- Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails) (1337)
- Mountain biking trails (1338)
- Nature trails for hiking (1339)
- Dog parks (1340)
- Soccer fields (1341)
- Lacrosse fields (1342)
- Splash pad (1343)

- Sledding hills (1344)
- Cross country skiing (1345)
- Drinking fountains (1346)
- Updated bathroom facilities (1347)
- Beach/swimming access (1350)
- Fishing access (1351)
- Games such as corn hole, foosball, etc (1352)
- Roller Hockey (1353)
- Jungle gym/obstacle course/ropes course (1354)
- Bocce ball (1355)
- Rock walls (1356)
- Outdoor workout parks or low impact exercise stations (1357)
- Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks (1358)
- Other (1348) _____

Display This Question:
If We are interested in learning what you think are the the top THREE most needed outdoor public rec... =
Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)

Q31 Where would you like to see more non-motorized paths created?



Q32 Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area:

- Artwork/sculptures (1)
- More seating in parks (2)
- More seating along pathways (3)
- Drinking fountains (4)
- Updated bathroom facilities (5)
- Designated cooling areas (6)
- More trash cans (7)
- More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.) (8)
- More parking (9)
- Pet waste disposal stations (10)
- Interpretive signage (12)
- Bike racks (13)
- Lighting (14)
- Availability of electricity (15)
- Wildflower fields (16)
- Other (11) _____

Q33 If it were up to you, how would you allocate \$100 among each of the following parks and recreation facility areas for the Northwest Ottawa Area?

Buy more land for parks : _____ (1)

Add more active outdoor recreational facilities (e.g., baseball, soccer, etc.) : _____ (2)

Add more passive recreational upgrades (e.g., benches, art, parking, etc.) : _____ (3)

Add more programs and upgrades to the current facilities : _____ (4)

Total : _____

Page Break

Q34 Demographics

We are asking demographic information to ensure we collect surveys from a sample of residents that accurately represent the demographics of the region.

Q35 Including yourself, how many people live in your household

▼ 1 (52) ... 12 (63)

Page Break

Q36 What is your age?

- 18-24 years (184)
 - 25-34 years (185)
 - 35-44 years (186)
 - 45-54 years (187)
 - 55-64 years (188)
 - 65-79 years (189)
 - 80 or older (190)
 - Prefer not to answer (191)
-

Q37 How many people (including you) in your household are:

	No one (9)	1 person (4)	2 people (5)	3 people (6)	4 people (7)	5 or more people (8)
Under age 5 (202)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 5-9 (203)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 10-14 (204)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 15-19 (205)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 20-24 (206)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 25-34 (207)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 35-44 (208)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 45-54 (209)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 55-64 (210)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 65-79 (211)	<input type="radio"/>					
Ages 80+ (212)	<input type="radio"/>					

Q38 What is your gender?

Female (1)

Male (2)

Prefer to self describe (4) _____

Prefer not to answer (5)

End of Block: Default Question Block

Start of Block: Block 1

Q39 Please use the space below to share any additional comments that can assist the region in improving the parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, programs or services.

End of Block: Block 1

Disabilities: Population Recreation Survey

Start of Block: Default Question Block

Q1 You have been asked to respond to the Community Stakeholder Recreation Survey based on your experience or position working with residents in Northwest Ottawa County with disabilities. We continuously strive for accessible parks and facilities and want to hear your feedback. Please answer the questions below.

Q2 In which municipality do live? (select all that apply)

City of Ferrysburg (1)

City of Grand Haven (2)

Grand Haven Charter Township (3)

Spring Lake Township (4)

Village of Spring Lake (5)

None of the above (6) _____

Page Break



Q3 What are the typical reasons you or a household member with disabilities may not visit a park? (select all that apply)

Accessibility issues (340)

Disability prevents (353)

No park features (354)

Age prevents (355)

Safety/security (356)

Need transportation (357)

Gets exercise elsewhere (358)

Lack of time (359)

Cleanliness (360)

Weather (361)

No interest (362)

Other (363) _____

Not applicable (364)

Q4 The next set of questions will ask you about your satisfaction with your local parks and what improvements you would like to see in the next five years.



Q5 Please rate the importance of the following items to improve accessibility for residents with disabilities within local parks:

	Extremely important (5)	Very important (4)	Moderately important (3)	Slightly important (2)	Not at all important (1)
Playgrounds allowing all children in a group, regardless of skills, age, or mobility device, to play together (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Handicap accessible parking available throughout the park (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wider, paved pathways from parking lot (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional paved walking / biking trails (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional unpaved walking / hiking trails (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Power assisted door openers to bathrooms or other buildings (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Entry to facilities with proper ramps (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Appropriate signage for visually impaired (8)

Improved accessibility for those who are deaf or hard of hearing (10)

Fishing docks and access points with accessibility for those with mobility limitations (11)

Natural beach water access for swimming (e.g., beach access roll-up access mats and accessible beach chairs that can be used to take an individual with a disability into the water. (12)

More accessible (rollup) picnic tables (13)

Surface and slopes are suitable for all mobility types (14)

Additional railings (15)



Install edge treatments on boardwalks to prevent roll/step off (16)



Page Break

Q10 What other amenities would improve access for all within the Northwest Ottawa County area?

Q11 Please use the space below to share any additional comments that can assist the region in improving the parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, programs or services.

End of Block: Default Question Block

Start of Block: Block 1

Q12 Which age group(s) do you typically represent?

- Under 18 (192)
 - 18-24 years (184)
 - 25-34 years (185)
 - 35-44 years (186)
 - 45-54 years (187)
 - 55-64 years (188)
 - 65-79 years (189)
 - 80 or older (190)
 - Prefer not to answer (191)
-

Q13 What is your job title?

End of Block: Block 1

Stakeholder Surveys

Disabilities: Stakeholder Recreation Survey

Start of Block: Default Question Block

Q1 You have been asked to respond to the Community Stakeholder Recreation Survey based on your experience or position working with residents in Northwest Ottawa County with disabilities. We continuously strive for accessible parks and facilities and want to hear your feedback. Please answer the questions below.

Q2 In which municipality do you work or volunteer? (select all that apply)

- City of Ferrysburg (1)
 - City of Grand Haven (2)
 - Grand Haven Charter Township (3)
 - Spring Lake Township (4)
 - Village of Spring Lake (5)
 - None of the above (6) _____
-

Page Break



Q3 What are the typical reasons someone from the population you represent may not visit a park? (select all that apply)

Accessibility issues (340)

Disability prevents (353)

No park features (354)

Age prevents (355)

Safety/security (356)

Need transportation (357)

Gets exercise elsewhere (358)

Lack of time (359)

Cleanliness (360)

Weather (361)

No interest (362)

Other (363) _____



Q4 The next set of questions will ask you about your satisfaction with your local parks and what improvements you would like to see in the next five years.

Q5 Please rate the importance of the following items to improve accessibility for residents with disabilities within local parks:

	Extremely important (5)	Very important (4)	Moderately important (3)	Slightly important (2)	Not at all important (1)
Playgrounds allowing all children in a group, regardless of skills, age, or mobility device, to play together (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Handicap accessible parking available throughout the park (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wider, paved pathways from parking lot (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional paved walking / biking trails (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional unpaved walking / hiking trails (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Power assisted door openers to bathrooms or other buildings (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Entry to facilities with proper ramps (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Appropriate signage for visually	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

impaired (8)

Improved accessibility for those who are deaf or hard of hearing (10)

Fishing docs and access points with accessibility for those with mobility limitations (11)

Natural beach water access for swimming (e.g., beach access roll-up access mats and accessible beach chairs that can be used to take an individual with a disability into the water. (12)

More accessible (rollup) picnic tables (13)

Surface and slopes are suitable for all mobility types (14)

Additional railings (15)

Install edge treatments on boardwalks to prevent roll/step off (16)

Q6 We are interested in learning what you think are the the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

- Covered picnic shelters (1327)
- Basketball courts (1328)
- Tennis courts (1329)
- Pickleball courts (1330)
- Volleyball courts (1331)
- Playgrounds (1332)
- Boat water access (1359)
- Kayak water access (1333)
- Disc golf course (1334)
- Football fields (1335)
- Baseball/softball fields (1336)
- Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails) (1337)
- Mountain biking trails (1338)
- Nature trails for hiking (1339)
- Dog parks (1340)
- Soccer fields (1341)
- Lacrosse fields (1342)
- Splash pad (1343)
- Sledding hills (1344)

- Cross country skiing (1345)
- Drinking fountains (1346)
- Updated bathroom facilities (1347)
- Beach/swimming access (1350)
- Fishing access (1351)
- Games such as corn hole, foosball, etc (1352)
- Roller Hockey (1353)
- Jungle gym/obstacle course/ropes course (1354)
- Bocce ball (1355)
- Rock walls (1356)
- Outdoor workout parks or low impact exercise stations (1357)
- Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks (1358)
- Other (1348) _____

Display This Question:
If We are interested in learning what you think are the the top THREE most needed outdoor public rec... =
Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)

Q7 Where would you like to see more non-motorized paths created?



Q8 Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area:

- Artwork/sculptures (1)
- More seating in parks (2)
- More seating along pathways (3)
- Drinking fountains (4)
- Updated bathroom facilities (5)
- Designated cooling areas (6)
- More trash cans (7)
- More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.) (8)
- More parking (9)
- Pet waste disposal stations (10)
- Interpretive signage (12)
- Bike racks (13)
- Lighting (14)
- Availability of electricity (15)
- Wildflower fields (16)
- Other (11) _____

Q9 If it were up to you, how would you allocate \$100 among each of the following parks and recreation facility areas for the Northwest Ottawa Area?

Buy more land for parks : _____ (1)

Add more active outdoor recreational facilities (e.g., baseball, soccer, etc.) : _____ (2)

Add more passive recreational upgrades (e.g., benches, art, parking, etc.) : _____ (3)

Add more programs and upgrades to the current facilities : _____ (4)

Total : _____

Q10 What other amenities would improve access for all within the Northwest Ottawa County area?

Q11 Please use the space below to share any additional comments that can assist the region in improving the parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, programs or services.

End of Block: Default Question Block

Start of Block: Block 1

Q12 Which age group(s) do you typically represent?

- Under 18 (192)
- 18-24 years (184)
- 25-34 years (185)
- 35-44 years (186)
- 45-54 years (187)
- 55-64 years (188)
- 65-79 years (189)
- 80 or older (190)
- Prefer not to answer (191)

Q13 What is your job title?

End of Block: Block 1

Older Adult: Stakeholder Recreation Survey

Start of Block: Default Question Block

Q1 You have been asked to respond to the Community Stakeholder Recreation Survey based on your expertise or position working with older adults in Northwest Ottawa County. We continuously strive for accessible parks and facilities and want to hear your feedback. Please answer the questions below.

Q2 In which municipality do you work or volunteer? (select all that apply)

- City of Ferrysburg (1)
 - City of Grand Haven (2)
 - Grand Haven Charter Township (3)
 - Spring Lake Township (4)
 - Village of Spring Lake (5)
 - None of the above (6) _____
-

Page Break



Q3 What are the typical reasons someone from the population you represent may not visit a park? (select all that apply)

- Don't have park features they are interested in (340)
- A disability prevents it (341)
- Age prevents it (342)
- Need transportation to get to parks (343)
- Get exercise and recreation through other sources, e.g., private gym or club (344)
- Lack of time (e.g., work, children, family, other obligations) (345)
- Safety and security concerns (346)
- Park cleanliness and upkeep (347)
- Weather (350)
- No interest in visiting parks (348)
- Other (349) _____

Q4 The next set of questions will ask you about your satisfaction with your local parks and what improvements you would like to see in the next five years.

Q5 Please rate the importance of the following items to improve accessibility within local parks:

	Extremely important (5)	Very important (4)	Moderately important (3)	Slightly important (2)	Not at all important (1)
Parking available throughout the park (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wider, paved pathways from parking lot (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional paved walking / biking trails (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional unpaved walking / hiking trails (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Power assisted door openers to bathrooms or other buildings (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Entry to facilities with proper ramps (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved accessibility for those who are deaf or hard of hearing (10)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing docs and access points with accessibility for those with mobility limitations (11)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural beach water access for	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

swimming (e.g., beach access roll-up access mats and accessible beach chairs that can be used to take an individual with a disability into the water. (12)

More accessible (rollup) picnic tables (13)

Surface and slopes are suitable for all mobility types (14)

Additional railings (15)

<input type="radio"/>				
<input type="radio"/>				
<input type="radio"/>				

Q6 We are interested in learning what you think are the the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

- Covered picnic shelters (1327)
- Basketball courts (1328)
- Tennis courts (1329)
- Pickleball courts (1330)
- Volleyball courts (1331)
- Playgrounds (1332)
- Boat water access (1359)
- Kayak water access (1333)
- Disc golf course (1334)
- Football fields (1335)
- Baseball/softball fields (1336)
- Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails) (1337)
- Mountain biking trails (1338)
- Nature trails for hiking (1339)
- Dog parks (1340)
- Soccer fields (1341)
- Lacrosse fields (1342)
- Splash pad (1343)
- Sledding hills (1344)

- Cross country skiing (1345)
- Drinking fountains (1346)
- Updated bathroom facilities (1347)
- Beach/swimming access (1350)
- Fishing access (1351)
- Games such as corn hole, foosball, etc (1352)
- Roller Hockey (1353)
- Jungle gym/obstacle course/ropes course (1354)
- Bocce ball (1355)
- Rock walls (1356)
- Outdoor workout parks or low impact exercise stations (1357)
- Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks (1358)
- Other (1348) _____

Display This Question:
If We are interested in learning what you think are the the top THREE most needed outdoor public rec... =
Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)

Q7 Where would you like to see more non-motorized paths created?



Q8 Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area:

- Artwork/sculptures (1)
- More seating in parks (2)
- More seating along pathways (3)
- Drinking fountains (4)
- Updated bathroom facilities (5)
- Designated cooling areas (6)
- More trash cans (7)
- More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.) (8)
- More parking (9)
- Pet waste disposal stations (10)
- Interpretive signage (12)
- Bike racks (13)
- Lighting (14)
- Availability of electricity (15)
- Wildflower fields (16)
- Other (11) _____

Q72 Please rank in order (1-4) the primary reasons older adults in the population you represent go to the park:

_____ To take grandchildren (1)

_____ To exercise alone or with friends (e.g., walk paths) (2)

_____ For organized sports (e.g., pickleball or tennis games) (3)

_____ Something else: (4)

Q9 What other amenities would improve access and park usage for older adults within the Northwest Ottawa County area?

Q10 If it were up to you, how would you allocate \$100 among each of the following parks and recreation facility areas for the Northwest Ottawa Area?

Buy more land for parks : _____ (1)

Add more active outdoor recreational facilities (e.g., baseball, soccer, etc.) : _____ (2)

Add more passive recreational upgrades (e.g., benches, art, parking, etc.) : _____ (3)

Add more programs and upgrades to the current facilities : _____ (4)

Total : _____

Page Break

Q73 What is your job title/role?

Q16 What organization do you work for?

Q11 Which age group(s) do you typically represent?

- 18-24 years (184)
- 25-34 years (185)
- 35-44 years (186)
- 45-54 years (187)
- 55-64 years (188)
- 65-79 years (189)
- 80 or older (190)
- Prefer not to answer (191)

Page Break

End of Block: Default Question Block

Start of Block: Block 1

Q12 Please use the space below to share any additional comments that can assist the region in improving the parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, programs or services.

End of Block: Block 1

Coaches: Stakeholder Recreation Survey

Start of Block: Default Question Block

Q1 You have been asked to respond to the Community Stakeholder Recreation Survey based on your experience working with or coaching a recreation program in Northwest Ottawa County. We continuously strive to meet community recreational needs and want to hear your unique opinions. Please answer the questions below.

Q5 In which municipality do you work or volunteer? (select all that apply)

- City of Ferrysburg (1)
- City of Grand Haven (2)
- Grand Haven Charter Township (3)
- Spring Lake Township (4)
- Village of Spring Lake (5)
- None of the above (6) _____

Page Break

Q8 Please specify in which Northwest Ottawa County park(s) you coached in the past twelve months.

Q13 **Spring Lake** (select all that apply)

- Alden Street End (1)
 - N Buchanan Street End (2)
 - Central Park (3)
 - Cutler Street Kayak Launch (4)
 - N Division Street End (5)
 - Jackson St Dock (6)
 - Lakeside Beach (7)
 - Lakeside Trail (12)
 - Mill Point Park (8)
 - Parkhurst Street End (9)
 - Tanglefoot Park (10)
 - Whistle Stop Playground (11)
 - None (13)
-

Q12 **Spring Lake Township** (select all that apply)

Black Lake Park (4)

Rycenga Park (1)

River Run Park (2)

Water Tower Park (3)

Non-motorized trails (5)

None (6)

Q11 **Grand Haven Township** (select all that apply)

152nd Access (1)

Bignell Access (2)

Brucker Access (3)

Buchanan Access (10)

Hofma Preserve (4)

Hofma Park (9)

Mercury Park (5)

Odawa/Battle Point Boat Launch (6)

Pottawattomie Park (7)

Shiawassee Access (8)

Non-motorized trails (13)

None (14)

Q10 **Grand Haven** (select all that apply)

- Bicentennial Park (1)
- Bolt Park (2)
- Central Park (3)
- Chinook Pier Park (4)
- Duncan Woods Park (5)
- City Beach Park (6)
- East Grand River Park (7)
- Escanaba Park (8)
- Harbor Island and Launch (9)
- William Hatton Park (10)
- Lighthouse Connector Park/Boardwalk (11)
- Johnston Park (12)
- Klaver Park (13)
- Klempel Park (14)
- Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium (18)
- Mulligan's Hollow (15)
- North shore Fisherman's Parking Lot (16)
- Sluka Field (17)

Grand Haven State Park (19)

Riverside Park (20)

Rosy Mound Natural Area (21)

Non-motorized trails (23)

None (24)

Q9 **Ferrysburg** (select all that apply)

- Coast Guard Park (1)
- Ferrysburg Nature Preserve (2)
- Fire Barn Park (3)
- North Beach Park (9)
- North Ottawa Dunes (10)
- Kitchel-Linquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve (4)
- Mike Herman Memorial Field (5)
- Ottawa Sands (11)
- Sunnyside Park (6)
- William Ferry Park (7)
- Waterfront Street Ends (8)
- None (12)

Q28 The next set of questions will ask you about your satisfaction with the parks you utilize as a coach and what improvements you would like to see in the next five years.

Q30 We are interested in learning what you think are the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

- Covered picnic shelters (1327)
- Basketball courts (1328)
- Tennis courts (1329)
- Pickleball courts (1330)
- Volleyball courts (1331)
- Playgrounds (1332)
- Boat water access (1359)
- Kayak water access (1333)
- Disc golf course (1334)
- Football fields (1335)
- Baseball/softball fields (1336)
- Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails) (1337)
- Mountain biking trails (1338)
- Nature trails for hiking (1339)
- Dog parks (1340)
- Soccer fields (1341)
- Lacrosse fields (1342)

- Splash pad (1343)
 - Sledding hills (1344)
 - Cross country skiing (1345)
 - Drinking fountains (1346)
 - Updated bathroom facilities (1347)
 - Beach/swimming access (1350)
 - Fishing access (1351)
 - Games such as corn hole, foosball, etc (1352)
 - Roller Hockey (1353)
 - Jungle gym/obstacle course/ropes course (1354)
 - Bocce ball (1355)
 - Rock walls (1356)
 - Outdoor workout parks or low impact exercise stations (1357)
 - Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks (1358)
 - Other (1348) _____
-



Q32 Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area:

- Artwork/sculptures (1)
- More seating in parks (2)
- More seating along pathways (3)
- Drinking fountains (4)
- Updated bathroom facilities (5)
- Designated cooling areas (6)
- More trash cans (7)
- More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.) (8)
- More parking (9)
- Pet waste disposal stations (10)
- Interpretive signage (12)
- Bike racks (13)
- Lighting (14)
- Availability of electricity (15)
- Wildflower fields (16)
- Other (11) _____

Q67 When thinking specifically about recreation programs in Northwest Ottawa County, please rate the importance of the following items to improve these programs within local parks:

	Extremely important (6)	Very important (7)	Moderately important (8)	Slightly important (9)	Not at all important (10)
Updated bathroom structures (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional drinking fountains (15)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Updated drinking fountains (14)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Additional parking (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Resurfacing parking (16)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Field / court maintenance (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Updated outdoor sport fixtures (e.g., soccer goals, baseball fencing) (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New outdoor sport fixtures (e.g., soccer goals, baseball fencing) (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spectator seating (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New outdoor sport equipment (e.g., soccer balls, baseball diamonds) (8)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Updated indoor sport fixtures (17)	<input type="radio"/>				
Updated indoor sport equipment (e.g., basketballs, nets) (11)	<input type="radio"/>				
Bike racks (10)	<input type="radio"/>				
Field / court lighting (18)	<input type="radio"/>				
Parking lighting (19)	<input type="radio"/>				
Other (13)	<input type="radio"/>				
Other (12)	<input type="radio"/>				

Q33 If it were up to you, how would you allocate \$100 among each of the following parks and recreation facility areas for the Northwest Ottawa Area?

Buy more land for parks : _____ (1)

Add more active outdoor recreational facilities (e.g., baseball, soccer, etc.) : _____ (2)

Add more passive recreational upgrades (e.g., benches, art, parking, etc.) : _____ (3)

Add more programs and upgrades to the current facilities : _____ (4)

Total : _____

Q69 What other amenities would improve recreation programs in Northwest Ottawa County area?

Q39 Please use the space below to share any additional comments that can assist the region in improving the parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, programs or services.

End of Block: Default Question Block

Start of Block: Block 1

Q36 Which age group(s) do you typically coach? (select all that apply)

Infant/Toddler (184)

Pre-K/Kindergarten (185)

Elementary (186)

Middle/High School (187)

Adults (189)

Other (200) _____

Q74 What organization do you coach through? (select all that apply)

NORA (Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority) (1)

SLARA (Spring Lake Area Recreation Commission) (2)

Private Teams (AYSO, Riptide) (3)

Other (4) _____

Q76 What is your job title?

End of Block: Block 1
