



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION
VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, March 9, 2021 12:00pm

To view the virtual meeting directly through Zoom, please visit:

<https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 825 7614 6048

Meeting Password: 5151

To participate in public comment during the virtual meeting, please call 517.349.1232.

If you are unable to access the meeting due to technical difficulties, please contact Director of IT, Stephen Gebes at 517.853.4222 or geb@meridian.mi.us.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. PUBLIC HEARING
 - A. Towner Road Park Playground Grant Application –LWCF
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. PRESENTATIONS
 - A. Gryffin Porter – Eagle Scout Final Report, Dog Agility Equipment
 - B. Austin McCormick – Eagle Scout Final Report, Bat Houses
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS
6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
7. COMMUNICATIONS
8. ACTION ITEMS
 - A. Eagle Scout Project Acceptance
 1. Griffin Porter - Dog Agility Equipment
 2. Austin McCormick - Bat Houses
 - B. Micro Food Pantry Request
 - C. 2021 DNR Grant submission -Towner Road Playground
 - D. Lake Lansing Goose Management Request
9. DISCUSSION ITEMS
10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
11. PUBLIC COMMENTS
12. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS
13. ADJOURNMENT

Next Park Commission Meeting: Tuesday, May 11, 2021, Zoom Meeting at 12:00 PM

All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Parks & Recreation Director, LuAnn Maisner: 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.

Meeting Location: Zoom



To: Park Commission
From: LuAnn Maisner CPRP, Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: March 3, 2021
Re: Public Hearing Procedure

Open Public Hearing:

Chair opens public hearing and outlines procedure of public hearing and possible actions of the Commission during the meeting

Summary of Subject Matter:

Director of Parks and Recreation summarizes the project outlining the specifics and project costs

Public Comment

Park Commissioners' Questions and Comments

Public Comment (if desired)

Close Public Hearing

Chair closes the public hearing and states that action will take place later on the agenda.



To: Park Commission

**From: LuAnn Maisner, CPRP
Director of Parks and Recreation**

Date: February 24, 2021

**Re: DNR Grant Application
Towner Road Park Improvements**

TOWNER ROAD PARK

The Parks and Recreation Department and Park Commission officially opened Towner Road Park in 2018. This 24-acre community park serves the northern portion of the township. The park includes ball diamonds, athletic fields, parking, pickleball courts, a paved pathway, restroom building and a pavilion. The only feature that has not been constructed is a **play structure**. The Park Commission has identified this deficiency as an opportunity to develop a grant application to help fund the play structure development.

The Park Commission conducted a public hearing earlier in the meeting to accept public comments on the proposed park improvement. The total project amount of \$300,000 will be funded 50% from Park Millage funds and 50% or \$150,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (if awarded).

A resolution is attached for your consideration.

Park Commission Meeting

March 9, 2020

4. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Gryffin Porter – Eagle Scout Final Report – Dog Ability Equipment
- B. Austin McCormick – Eagle Scout Final Report – Bat Houses



Eagle Scout Service Project Report



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Eagle Scout candidate's name Austin Hunter McCormick

Eagle Scout Service Project Name Meridian Township Bat Houses

Project start date 8/7/2020

Project completion date 11/8/2020

This report is to be prepared after your service project has been concluded. It is not necessary to provide lengthy answers. Be prepared to discuss your project and this report at your board of review.

Project Execution:

Once planning was completed, when did the work begin? 8/17/2020

When was it finished? 11/8/2020

Project Description

Please provide a brief description of your project and the impact it will have.

We built and hung bat houses for the wellbeing of the community. These will provide animal welfare by providing a home for bats.

Describe what you did after your proposal was approved to complete the planning of your project.

I met with the parks commissioner, Kate, and we talked about which parks I could hang the bat houses and where she thought would be good places for the bats.

Observations

What went well?

We were very successful in gathering volunteers for building the bat houses. All the groups were able to build the houses with no problems or injuries. Volunteers showed up on time and ready to help.

What was challenging?

It was difficult to get my point across, and describe what I wanted to be done. When I took my time I was able to get my ideas across. I am worried that what I will say would be wrong. It can be discouraging. This project occurred during the 2020 pandemic. This caused the project to be delayed. We were not able to have a bake sale or pop can drive due to concerns of exposure to COVID virus.

Changes

Many successful projects require changes from the original proposal. What significant changes did you make and why did you make them (be brief)?

No significant changes.

Leadership

In what ways did you demonstrate leadership?

I explained how to construct the bat houses. Provided resources they needed and watched the scouts build the bat houses.
I provided maps and explained how to hang the bat houses on selected trees.

What was most difficult about being the leader?

Communicating to the scouts what I wanted them to do.

What was most rewarding about being the leader?

Not doing as much work. It felt good.

What did you learn about leadership, or how were your leadership skills further developed?

Communication is the most important skill.

Materials, Supplies, Tools, Other

Were there significant shortages or overages of materials, supplies, tools, and other? If so, what effect did this have?

none

Entering Service Project Data

The BSA collects information on the hours worked on Eagle Scout service projects* because it points to achievement of our citizenship aim. To assist with the data collection, please refer to your list of people who helped and the number of hours they worked. Then please provide the information requested below. Include hours spent doing planning under Total Hours Worked.

Be sure to include yourself, and the time spent on planning.

| | Number of Workers | Total Hours Worked |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| The Eagle Scout candidate | 1 | 25 |
| Registered BSA youth members | 8 | 16 |
| Other youth (brothers, sisters, friends, etc., who are not BSA members) | 2 | 4 |
| Registered BSA adult Scouting volunteers and leaders | 4 | 16 |
| Other adults (parents, grandparents, etc., who are not BSA members) | 1 | 1 |
| Grand Total of Hours (Enter here and on your Eagle Scout Rank Application.) | | 62 |

* There is no requirement for a minimum number of hours that must be worked on an Eagle Scout service project.

If you have been told you must meet a minimum number of hours then you may lodge a complaint with your district or council. If you have given leadership to an **otherwise worthy** project and are turned down by your board of review solely because of a lack of hours, you should appeal the decision.

Funding Summary

Describe how you obtained money, materials, supplies, and other needs (including donations) for your project.

My dad donated \$25 for the project.

How much was collected? \$25

How much was spent? \$25

If your expenses exceeded funds available, explain why this happened, and how excess expenses were paid.

If you had money left over at the end of your project, did you turn it over to the project beneficiary? If "No," when will that be done, or if your beneficiary is not allowed to accept the left over funds, which charity will receive them?

How were the donors thanked?

Big hug.

Photos and Other Documentation

If you have them, attach photographs taken before, during, and after project completion. You may physically attach letters, maps, handouts, printed materials, or similar items that might be helpful to your board of review.

See attached.

Candidate's Promise

Sign below before you seek the other approvals.

On my honor as a Scout, I was the leader of my Eagle Scout service project and executed it as reported here.

Signed: 

Date: 2-25-21

Approvals

In my opinion, this Eagle Scout service project meets Eagle Scout requirement 5, as stated on page 4 of this workbook.

Beneficiary name:

LuAnn M. Aisner

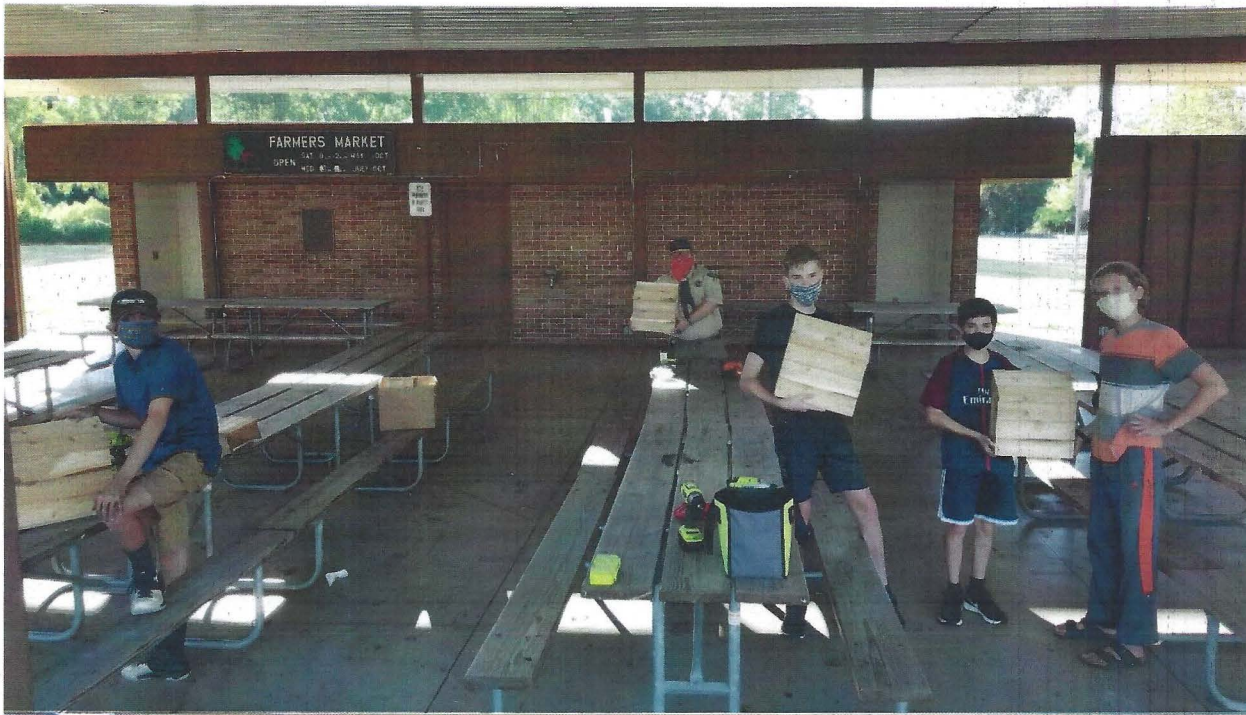
Unit leader name:

Signed: 

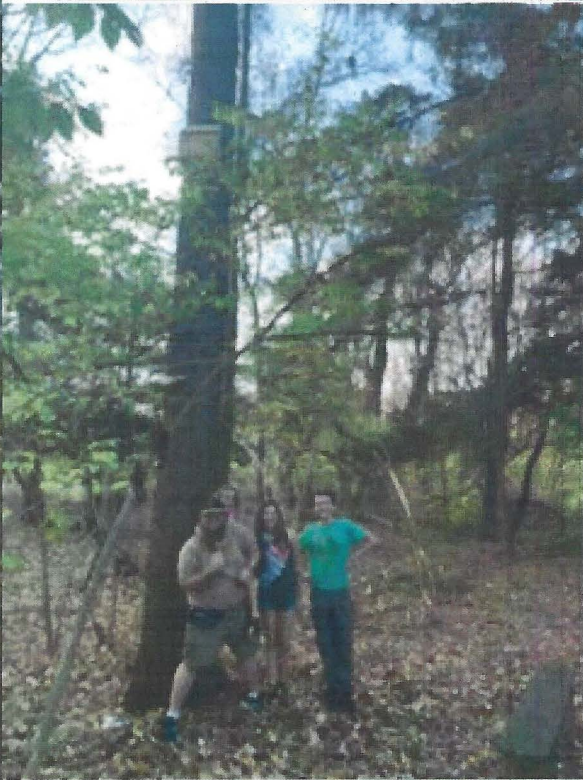
Date: 2/26/21

Signed: 

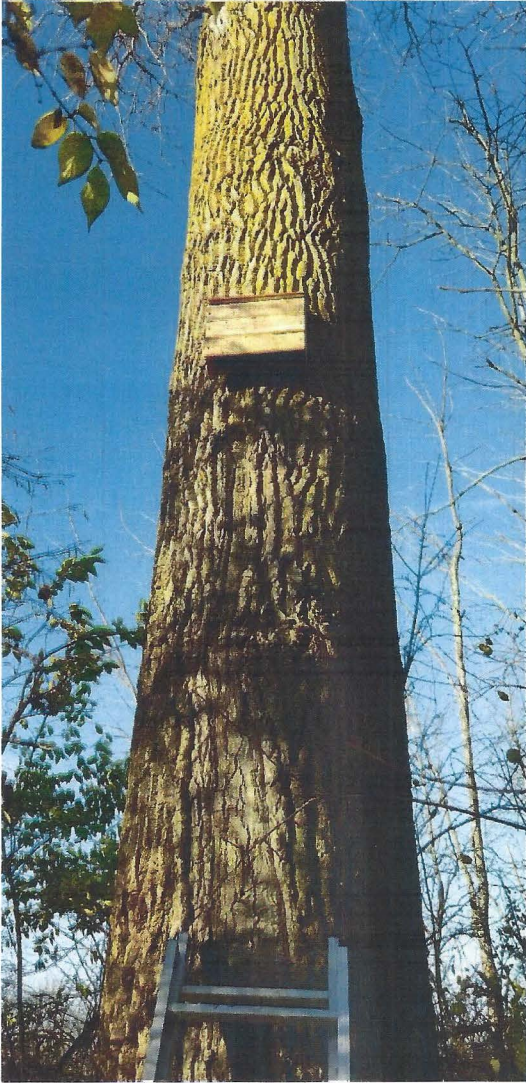
Date: 2/26/21



Bat House Building with scout volunteers.



Bat house hanging instruction.



Park Commission Meeting
March 9, 2020

6. MINUTES

- a. February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Location: ZOOM

DATE: February 9, 2021

PRESENT: Ami Van Antwerp, Amanda Lick (joined at 5:33 pm), Michael McDonald, Mary Nardo Farris, Commissioners Mark Stephens,

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Lick called the meeting to order at 12:03pm

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Stephens moved TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. Seconded by Commissioner Van Antwerp

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

3. PRESENTATIONS - NONE

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 26, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes – Moved to March 9 meeting

6. COMMUNICATIONS - NONE

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. **Labyrinth** – Staff is working with Dr. Rajendra for future development of a labyrinth in Central Park.
- B. **Pinwheel Garden Request** – Small Talk Children's Advocacy Center has requested to utilize a few parks in our community to plant blue pinwheel gardens in recognition of "April is Child Abuse Prevention Month". Staff is working to identify optimal locations.
- C. **Capital Area Youth Cycling Club** – members are working with us to better maintain and improve the pump track at Eastgate Park. They are also offering Adventure Bike Club Tuesday nights, 6-8pm, 8/weeks starting in June to engage youth in cycling. They are planning a work day for pump track improvements on April 24 and 25
- D. **Micro Pantry Application Ottawa Hills Park and Hartrick Park** Girl Scout Troop 30293 Okemos, Kelly Bianchi leader – Has requested to place micro pantries in Hartrick Park and Wonch Park. Following discussions by the Park Commissioners, Director Maisner will invite Kelly to attend the next meeting to present her request.

- E. Tree City Application** – Environmental Commission is working to seek a “Tree City” designation for our community. More information will be presented at a future meeting as talk of a tree ordinance being developed that will include the Park Commission.
- F. DNR Free Fishing Weekend** – two (2) groups of 11 children are registered to participate in our annual event. The group size is limited based on Covid restrictions. Due to frigid temps, the event that was scheduled for February 7 was postponed to a future date.
- G. The formal crosswalk signals on Central Park Drive** are scheduled for installation on April 16.
- H. Central Meridian Regional Trail Connector** – work continues

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. 2021 DNR Grant Submission – Towner Road Playground

Commissioner Lick moved TO REQUEST STAFF TO PREPARE A GRANT APPLICATION FOR SUBMISSION TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM FOR A PLAYGROUND AREA AND ACCESS SIDEWALKS IN TOWNER ROAD PARK FOR SUBMISSION BY APRIL 1, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Set Public Hearing Date – Towner Road Playground Grant Submission

Commissioner McDonald moved TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE TOWNER ROAD PARK PLAYGROUND GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MDNR FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND DURING THE VIRTUAL REGULAR PARK COMMISSION MEETING ON MARCH 9, 2021 AT 12 NOON. Seconded by Commissioner Van Antwerp

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Red Cedar River Improvements** – The commission briefly discussed looking into opportunities for improving the Red Cedar River between Ferguson and Wonch Parks for recreational use. The Commission will take this up more formally at a future meeting.
- B. New Township Signage** - Director Maisner shared that work is being done currently to replace the Welcome to Meridian signs and other signage throughout the community. The parks will also look to update their signage to blend with brand standards.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - NONE

11. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- A. Commissioner Comments
- B. Events Calendar:
 - 1. Farmers' Market:
 - a. First and Third Saturdays, 11 am – 1 pm, January-April, Marketplace on the Green

12. CLOSED SESSION - NONE

13. ADJOURNMENT – Hearing no objections, Chair Lick adjourned the meeting adjourned at 1:19 pm

14. NEXT MEETING

- A. The next meeting is scheduled to be held virtually on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 12 noon via zoom.

Park Commission Meeting
March 9, 2020

7. COMMUNICATIONS



Meridian Township
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

P 517.853.4000
F 517.853.4096

Township Board:

Ronald J. Styka
Township Supervisor

Deborah Guthrie
Township Clerk

Phil Deschaine
Township Treasurer

**Patricia Herring
Jackson**
Township Trustee

Dan Opsommer
Township Trustee

Kathy Ann Sundland
Township Trustee

Courtney Wisinski
Township Trustee

Frank L. Walsh
Township Manager

February 26, 2021

Dr. Paul Morrow
1399 Haslett Road
Haslett, MI 48840

Dear Dr. Morrow:

Thank you for your generous donation of ice fishing rods to the Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Department. It was incredibly thoughtful of you to take the time to collect the equipment for our community members to enjoy.

Many families enjoyed last weekend's fishing derby on Lake Lansing. It was a beautiful, sunny day and the majority of the visitors had never ice fished before. The day was filled with much excitement and shouts of triumphs (and failures!) There were also many moments of peace and opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Lake Lansing in the winter. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to supply each of the children with their very own ice fishing rod to take home.

Your support of Meridian Township especially, the Parks & Recreation Department is greatly appreciated. We look forward to working with you on future projects.

Yours truly,

Amanda Lick
Meridian Township Park Commission Chairperson



Meridian Township
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

P 517.853.4000
F 517.853.4096

Township Board:

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Township Supervisor

Deborah Guthrie
Township Clerk

Julie Brixie
Township Treasurer

Phil Deschaine
Township Trustee

**Patricia Herring
Jackson**
Township Trustee

Dan Opsommer
Township Trustee

Kathy Ann Sundland
Township Trustee

Frank L. Walsh
Township Manager

March 1, 2021

Mr. Dan Stephens
2948 Coit Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Dear Dan,

We are writing to you to express our gratitude for the fantastic video that you made of the 2021 Meridian Township Ice Fishing event. We were so impressed with your footage, interviews, the music, everything! The video had a very "hometown" feel to it and captured the fun energy of the day. We were all so proud and excited to share it with others to show off our event and your good work.

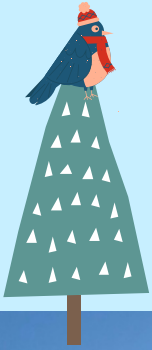
As you already know, Meridian Township's parks and recreation programs are part of what make our community a desirable place to live and to raise a family. And although we know how great it is, we are not always particularly good at sharing our story with the community. Your video opened our eyes to ways that we can do a better job of getting our message out about the availability of parks and recreation programs.

We hope that we can work together in the future so that you can use your video expertise to help highlight our beautiful park system. Again, we are so very impressed with your talent and someday when you are famous we will say, I knew him when he made a movie about ice fishing on Lake Lansing!

Sincerely,

Amanda Lick, Chairperson
Meridian Township Park Commission

THE CORPS RAPPOR



Meridian Conservation Corps Quarterly Newsletter



WINTER REFLECTIONS

A note from Meridian Township's Land Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell

"The happiness of the bee and the dolphin is to exist. For man it is to know that and wonder at it." This quote by Jacques Cousteau, who has been an inspiration for me, perfectly encompasses my view of the natural world. Over my years of observing ecosystems, I have realized that the bee will continue to do its work with unwavering devotion. If we are to expect change in our greenhouse gas emissions, and movement toward a population that is more connected to our planet than ever, we must strive for this devotion. We are the change that needs to happen. We have seen that we can affect the world in drastic ways and we are gifted with the capacity to come up with solutions. That is where conservation comes in. Now we must take an active role in our environment to reverse some of the damage done and make up for what we have lost. 2021 is the year of #ConservationEveryday. If we just think of our little devoted bee, we can achieve great conservation one step at a time. 2021, here comes the M.C.C.!!



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

»—————«

2021 EVENTS & GOALS

MCC
MERIDIAN
CONSERVATION
CORPS

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

- 498.9 HOURS OF HABITAT RESTORATION COMPLETED
- 403 POUNDS OF LITTER REMOVED FROM 12 PARKS BY THE CLEANUP CREW
- 135 CORPS MEMBERS
- 65 VOLUNTEERS ACTIVELY WORKING ACROSS 7 PARKS & PRESERVES
- 22 NATIVE PLANT SPECIES CULTIVATED IN PRESERVES
- 15 STEWARDSHIP SATURDAYS
- 10 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF INVASIVE PLANTS REMOVED
- 4 CONSERVATION PROGRAMS LAUNCHED
- 1 SENTINEL TREE ADOPTED BY FOREST WATCH VOLUNTEERS



2021 STEWARDSHIP GOALS

- INCREASE AWARENESS & ACCESSIBILITY OF TOWNSHIP PRESERVES
 - NEW RULE SIGNAGE
 - INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE FOR PRIORITY HABITAT
 - DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE
- 4 NEW CORPS PROGRAMS
 - VERNAL POOL PATROL
 - PLANTING A NATIVE MERIDIAN
 - WATERWAYS WATCH
 - BIOBLITZ SQUAD
- DEVELOP MANAGEMENT & STEWARDSHIP PLANS FOR EVERY PRESERVE
- INCREASE WETLAND PROTECTION
- EXPAND THE CONTROLLED BURN PROGRAM TO INCLUDE MORE PRIORITY AREAS
- CONTINUE REMOVING TARGET INVASIVE SPECIES



MARCH EVENTS



- **MARCH 8TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
 - CUTTING INVASIVE SHRUBS 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 13TH: INVASIVE SPECIES FIELD TRAINING**
 - 10 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 20TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
 - CUTTING INVASIVE SHRUBS 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 27TH: SESSION 1 VERNAL POOL PATROL TRAINING WORKSHOP**
 - 9 AM - 11 AM ZOOM WEBINAR (MORE TO COME IN APRIL)
 - OVERVIEW OF VERNAL POOLS & HOW TO JOIN THE PATROL



APRIL EVENTS

- **APRIL 3RD: SESSION 2 VERNAL POOL PATROL TRAINING WORKSHOP**
 - 12 PM - 2 PM ZOOM WEBINAR
 - 3:30 PM - 5 PM FIELD TRAINING (FIELD TECHNIQUES AT A LOCAL VERNAL POOL)
- **APRIL 10TH: TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY**
 - 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM @ FOSTER-CROUSE PRESERVE
- **APRIL 17TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
 - INVASIVE PULL 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **APRIL 24TH: MAKE EVERY DAY EARTH DAY CLEAN UP**
 - 9:30 AM - 12 PM CLEAN UP CREW @ TIHART-CORNELL WETLAND
 - 1:30 PM 3:30 PM INVASIVE PULL @ HARRIS NATURE CENTER

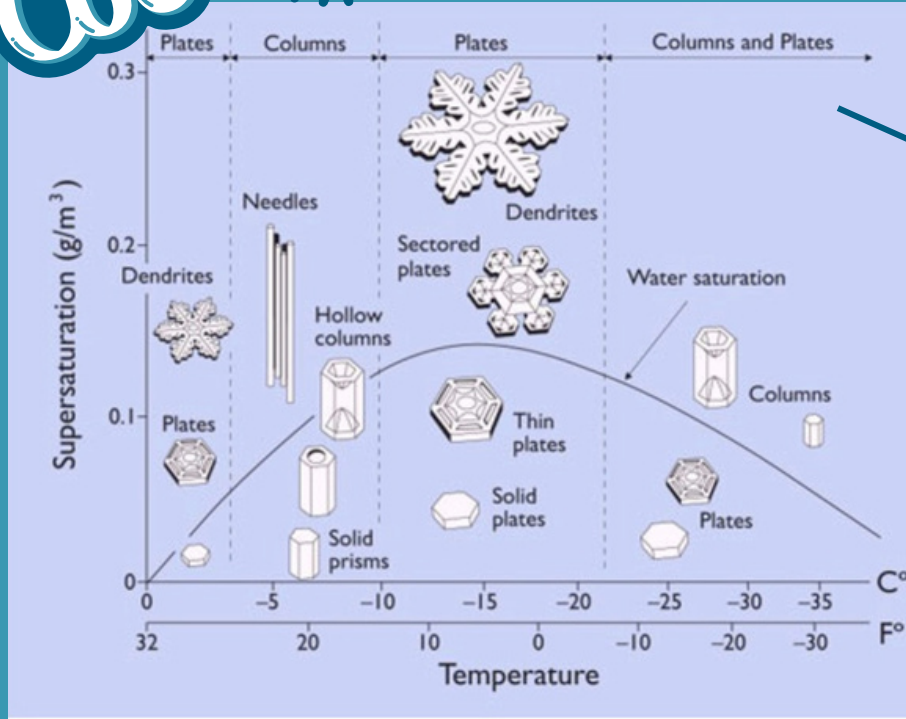


MAY EVENTS

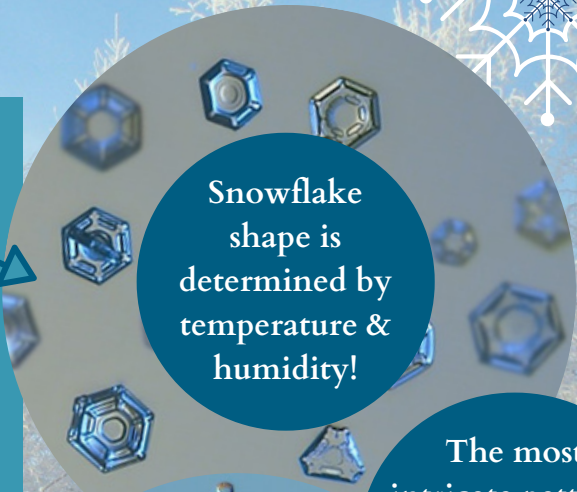
- **MAY 1ST: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY & TOWAR WOODS PLANTING**
 - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY
 - NATIVE TREE PLANTING @ TOWAR WOODS PRESERVE (TIME TBD)
- **MAY 8TH: MONARCH WAY-STATION SPRING CLEANING**
 - 9:30 AM - 12 PM @ HARTRICK PARK MONARCH GARDEN
- **MAY 15TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY & TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY**
 - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY
 - 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY @ PONDEROSA PRESERVE
- **MAY 22ND: PLANTING A NATIVE MERIDIAN**
 - 9:30 AM - 12 PM PLANT NATIVE SPECIES @ THE TOWNSHIP SERVICE CENTER
- **MAY 29TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
 - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL



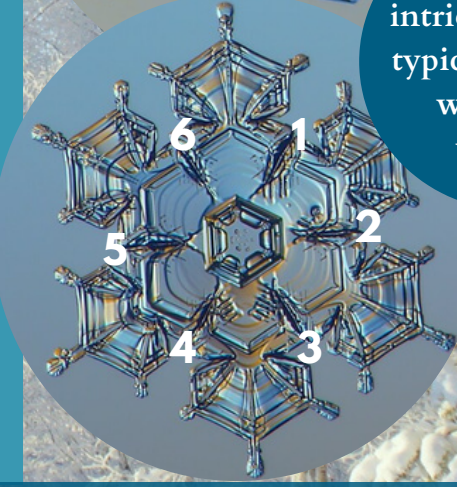
Cool



Effects of temperature and humidity on snowflake formation. Image via Kenneth Libbrecht.



Snowflake shape is determined by temperature & humidity!



The most intricate patterns typically form in warm, wet weather

Every snowflake has 6 sides!

Watch this TedEd video, take a quiz & dig deeper into snow science!

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-science-of-snowflakes-marusa-bradac#watch>

"Macro Snowflake" by NASA Goddard Photo and Video is licensed under CC BY-ND 2.0

SNOWY ACTIVITIES



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at
Harris
Nature
Center

Contact HNC to reserve your time
517.349.3866

Try to identify animal tracks in freshly fallen snow!



What do you think made these? Answers listed on bottom of next page!

Rent snow shoes for \$10/hour at Harris Nature Center!

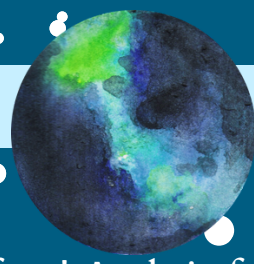


WINTER STEWARDSHIP IN PICTURES

Although we were only able to host one workday so far in 2021, we are so thrilled to be back at it and making a difference in our community!



Corps member, Kevin (above) spotted this Cecropia Moth cocoon!!



CONSERVATION EVERYDAY

Sustainability & a greener lifestyle CAN be stress free! And, it feels great to know you are benefitting the planet we all call home. Any small step makes a big impact! Here are some tips for #ConservationEveryday

LESS PLASTIC? FANTASTIC!

Take a tour through your house & write down any single-use items. Start by replacing something easy - use a shampoo bar instead of product that comes in a plastic bottle. This shampoo bar comes in recyclable boxboard and smells great too!



REDUCING PLASTIC IS TURTLEY AWESOME!



REDUCE & REUSE

We talk a lot about recycling, but how can we embrace the other two R's? Trade out items, like ziplock bags, for reusable containers. Skip your coffee to-go and bring one from home in a reusable container. What was once a weekly, or daily purchase, will now be a special treat!



COVID-19 CONSERVATION

For some of us, the pandemic has made it mandatory to increase our use of throw-away items. Make sure to cut strings off of disposable masks before tossing them in the garbage! This should be done for any products that have loops, or holes. Wildlife like this duck will thank you!

PLASTIC LIDS LIKE THIS ONE SHOULD BE CUT TO ENSURE WILDLIFE SAFETY

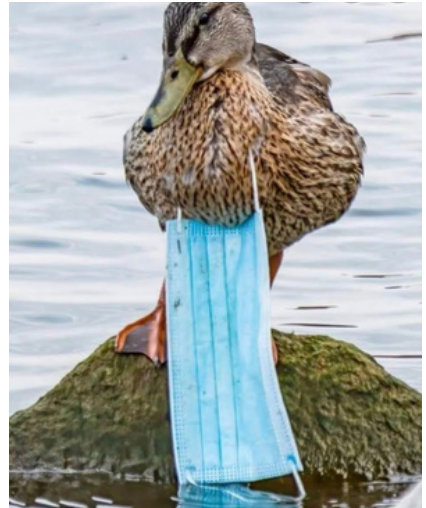


PHOTO CREDIT: MARY CAPORAL PRIOR



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2021

CONTACT: Kati Adams, Harris Nature Center Coordinator
517.349.3866 | kadams@meridian.mi.us

Harris Nature Center
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



Learn about Michigan Song Birds at the Harris Nature Center
Bring your family to HNC for a private-guided nature program

Meridian Township, MI – The Harris Nature Center (HNC) continues to offer Private-Guided Nature Programs each month and in March, visitors can learn all about Michigan song birds. Those attending the program will learn about the different species of birds found in Michigan, explore their nesting habits and enjoy a guided walk. Families are encouraged to dress for outdoor activities and masks are required during the program.

“Migration has begun and spring is right around the corner. We can hear many of the birds singing their spring songs now!” said Park Naturalist Allison Goodman. “Families will get to enjoy time on the trail with a naturalist looking and listening for some of Michigan’s over 450 bird species.”

Goodman says the private guided nature programs are appropriate for all ages and are tailored to groups depending on the ages of the children in attendance. Programs can be scheduled between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

The fee is \$20 per private program and is due at the time of registration. For more information and to schedule your private-guided program, call 517.349.3866.

Visit the Harris Nature Center webpage on the Meridian Township at www.meridian.mi.us/HNC for more information. Residents are also encouraged to follow the Harris Nature Center on social media at www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter and www.instagram.com/harrisnaturecenter.

###

The community of Meridian Township is in close proximity to the Michigan State Capitol and Michigan State University. The Township serves the community through exceptional services, beneficial amenities and an outstanding quality of life. It is a welcoming community that celebrates quality education, recreation and lifestyles.





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2021

CONTACT: Kati Adams, Harris Nature Center Coordinator
517.349.3866 | kadams@meridian.mi.us

Harris Nature Center

A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



Attract Birds and Butterflies to Your Garden with Native Plants

Harris Nature Center Hosts a Native Plants Sale

Meridian Township, MI – Add native wildflowers, grasses, sedges or shrubs to your gardens this spring by ordering plants from the Harris Nature Center’s Annual Native Plants Sale. Order forms are available now and all orders are due by Friday, April 23rd.

Orders will be available for pick-up on Saturday, May 1st at the Harris Nature Center (3998 Van Atta Road) in Meridian Township where additional plants will be available for sale on site.

All plants are grown locally by Designs by Nature in Laingsburg and Go Grow Plant Natives in Charlotte. The proceeds from the sale support the Harris Nature Center.

“Native plants thrive in Michigan and will attract birds and butterflies to your garden,” said Nature Center Coordinator Kati Adams. “We hold this sale every year to help people discover the ease and importance of using native plants in their gardens.”

Adams says plant prices vary and available plants include Michigan native shrubs, sedges, grasses, wildflowers, ferns and complete garden kits.

For more information and to receive an order form, contact hnc@meridian.mi.us or 517.349.3866.

Visit the Harris Nature Center webpage on the Meridian Township website at www.meridian.mi.us/HNC for more information. Residents are also encouraged to follow the Harris Nature Center on social media at www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter and www.instagram.com/harrisnaturecenter.

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A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

PARK COMMISSION
March 9, 2020

8. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Eagle Scout Project Acceptance
 - 1. Griffin Porter - Dog Agility Equipment
 - 2. Austin McCormick – Bat Houses
- B. Micro Food Pantry Request
- C. 2021 DNR Grant submission – Towner Road Playground
- D. Artificial Ice Rink Bid Award



8. B

To: Park Commission
From: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: March 5, 2021
Re: Micro Food Pantry Request – Girl Scout Troop 30293

This request from Okemos Girl Scout Troop 30293 to place a Micro Food Pantry in Wonch and Hartrick Parks was presented to the Park Commission during the February 9, 2021. During that meeting you requested additional information from the applicant. The Troop Leader Kelly Bianchi, will be present at the March 9th meeting to answer additional questions you may have.

Their request is to construct, install and manage a micro pantry “Hygiene House” in Wonch and Hartrick Parks as part of a “Take Action” project. A Take Action Project is done yearly by troops and must be something that keeps on giving. They have created a Facebook page for people to be able to find them as well as to alert the community when they run low. The troop has been in contact with other community members who are on board and excited to contribute to this project, including other troop leaders and Lifelong Girl Scout Members. They can assign different girl scouts to check them monthly as well.

The scouts will build them, paint them, and stock them. They plan to spread the word around the community as to the start of the program. The Micro Pantries can be any size however they had envisioned them to be on a post that is 5 feet tall and the actual house size 2’ x 14” x 14” with a shelf inside. Example can be viewed at <http://troop30293.com/hygiene-houses>. A plaque with contact information will be attached to each box if someone has questions or comments.

Motion for park Commission consideration:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM OKEMOS GIRL SCOUT TROOP 30293 TO PLACE MICRO PANTRY BOXES AT WONCH AND HARTRICK PARKS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS AND HYGIENE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES IN NEED DURING THE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY ORDER #2021-01. TROOP LEADER KELLY BIANCHI WILL WORK WITH PARK STAFF TO CONFIRM LOCATIONS IN EACH PARK AND ALSO PROVIDE A PROGRESS REPORT AFTER THREE MONTHS OF OPERATION.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PLANNING DIVISION
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864
(517) 853-4560

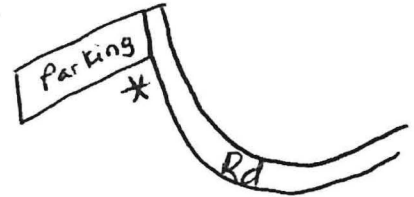
MICRO FOOD PANTRY APPLICATION

A. Micro Food Pantry Sponsor: Girl Scout Troop 30293
Address of Sponsor: 4858 Hillcrest Ave
Okemos, MI 48864
Phone: 239-878-9379
Email address: gstroop30293@gmail.com

B. Site address/location: Hartwick Park - 3685 Hulet Rd.

- Please describe as best as possible or provide a sketch where the food pantry structure will be located on the site:

SE corner of the parking lot



- Please provide the size of the food pantry structure:

24 in X 14 in X 14 in on a 5ft post
(The maximum size allowed for the structure is seventy-two (72) cubic feet.)

- The Food Pantry Sponsor, if not the property owner, must provide written consent from the property owner.

I certify I have read and understand the regulations for operating a Micro Food Pantry. I agree to comply with all requirements and to hold the Township harmless for any injury or damages sustained in connection to operating the Micro Food Pantry and to indemnify the Township, and cover the cost of its attorneys' fees for any claims that arise out of the operation of the Micro Food Pantry.

[Signature]

2-8-2021

Signature of the Food Pantry Sponsor

Date

Kelly Bianchi

Print name of Food Pantry Sponsor

Received by _____

Date _____

Approved by _____

Date: _____



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PLANNING DIVISION
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864
(517) 853-4560

MICRO FOOD PANTRY APPLICATION

A. Micro Food Pantry Sponsor: Girl Scout Troop 30293

Address of Sponsor: 4858 Hillcrest Ave
Okemos, MI 48864

Phone: 239-878-9379

Email address: gstroop30293@gmail.com

B. Site address/location: Wanich Park - 4555 Okemos Rd.

- Please describe as best as possible or provide a sketch where the food pantry structure will be located on the site:

South end of parking lot

- Please provide the size of the food pantry structure:

24 in X 14 in X 14 in on a 5 ft Post

(The maximum size allowed for the structure is seventy-two (72) cubic feet.

- The Food Pantry Sponsor, if not the property owner, must provide written consent from the property owner.

I certify I have read and understand the regulations for operating a Micro Food Pantry. I agree to comply with all requirements and to hold the Township harmless for any injury or damages sustained in connection to operating the Micro Food Pantry and to indemnify the Township, and cover the cost of its attorneys' fees for any claims that arise out of the operation of the Micro Food Pantry.

Signature of the Food Pantry Sponsor

2-8-2021

Date

Kelly Bianchi

Print name of Food Pantry Sponsor

Received by _____

Date _____

Approved by _____

Date: _____

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

RONALD J. STYKA
DEBORAH GUTHRIE
PHIL DESCHAIINE
FRANK L. WALSH

SUPERVISOR
CLERK
TREASURER
MANAGER



COURTNEY WISINSKI TRUSTEE
PATRICIA HERRING JACKSON TRUSTEE
DAN OPSOMMER TRUSTEE
KATHY ANN SUNDLAND TRUSTEE

EMERGENCY REGULATION 2021-01

Temporary Procedure for Authorization of Micro Food Pantries

Effective February 2, 2021

On February 2, 2021, I declared a “state of emergency” within our jurisdiction in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, COVID-19 has had severe consequences for the Michigan economy, with Michigan having a 7.5% unemployment rate as of December 2020. Aware that food scarcity is an issue in Michigan, with approximately 1,359,650 Michigan residents struggling with hunger according to Feeding America, I am concerned that the economic impact of COVID-19 has increased food scarcity in the Charter Township of Meridian (the “Township”).

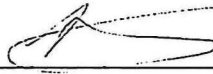
To provide for the health and safety of persons impacted by COVID-19 by allowing the construction and operation of Micro Food Pantries by Charter Township of Meridian citizens, I declare this Emergency Regulation to be effective within the boundaries of Charter Township of Meridian and enact the following measures pursuant to my authority under the Michigan Emergency Management Act MCL 30.410.

1. Definitions.
 - A. “Micro Food Pantry” means an outdoor storage unit no larger than seventy-two (72) cubic feet in storage area, that facilitates food donations by allowing members of the community to place non-perishable, non-expired food items and other essentials in the storage unit for donation and allows any individual who require the items to take them.
 - B. “Micro Food Pantry Sponsor” means the individual filing the Micro Food Pantry Application with the Township, and is the individual responsible for the maintenance, operation and final removal of the Micro Food Pantry.
2. The Township hereby establishes a temporary protocol for the authorization and regulation of Micro Food Pantries at locations approved by the Township Director of Community Planning and Development.
3. Micro Food Pantries can be located on private property with the written consent of the property owner and can be located on Township property with the written consent of the Township Manager. By providing written consent to a Micro Food Pantry, private property owners agree that if a Micro Food Pantry Sponsor fails to remove a Micro Food Pantry within seven (7) days of being directed to do so by the Township or expiration of this emergency regulation, the Township may enter the property to remove the Micro Food Pantry at the expense of the Micro Food Pantry Sponsor.

4. Township Code provisions that conflict with this temporary procedure for authorization of Micro Food Pantries are suspended for the duration of this Emergency Regulation.
5. Any nuisances (including, but not limited to, noise, parking issues, etc.) that arise from operation of the Micro Food Pantry must be mitigated by the Micro Food Pantry Sponsor and/or property owner to eliminate all negative impacts on surrounding properties.
6. A Micro Food Pantry shall not be attached to or cause damage to the street or sidewalk or to trees, benches, landscaping, or other objects lawfully located in the right-of-way.
7. A Micro Food Pantry shall not obstruct Township access to a fire hydrant or any Township sewer or water system.
8. Micro Food Pantry Sponsors are responsible for the removal of all trash and debris from the area surrounding the Micro Food Pantry.
9. Individuals may only donate non-expired, non-perishable food in undamaged original packaging to a Micro Food Pantry or non-expired, undamaged essentials in their original packaging.
10. To apply to sponsor a Micro Food Pantry, a Micro Food Pantry Sponsor must submit an application to the Township on a form made available by the Township and abide by all requirements for Micro Food Pantries identified in this emergency regulation. The application shall be submitted to and approved, approved with conditions, or denied by the Township Director of Community Planning and Development.
11. Application for the Micro Food Pantry will be reviewed by and approved by the Township Director of Community Planning and Development. Any conditions included in the approval shall be stated in writing to the applicant. If the request is denied, the Township Director of Community Planning and Development shall state the reasons for denial in writing and provide a copy to the applicant. An appeal of a denial shall be provided in writing to the Township Manager. The Township Manager shall then determine whether to affirm or reverse the Township Director of Community Planning and Development's decision.
12. The Micro Food Pantry Sponsor shall pay any applicable nonrefundable permit fee as established by the Township Manager to address the costs incurred by the Township in application review and approval.
13. The Micro Food Pantry Sponsor shall agree to hold the Township harmless for any injury or damages sustained in connection to operating the Micro Food Pantry. In addition, the Micro Food Pantry Sponsor shall agree to indemnify the Township, and cover the cost of its attorneys' fees, for any claim that arise out of the operation of the Micro Food Pantry.
14. Approval of the Micro Food Pantry does not suspend compliance with applicable state or local law, except as identified in this Emergency Regulation. Micro Food Pantry Sponsors and the use of Micro Food Pantries shall strictly comply with all other applicable Township emergency regulations, ordinances, codes, and resolutions that are not suspended by this emergency regulation.

15. Authorization of Micro Food Pantries are temporary approvals. They provide a temporary license for use of space for the Micro Food Pantry and do not grant any vested right or property right. Approvals may be revoked by the Township Director of Community Planning and Development or Township Manager, upon noncompliance with this Emergency Regulation.
16. All approvals may be rescinded at any time at the discretion of the Township Board prior to the expiration of this Emergency Regulation.
17. This Emergency Regulation shall continue until a local state of emergency is declared to no longer exist within the Township by the Township Supervisor or Township Board.

Dated: 2/2/21



Ronald J Styka, Township Supervisor of
Charter Township of Meridian



To: Park Commission
From: LuAnn Maisner, CPRP
Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: February 24, 2021
Re: DNR Grant Application
Towner Road Park Improvements

TOWNER ROAD PARK

The Parks and Recreation Department and Park Commission officially opened Towner Road Park in 2018. This 24-acre community park serves the northern portion of the township. The park includes ball diamonds, athletic fields, parking, pickleball courts, a paved pathway, restroom building and a pavilion. The only feature that has not been constructed is a **play structure**. The Park Commission has identified this deficiency as an opportunity to develop a grant application to help fund the play structure development.

The Park Commission conducted a public hearing earlier in the meeting to accept public comments on the proposed park improvement. The total project amount of \$300,000 will be funded 50% from Park Millage funds and 50% or \$150,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (if awarded).

A resolution is attached for your consideration.

Towner Road Park Play Space RESOLUTION

At an electronic meeting of the Park Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held on the 9th day of March, 2021 at 12:00 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner ____ and supported by Commissioner _____:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources accepts grant requests from local units of government to assist in the development and acquisition of recreation properties; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have up to 50% of the total project cost funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund program; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission is interested leveraging local Park Millage Funds by obtaining supplemental grant funding for park projects whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township has prepared a grant application for submission to the Land and Water Conservation Fund for \$300,000 of improvements to Towner Road Park consisting of a Play Space to improve and expand recreation opportunities and accessibility for visitors of all abilities; and

WHEREAS, this project is identified and supported in the 2017-2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Meridian Township Board and Park Commission, and is on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the grant request is outlined and justified in the 2021-2027 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Township Board and Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 9, 2021; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as follows:

To support submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for development of a Play Space in Towner Road Park with a total project cost of \$300,000. The fifty (50%) percent local match of \$150,000 will be funded by the Park Millage, with the remaining fifty (50%) percent (\$150,000) funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.

ADOPTED:
YEAS:

NAYS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Chair of the Park Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Park Commission on the 9th of March, 2021.

Amanda Lick , Park Commission Chair



8. D

To: Park Commission
From: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: March 5, 2021
Re: Lake Lansing Goose Management Request

Attached is a request to engage in a goose cull on Lake Lansing from a nearby neighbor. I have also included email correspondence from the DNR and a copy of Act 80 of 1925 identifying Lake Lansing (formally Pine Lake) as a Wild Life Sanctuary. My recommendation is that this request is better suited for the Lake Lansing Advisory Board. I recommend the Park Commission refer this request to the LLAB for consideration and comment.

Motion for Park Commission consideration:

MOVE TO FORWARD THE GOOSE CULL REQUEST FROM RESIDENT, DAVE CARD TO THE LAKE LANSING ADVISORY BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION AND RECOMMENDED ACTION.

PINE LAKE WILD LIFE SANCTUARY
Act 80 of 1925

AN ACT to create a district or refuge in Ingham county to be known as "Pine Lake Wild Life Sanctuary" in which it shall be unlawful to kill, catch, or destroy any wild game animals, wild game or song birds, their offspring or eggs, and to protect fish in any breeding ponds that may be constructed for that purpose and to provide a penalty for the violation thereof.

History: 1925, Act 80, Eff. Aug. 27, 1925.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

317.221 Pine Lake wild life sanctuary; territory.

Sec. 1. The territory situated in the county of Ingham, described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at a point on the line between the counties of Clinton and Ingham where the north and south quarter line of section 3 in township 4 north, range 1 west, intersects said county line; thence running east on said county line to a point where the north and south eighth line in the northeast quarter of section 2, township 4 north, range 1 west, intersects the county line; thence running south along said eighth line to a point where said line intersects what has heretofore been known as the right-of-way of the Michigan United Railway; thence running southwesterly along said right-of-way to a point where the right-of-way would have intersected with the road or street running east and west through the village of Haslett; thence running west along said street to where it intersects a portion of a certain improved gravel road; thence running north along said highway and the east side of what is shown on the plat of the village of Haslett as the farm of Charles Benson, and continuing along said road until it intersects the north and south quarter line of section 3 as aforesaid; thence running north along the road and the said quarter line to the place of beginning, shall be and constitute a refuge for wild game animals and game birds known as "Pine Lake Wild Life Sanctuary."

History: 1925, Act 80, Eff. Aug. 27, 1925; ¹CL 1929, 6123; ¹CL 1948, 317.221; ¹Am. 1955, Act 12, Eff. Oct. 14, 1955.

Compiler's note: Pine Lake is now known as Lake Lansing.

317.222 Pine Lake wild life sanctuary; unlawful acts; permit to hunt carnivorous game; permit to keep certain game; supervision; prima facie evidence.

Sec. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, capture, kill or otherwise destroy any wild game animals, wild game or song birds, their young offspring or eggs in the district hereinbefore described, or to molest the homes, nests or houses of such wild game animals or wild game or song birds. A permit may be granted by the conservation commission to a person or persons to hunt carnivorous birds and animals on said premises. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit any person from keeping the animals or birds herein mentioned in captivity under a permit granted therefor by any law now in force or which may be hereinafter enacted. The state department of conservation is specifically charged with the supervision of the refuge hereby created and with the enforcement of the provisions of this act. It shall be prima facie evidence of hunting on said refuge for any person other than an officer charged with enforcing the provisions of this act to be found thereon with a loaded gun outside of his home or buildings owned or occupied by him.

History: 1925, Act 80, Eff. Aug. 27, 1925; ¹CL 1929, 6124; ¹CL 1948, 317.222.

317.223 Pine Lake wild life sanctuary; unlawful to take fish.

Sec. 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with or destroy or take away in any manner any of the fish that are being reared in any of the ponds in said territory.

History: 1925, Act 80, Eff. Aug. 27, 1925; ¹CL 1929, 6125; ¹CL 1948, 317.223.

317.224 Pine Lake wild life sanctuary; posted notices.

Sec. 4. The refuge herein established shall be posted in the manner following: A notice shall be posted on each corner of said refuge, stating which corner it is. Notices shall also be posted at reasonable distances along the boundary line of said refuge. The notices shall also state that all persons are prohibited from hunting thereon.

History: 1925, Act 80, Eff. Aug. 27, 1925; ¹CL 1929, 6126; ¹CL 1948, 317.224.

317.225 Violation of act; penalty.

Sec. 5. Any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall upon conviction thereof be subject to a fine of not less than 25 dollars nor more than 100 dollars or imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not more than 90 days or by both such fine and imprisonment

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Act 80 of 1925

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Sec. 5. Any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall upon conviction thereof be subject to a fine of not less than 25 dollars nor more than 100 dollars or imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not more than 90 days or by both such fine and imprisonment

in the discretion of the court.

History: 1925, Act 80, Eff. Aug. 27, 1925; [#] CL 1929, 6127; [#] CL 1948, 317.225.

12 Feb 2021

Ingham Co Parks Dept, Parks Commission
Meridian Township Parks Dept, Parks Commission

RE: Nuisance geese


I live on E. Lake Dr near North park and the township owned wetland (north of the transfer station). In my second year here in 1974 a pair of geese had goslings; that was a unique event, I took a picture of the cute young birds.

Since then it is not unique nor interesting to see geese. The multitudes have at times caused the park beach to be closed due to bacteria levels. We strive to collect eggs, have roundups and try various methods to keep them off shorelines and lawns. It is very discouraging. The overpopulation is a big nuisance and a health hazard at Lake Lansing (as it is throughout Michigan and other states). Canada goose populations have surged in recent decades and are out of control.

I am recently informed by an avid hunter that geese are like salmon- they return to their birth lake to lay eggs. So even if they are rounded up and given a northern Michigan vacation for the summer, they will be back here in the spring. Regardless of how often that occurs I believe the only solution to our problem is the same as what is done for the deer overpopulation.

The day of the first open hole in the lake ice there will be a one or more pair of geese floating there. I am not a hunter, but this would be a great opportunity for a hunter with a shotgun to eliminate some eggs from being laid. Is there a reason that they cannot be culled outside of the autumn hunting season? What procedure is used to cull mute swans from places such as Muskegon Co? If there is a roundup then it appears the proper solution is to send them to soup kitchens.

I hope that Ingham Co Parks Dept and Meridian Township can work to bring about the culling of geese at Lake Lansing. I know the Cities of St Johns and Alpena have culled geese inside the city limits in the past. I am aware that the county Parks Dept has willing hunters.



Dave Card
6045 E Lake Dr
Haslett 48840
339-8613

cc: Coe Emens, Jane Greenway, Younes Ishraidi

From: [Fedewa, Chad \(DNR\)](#)
To: [Jane Greenway](#)
Subject: RE: Dave Card - Lake Lansing
Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 9:10:51 AM
Attachments: [image003.jpg](#)

Unfortunately, on populated lakes, there typically isn't a great solution that will make everyone happy. Learning to "live with them" to some extent is going to be necessary.

From: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 9:06 AM
To: Fedewa, Chad (DNR) <FEDEWAC1@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Dave Card - Lake Lansing

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to
abuse@michigan.gov

Thank you, Chad. I appreciate your help on this. I'm not sure which direction the township, county, or lake association will go but this lays out some nice options.

Jane

From: Emma Campbell
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 2:44 PM
To: Fedewa, Chad (DNR) <FEDEWAC1@michigan.gov>; Coe Emens <CEmens@ingham.org>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>; LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Jared Cypher <JCypher@ingham.org>; Timothy Morgan <TMorgan@ingham.org>; Ian Londo <ILondo@ingham.org>
Subject: Re: Dave Card - Lake Lansing

Thank you for the information Chad.

Emma Campbell

Land Stewardship Coordinator

Parks and Recreation

ecampbell@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4614 | F 517.853.4099

2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48864

meridian.mi.us

From: Fedewa, Chad (DNR) <FEDEWAC1@michigan.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 7:26 PM

To: Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>; Coe Emens <CEmens@ingham.org>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>; LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>

Cc: Jared Cypher <JCypher@ingham.org>; Timothy Morgan <TMorgan@ingham.org>; Ian Londo <ILondo@ingham.org>

Subject: RE: Dave Card - Lake Lansing

As far as I can tell, permitted removal of wildlife would still be an option. I don't think a "goose cull" would be an option we would authorize, though.

When it comes to nuisance geese, the first recommendation (and typically the most effective in the long term) is allowing goose hunting during open goose hunting seasons. Michigan currently has 107 days open to goose hunting between September 1 and February 15. The early season, which currently runs from Sept 1-30, has a bag limit of 5 geese per hunter per day. While this likely isn't the time of year the goose complaints are coming in, this season is meant to target local geese. Over time it can help reduce overall numbers and does make geese more susceptible to other forms of hazing and non-lethal control methods.

Since this isn't an option given the refuge law (assuming it's still enforceable), there are other options to consider. Getting a goose round-up permit and conducting egg and nest removal (when eligible) are options. From what I've been able to find, there have been permits for these activities issued for Lake Lansing for each of the last 10 years or so. I do not issue those permits, so I'm not sure if those permits have been issued to a Lake Association, the County, or both? Either entity would be eligible to apply for these permits if they meet the criteria.

If the egg and nest removal program isn't being successful, we can work with the permittee(s) to evaluate how it's being done and if it can be more effective. Maybe they're not being thorough enough? Maybe there are other areas of the lake they should be targeting as well? Those are questions we could help them figure out. Using dogs for harassment can be effective in some situations as well. There are a few contractors out there that use border collies to haze geese and may be an option for an area such as a park or beach.

As you likely know, there is no magic fix. Geese love bodies of water with nice, manicured lawns right down to the water's edge. From what I can see, it looks like you have been working through the available options. Maybe there are ways we can help you be more effective executing those options or exploring other supplemental options.

Chad

From: Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:15 AM
To: Fedewa, Chad (DNR) <FEDEWAC1@michigan.gov>; Coe Emens <CEmens@ingham.org>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>; LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Jared Cypher <JCypher@ingham.org>; Timothy Morgan <TMorgan@ingham.org>; Ian Londo <ILondo@ingham.org>
Subject: Re: Dave Card - Lake Lansing

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Thank you all!

Emma Campbell

Land Stewardship Coordinator

Parks and Recreation

ecampbell@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4614 | F 517.853.4099

2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48864

meridian.mi.us

From: Fedewa, Chad (DNR) <FEDEWAC1@michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 4:20 PM
To: Coe Emens <CEmens@ingham.org>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>; LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Jared Cypher <JCypher@ingham.org>; Timothy Morgan <TMorgan@ingham.org>; Ian Londo <ILondo@ingham.org>; Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: RE: Dave Card - Lake Lansing

I think there is latitude to do some permitted removal of nuisance wildlife. I'll do some looking on my end to see what that would look like and report back.

Chad

Chad Fedewa, Wildlife Biologist
MI DNR Wildlife Division
Rose Lake Field Office
8903 E. Stoll Rd
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-641-4092

From: Coe Emens <CEmens@ingham.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 11:31 AM
To: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>; Fedewa, Chad (DNR) <FEDEWAC1@michigan.gov>; LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Jared Cypher <JCypher@ingham.org>; Timothy Morgan <TMorgan@ingham.org>; Ian Londo <ILondo@ingham.org>; Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Re: Dave Card - Lake Lansing

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Good morning all,

After collecting three, 5-gallon buckets of goose poop daily for around 2 months, we are definitely in favor of a goose management program on Lake Lansing. As Dave and Jane stated, we are taking annual measures to try to control the amount of family groups taking root in the area but the amount of geese summering at Lake Lansing seems to be increasing. Depending on coordination and other factors, we are very much in support of a goose management program.

Please let us know how we can be involved.

Also, if we need to have any info discussed with our Park Commission, please have any submits to us before Feb 17 for the Feb 22 PC meeting.

Thank you.

Coe F. Emens III, CPRP
Ingham County Parks Department
121 East Maple Street
Mason, MI 48854

From: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 10:14 AM
To: Fedewa, Chad (DNR) (FEDEWAC1@michigan.gov) <FEDEWAC1@michigan.gov>; LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Coe Emens <CEmens@ingham.org>; Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Dave Card - Lake Lansing

Hi Chad,

I just got off the phone with Dave Card, a resident who lives on Lake Lansing (phone 339-8613). Dave would like for the township to initiate a goose cull on the lake. We chatted about the status of the Lake Lansing area as a wildlife refuge and what that may mean for wildlife management in terms of geese, deer, etc. And how the refuge area extends beyond the limits of the lake itself.

I think that I already mentioned to you that Ingham County Parks staff has previously worked on goose egg removal programs and that residents have caught hundreds of muskrats as well.

Can you please provide us with some direction on this? I would think that even a refuge would allow for wildlife management but maybe that isn't the case.

Thank you,
Jane

Jane Greenway, LLA
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