



Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission
2014 Annual Report





Bald Eagles nesting at Grand Ravines North. Photo by Lee Koets, resident of Jenison.



Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission

- Bobbi Jones Sabine, President
- David VanGinhoven, Vice President
- Philip Kuyers, Secretary
- Joe Bush
- Tom Elhart
- Matthew Fenske
- James Holtvluwer
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2014 was a busy and productive year for the Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission as it continued efforts to expand and improve the county's system of parks, open spaces, and services.

The maintenance and operations staff continued to meet the challenge of creating the best possible experience for park users in an ever-growing park system. Over the past two years there has been dramatic increase in interest in our rental facilities. In response, a number of improvements have been made to key reservation sites, including adding the outdoor wedding trellis at Pine Bend, to make them even more attractive to the community.

Honoring the Commission's commitment to providing accessible recreational opportunities for county residents, the second of two grant-funded universally accessible kayak launches was installed at Grand River Park. This is the third kayak launch of its type in the Ottawa County Park System.

Outdoor education programs grew in popularity with a wide range of programs offered, including nature walks, birding trips, day camps, cross-country ski clinics, and many others. The Nature Education Center remains the hub of all of the educational programming.

The Parks Commission continues to establish greenways along key river corridors and the Lake Michigan coast. Special attention was given to the Historic Ottawa Beach Waterfront Walkway in 2014 with over 1,300 feet of walkway constructed, linking Black Lake Boardwalk East and West along Lake Macatawa. The dedication ceremony for the boardwalk is scheduled for spring of 2015.

The Ottawa County Parks & Recreation looks forward to the projects and improvements 2015 will bring.

The Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission enhances quality of life for residents and visitors, by preserving parks and open spaces and providing resource-based recreation and education opportunities.

Trails for a wide variety of recreational uses continue to be popular. There are over 96 miles of trails for hiking, biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and trail running. Special attention was paid to connector trails in 2014, including the Upper Macatawa Natural Area Greenway Trail, which connects the Fred Meijer Kenowa Trail along Byron Road to existing township bike path on Adams Street, further expanding the regional trail system.

The importance of stewardship was demonstrated by the Commission's leadership and innovation in controlling invasive plants. In 2014, Ottawa County Parks was the only organization in the state to utilize goats to control invasive species, garnering local and national media attention. West Michigan continues to lead the state in the eradication of the invasive garlic mustard plant, with Ottawa County Parks playing a large role by hosting workdays throughout the year for thousands of volunteers.



Parks Voyageur Canoe Program at Connor Bayou

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INTRODUCTION

The 2014 Annual Report of the Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission was developed to provide a brief summary of Commission activities for the 2014 calendar year to the residents of Ottawa County and the Board of Commissioners who serve them. Additional information regarding all aspects of Parks Commission activities is available by contacting the County Parks office or by visiting the website: miOttawa.org/Parks.

PROPERTY OVERVIEW

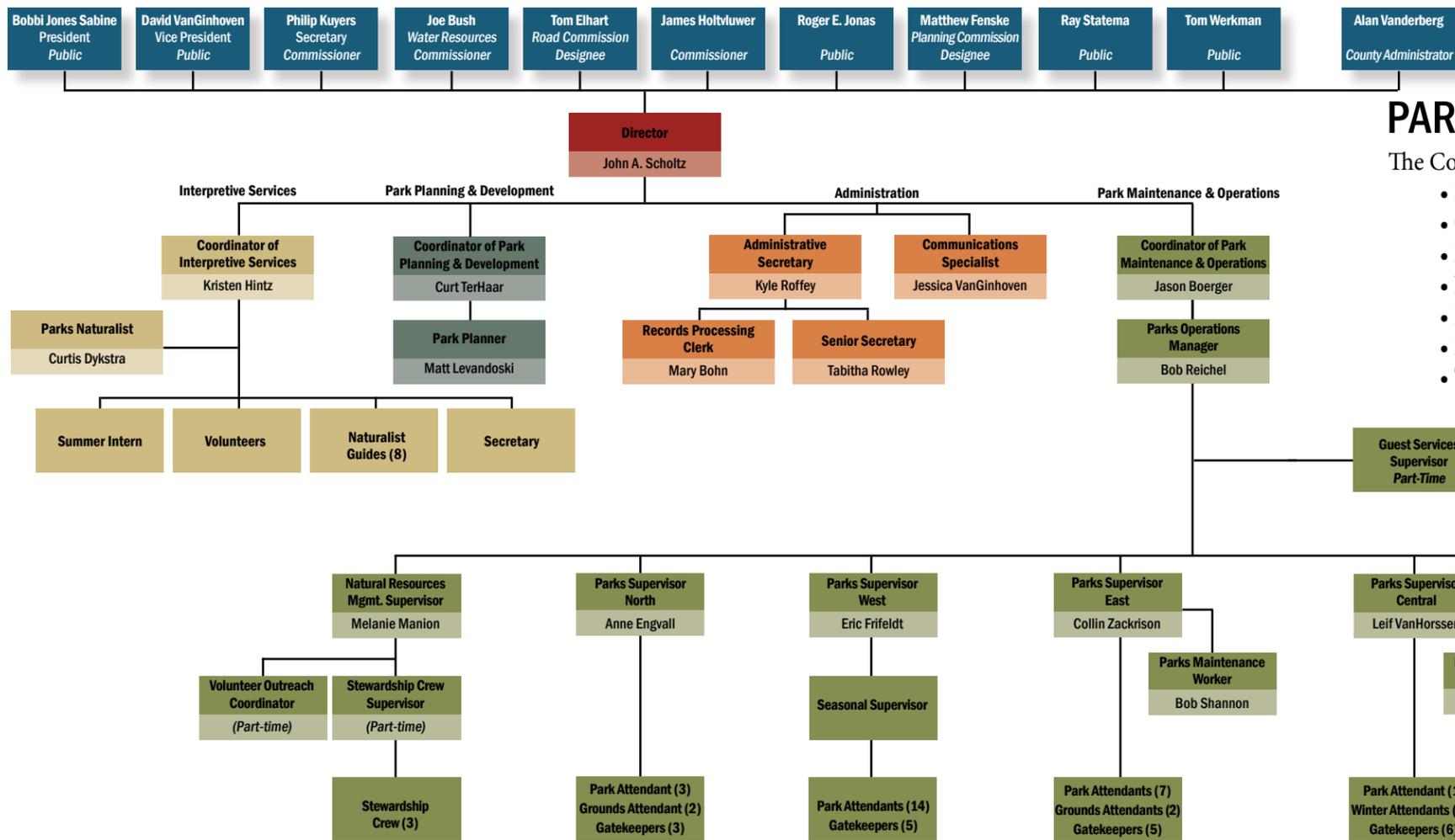
The Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission oversees acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of 26 County Parks and 13 Open Space lands, totaling 6,405 acres (see Appendix A for a listing of all lands administered by the Parks Commission as of December 31, 2014). In addition, the Commission oversees management of the Ottawa County portion of the Musketawa Trail under an agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Property at a Glance:

26
County Parks
13
Open Spaces
6,405
Acres of Land



Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission Organizational Structure



PARKS COMMISSION STAFF

The Commission's staff during 2014 was comprised of 18 full-time positions, including:

- Parks & Recreation Director
- Coordinator of Park Maintenance & Operations
- Parks Operations Manager
- Natural Resources Management Supervisor
- Four Park Supervisors
- Equipment Specialist
- Two Park Maintenance Workers
- Coordinator of Park Planning & Development
- Park Planner
- Coordinator of Interpretative Services
- Park Naturalist
- Administrative Assistant
- Park Secretary
- Communications Specialist (as of December 2014)

The Parks Commission also employs a part-time Volunteer Outreach Coordinator and a part-time Records Clerk as well as over 100 seasonal and part-time staff, including Park Attendants, Grounds Attendants, an intern, and Gatekeepers for 11 of the parks.

Please note that the organizational chart shown reflects the most recent positions, including hiring changes made after January 1, 2015.

MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

REVENUE

2014 started with great ski and snowshoe conditions at Pigeon Creek and resulted in over \$79,000 in rental and concessions income.

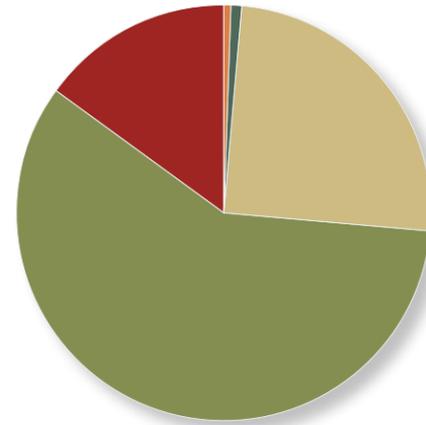
While snow days did finally transition into beach days, the Lake Michigan water remained cool and the 90 degree days were few and far between. Beach park attendance remained constant but was not record-setting.

Motor vehicle permit sales for the lakeshore parks reached \$313,681 by season end. Riverside Park boat launch fees and motor vehicle permits sold at Oaklea Store this season brought in another \$5,361.

The Commission saw an increase in demand for reservation sites. There were 1,212 reservations booked, 23 more than 2013. Reservation revenues increased by 30%, totaling over \$130,000, a new record. Currently there are 21 facilities available to the public for rent in the parks system.

Customer service is a high priority for the Commission, especially for special events. The Operations team works hard to ensure that anyone renting a facility has a positive experience.

2014 REVENUE*



■ MOTOR VEHICLE PERMITS ■ RENTAL & CONCESSIONS ■ BOAT LAUNCH FEES
■ SITE RESERVATIONS ■ PROGRAMS (PUBLIC & PRIVATE)

*Millage funds are not recorded in this revenue report

“Beautiful site & facility, but most impressed with each person who we dealt with! Very friendly & accommodating. Ottawa County Parks are awesome!”

GUEST EXPERIENCE



Wedding at Tunnel Park

The majority of the Operation staff’s time is spent on the little things that makes the parks experience more enjoyable for the community. Daily duties include a lot of cleaning, litter pickup, and trash removal, as well as the repair of buildings, playgrounds, bridges, docks, and roads. Grass is mowed, branches are cleared from trails, and sand is removed from the parking lots. The staff keeps park users safe by looking for and addressing safety hazards, as well as enforcing park rules. At the same time, Ottawa County Parks strives to continually improve its properties with different projects throughout the year.



Weaver House Trellis and Picket Fence

IT’S THE LITTLE THINGS...

A small cottage at Pine Bend Park was renovated and relocated, making it an integral part of the wedding trellis area near the Weaver House. A white picket fence was installed to help define the Weaver House yard reservation area.

The sledding hill at Pigeon Creek Park was re-graded to allow for easier grooming and to provide a larger area of steep slope for kids who like to go fast.

In an effort to be more sustainable, all light fixtures that needed to be replaced in 2014 were replaced with LED fixtures.

Over 50 dead ash trees were removed throughout the year.

A new universally-accessible kayak launch was installed at Grand River Park, and the launches at Connor Bayou and Eastmanville Bayou were re-installed for their second season of use.

Staff and contractors began prepping Grand Ravines Park for the Dog Park and Lodge renovation that will be completed in 2015.

In an effort to increase safety on the Musketawa Trail, crosswalks were painted at all road intersections.



Universally Accessible Kayak Launch at Eastmanville Bayou



Musketawa Trail crosswalk improvement



Snow Day at Pigeon Creek County Park

NATURAL STEWARDSHIP

VOLUNTEER REPORT

Youth Connections

A group of eight students from Holland Youth Connections, with their supervisors, worked a combined 1,364 hours at Riley Trails. Much of their time was spent removing buckthorn, a new invasive species, from the park.

Ottawa County Parks was proud to support Youth Connections, an organization seeking employment opportunities for youth at-risk that provide job experience, career skills, and a chance to serve their communities.

Grand Haven Area Public Schools

Grand Haven Schools continued their support of Ottawa County Parks with 300 middle school students removing garlic mustard, spotted knapweed, and litter from seven park properties and 350 Grand Haven High School sophomores removing woody invasives from Hiawatha Open Space.

Adopt-a-Park

Fourteen parks and open spaces continue to be managed by companies and schools through the Adopt-A-Park program. Several properties, including Rosy Mound & Kirk Park, are nearly invasive-free because of the dedication of these volunteer groups.

Girls at Port Sheldon (G.P.S.)

This all-woman volunteer group of eight surveyed Port Sheldon Natural Area for invasive species using GPS to document infestations. They began removing the infestations in 2014 and will continue their work (and recruitment) into 2015.



INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

The Ottawa County Parks Commission strives to stop invasives and promote natives in a variety of ways, one of which is utilizing its network of volunteers who are interested in getting their hands dirty.

2014 was a tremendous year for invasive species management. Over 800 acres of park sites were managed for invasive species control. With a seasoned supervisor, the four-person Stewardship Crew treated 22 different invasive species at 31 park properties. Additionally, over 1,000 volunteers removed invasive plants from 22 different park properties.



Ottawa County Parks serve as stewards of our local environment by responsibly using & protecting nature through conservation and sustainable practices.

GARLIC MUSTARD HEAVY WEIGHT



Ottawa County Parks volunteers were once again one of the organizations representing West Michigan in The Stewardship Network's 2014 Garlic Mustard Challenge.

Garlic Mustard is an invasive plant that was brought to America by European settlers as an herb. It has spread virtually unchecked across the country and can be found in over thirty states. These weeds choke out native wildflowers and also excrete chemicals through their roots that hinder future wildflower growth.

The Garlic Mustard Challenge is an annual event where volunteers across the Great Lakes region are encouraged to protect their local, native ecosystems by removing as much garlic mustard as possible.

Collectively, 130,427 pounds of garlic mustard were pulled throughout the challenge. West Michigan reclaimed its Heavy Weight title, with its volunteers pulling 27,839 pounds of garlic mustard! West Michigan also reports the highest number of garlic mustard free sites (23) than any other region — a feat that takes many years to accomplish because of how quickly the weed spreads.

ECO-GOATS



The most unique invasive species initiative in 2014 was the Prescribed Browsing Project, which utilized goats to combat invasive species and other problem plants.

Goats, amazingly, are not allergic to poison ivy and have evolved an ability to detoxify noxious compounds — meaning, hungry goats can efficiently remove a large amount of invasive and pesky plants without harming themselves.

Natural Resources Management Supervisor, Melanie Manion, proposed using goats as an alternative to using herbicides after seeing several presentations on the practice at national conferences. The implementation of the program garnered local and national media attention for the county.

The community was very enthusiastic about the project, and the Parks Department received a great deal of support. MSU Extension's Master



Naturalists contributed over 270 hours to develop the project.

Phil Kuyers, who serves on the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners and the Parks Commission, is also a local farmer. He donated twelve goats to gobble up honeysuckle, autumn olive, Oriental bittersweet, poison ivy, and buckthorn at three locations: Eastmanville Bayou, Bur Oak Landing, and Riverside Park.

Friends of Ottawa County Parks, with an outpouring of support from their members, contributed over \$2,000 to the start-up costs of the program, including fencing that kept the goats from wandering astray.

Numerous volunteers, including employees from Automatic Spring and Brilliance Publishing, donated over 400 hours to care for the goats.

The goats did so well, The Prescribed Browsing Project will be launched for a second year in the spring of 2015.



PROGRAMS & EDUCATION

NATURE EDUCATION CENTER

The Nature Education Center continues to serve as an information and visitor center for the park system, as well as the homebase for educational programming. A concerted effort was made in 2014 to increase public awareness of the venue to reach more Ottawa County residents and visitors. Regular weekly NaturE-mails and press releases helped attract more visitors. Also approved was the first billboard sign, to be placed on US-31 in the spring of 2015.

Public Program Highlights

The Parks Commission is dedicated to providing inexpensive and often free programming to residents, visitors, and families. In 2014, between offering more programs and more consistent programming, attendance increased by nearly 30%. Regularly scheduled programming throughout the year included: Wednesday Morning Birding Walks, Saturday Hemlock Hikes, Astronomy Programs in partnership with the Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association, and the ever-popular Sunday Family Programs.



Sunday Family Programs were a hit! Consistency, affordability, and attention from the press has helped steadily increase attendance.



Ottawa County Parks was able to offer more summer camps to families in 2014.



Birding Programs are still strong The viewing window and feeders get attention year-round. The birding walks were busier than ever.

New and exciting additions in 2014 were night hikes and evening owl watches. They proved to be in high demand, averaging about 30 attendees regardless of the season. In fact, the wait list for many of the sessions was so large, a duplicate event was offered on an alternate date to accommodate everyone who wanted to participate.

While much of the programming takes place at the Nature Education Center, our Naturalist Guides also host programs in other parks. Of note in 2014 was Eagles of the Grand, offered at Connor Bayou. The stars of the event, a pair of majestic eagles, attracted 35 guests and the attention of the *Grand Haven Tribune*.

Each of these school groups will visit the Hemlock Crossing Nature Education Center 18 times throughout the school year.

Summer Camps

Summer camps continue to improve and evolve each year. By providing the naturalist guides more planning time and resources, they were able to develop additional summer camp opportunities for children.

Nature Buds and Young Discoverers, single-day camp programs for elementary students, were offered again in 2014. In response to parents requesting a camp for pre-school age children, Early Sprouts was developed and offered.

Prior to 2014, Wetland Detectives was the only multi-day summer camp for older children. Due to its overwhelming popularity, three more multi-day camps were created. Junior Naturalists, Birding Skills 101, and Outdoor Survival Camp were all very well attended and will return in 2015.

COMMUNITY FOCUS

The Nature Education Center received 50 new pairs of high quality binoculars, thanks to a collaborative effort from local community organizations. Ottawa County Parks purchased 25 pairs of binoculars using donated funds from: Holland Audubon Society, the Grand Haven Owashtanong Islands Audubon Club, Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, Friends of Ottawa County Parks, and the Nature Education Center Endowment Fund. Eagle Optics matched the purchase with another 25 pair. The binoculars are used for many different educational opportunities.



Special Program Highlights

School programming continues to grow each year as more schools and teachers learn about the services and programs available at the Nature Education Center.

- Rose Park Christian pre-school began their second year of partnership with Ottawa County Parks to provide a nature-based education for students.
- A new group of 20 pre-school aged children came to the Nature Education Center for their first program entitled "Happy Trails," led by naturalists Jeanine Roberts and Carla Kocher.
- The South Side Christian pre-school began their first year with nine children.



"We discussed owl calls during our indoor introduction for the 'Owl Exploration'. Afterwards, we took the kids outside to look for the life-sized owl pictures placed in the woods along the trail. When the kids saw the Barred Owl they all began imitating its call without any prompts. It really is neat to see our kids apply what they are learning outside."

Jeanine Roberts, Naturalist Guide

2014	Public Programs	Participants	Special Programs	Participants
January	10	142	6	125
February	10	106	4	103
March	13	325	5	105
April	18	311	12	570
May	23	230	16	934
June	21	298	5	372
July	15	152	1	15
August	25	287	2	22
September	20	204	6	167
October	17	173	18	725
November	14	202	6	117
December	9	198	6	85
TOTAL	195	2,628	87	3,340



An additional 20 pairs of snowshoes for winter ecology school programs and public rental were purchased in 2014. Twelve pairs were pre-school sized so parents can take their young ones out for a winter walk too.

PLANNING, ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT

PARK PLANNING

Planning efforts to efficiently develop and manage existing park and open space properties were initiated at several park sites.

Bend Area Planning

Planning and preliminary designs for the proposed trail in this area were completed to determine the extent of additional property acquisition and property values.

Pigeon Creek Trail Lighting

in preparation for installation of a new lighted cross-country ski loop in 2015, several different types of LED light fixtures were researched and field tested.

Property Acquisition:
45.77
Acres of Land

Grand Ravines Lodge

The design and plan for construction was completed and bid out for the extensive remodeling to the future Grand Ravines Lodge, an existing home that was purchased with the main portion of the property. Improvements to the lodge will include adding public restrooms, reconfiguring interior spaces to accommodate groups, adding a new deck overlooking the Grand River, and other structural and aesthetic improvements. It will be available for rent in 2015.



Grand River Greenway Robinson Township Trail Segment

Engineering and cost estimates were completed for the Robinson Township portion of the greenway trail, with special emphasis on connections to the new M-231 by-pass bridge. The entire project will connect the existing bike path at 144th Ave. east past Connor Bayou and the by-pass to Riverside Park and the Bass River State Recreation Area.

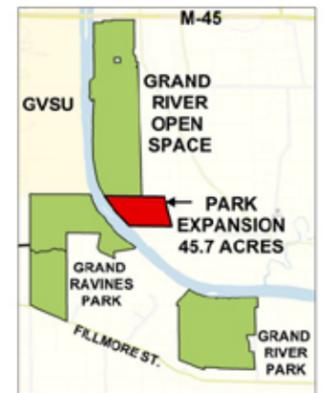
North Beach Dune Stairs Reconstruction

An application for funding assistance has been submitted to the Michigan Coastal Management program for the reconstruction of a deteriorating portion of stairs on the south side of the large dune. This improvement will complement construction completed over the last several years that created a popular trail, stairs, and boardwalk loop with access to the top of the dune.

New Property

2014 was a quiet year comparatively for property acquisitions. In the last decade, many of the desired properties have been purchased. While there are still some key properties to acquire, the focus has begun to shift to development, maintenance, and upkeep of current properties.

- 45.7 acres of riverfront land were added to Grand River Open Space for hunting and other uses, expanding the site to 279 acres, with 1.5 miles of Grand River frontage. A grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund helped cover the cost. This purchase is part of the Grand River Greenway initiative, preserving and protecting key lands along the river corridor.
- .07 acres were added to the Historical Ottawa Beach Parks for parking.



Grand River Park

PLANNING, ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT

PARK DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS

Each park property is maintained to high standards, and the focus is to continually provide the community with the best experience possible. Whether the goal was protecting the local ecosystem, educating park users, providing more functionality and accessibility, or purely aesthetics, many major park improvement projects were undertaken in 2014.

Grose Park Shoreline Improvements

Contractors completed work to reconstruct damaged walkway structures along Crockery Lake and stabilize eroding shoreline areas.

Grand Ravines South Parking Area

The first major portion of construction was completed with the development of an improved entrance and large gravel parking area off from Fillmore Street. Ottawa County Parks anticipates future use by dog walkers and other visitors as the dog park and additional facilities are completed in the next year.

Kirk Park Signage

New trail signage was installed at the trailhead location and at key trail intersections throughout the park.

Universally Accessible Kayak Launches

The second of two grant-funded floating kayak launches was installed at Grand River Park in late spring. This is the third accessible kayak launch in the Ottawa County Parks System. The launches are strategically located to provide access to the Grand River at regular intervals. New signage to highlight the Grand River Heritage Water Trail was also installed at each of these sites, helping guests plan their route.



Ottawa Beach Waterfront Walkway

Substantially completed in the fall of 2014, the Ottawa Beach Waterfront Walkway provides the final link between existing park facilities along the Lake Macatawa Shoreline. Special attention was given to interpretation of the historic Ottawa Beach Hotel, which once stood along the trail route.

Ottawa Beach Pump House Renovation



Aided by the fundraising efforts of the Historic Ottawa Beach Society (HOBS), construction started to restore this iconic red brick building along the waterfront walkway. Improvements focus on structural repairs and reinforcing, roof and masonry repairs, door and window restoration, and a basic electrical system. Following this renovation, the building will be suitable for special events and other basic uses. HOBS continues to fundraise with hopes of making a future addition and unveiling the building as the Pump House Museum and Learning Center.

Ferrysburg/North Shore Shared Use Path

Although predominately managed by the City of Ferrysburg, Ottawa County Parks provided some funding and coordination to help construct a portion of separated shared-use path along the north side of North Shore Drive. The path connects the North Ottawa Dunes Trailhead at Coast Guard Park to North Beach Park. The new paved trail will provide a safe and accessible route between the two parks and connect to future pathway to the east.

Weaver House Garden Trellis

Adjacent to the historic Weaver House at Pine Bend, a wooden overhead trellis matching the house complements previous restoration of a small cottage and extensive landscaping, creating a beautiful and functional outdoor space for weddings, parties, and other group events.

North Beach Park Pavilion Paving

Several areas of paving were added to the rental pavilion area to provide better barrier-free access to both sides (each side may be rented separately). Paving also improved the group grilling and serving area and provided space for a new recycling station.

UMNA 84th Ave. Parking Area Improvements

In conjunction with the completion of the new non-motorized trail project, improvements began at the existing parking area in anticipation of greatly increased use of the new paved trail and expanded mountain bike trails. New amenities will include a small picnic/gathering shelter with electricity, water supply, and solar parking area lighting.

UMNA Greenway Trail

Major construction started in early fall for the 2.4-mile long section of paved trail, expanding on the existing half-mile trail. Upon completion, the trail will cover the entire length of the Upper Macatawa Natural Area. The project includes six custom wooden bridges and a new bridge crossing the Macatawa River. The trail traverses the varied topography and natural features of the site, including floodplain grasslands, upland prairie, and wooded ravines. It also provides a key link in the expanding regional trail system.



Grose Park

COMMISSION GOALS

2015 PARKS COMMISSION GOALS

Integrate New Operational Commitments While Continuing High Quality Park Operations

With its commitment to high quality maintenance, the Parks Commission will continue to focus on maintaining its operational capabilities at a high level as the park system grows and evolves.

Long Range Parks Plan

Develop the 2016 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space plan that will serve as the master plan through 2021. The long-range plan will incorporate the analysis of the County's resources, the Commission's goals and objectives and public input. It will serve as a reference document for future decision-making.

Diversified Funding Strategy

Focus on maintaining a diversified long-range funding strategy for the county park system as identified in the 2011 Parks Plan, with continued focus on expanding donations from the private sector and identifying new sources of public grant support. The Commission will take the next steps to establish a Parks Foundation as a focal point for fund-raising efforts.

Volunteer Recruitment

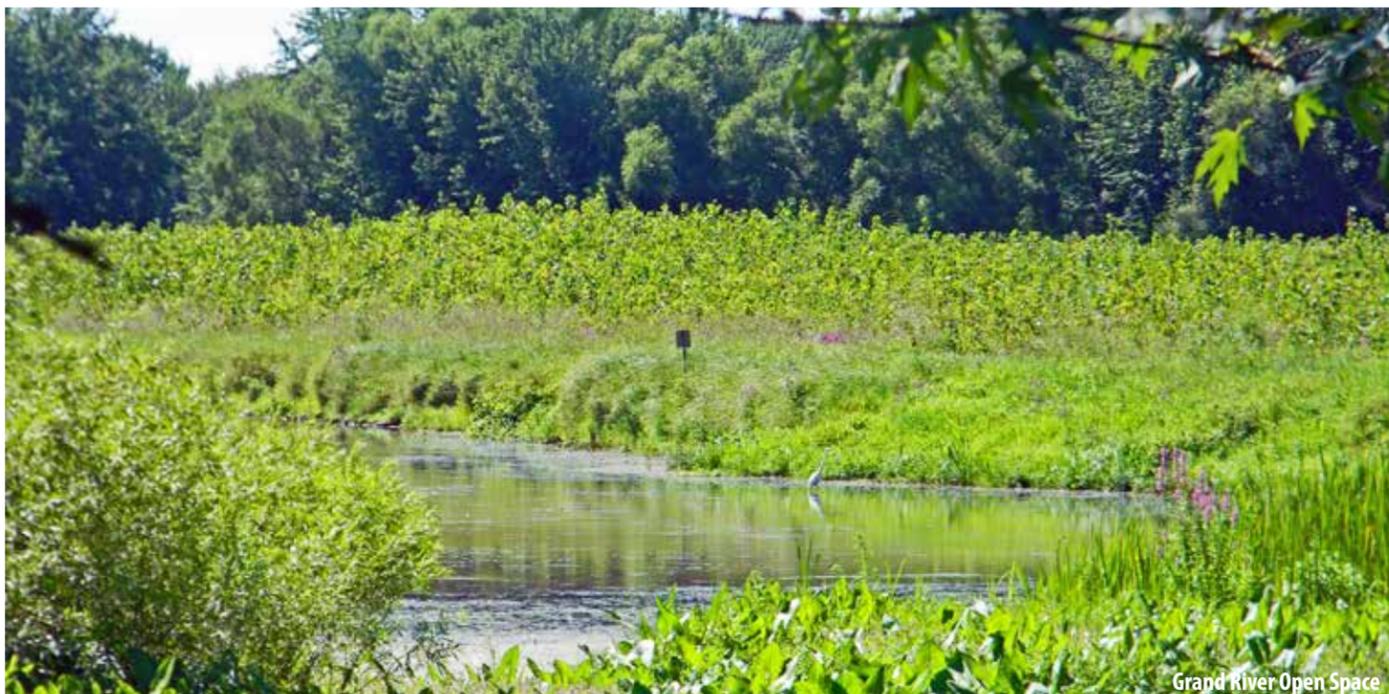
Continue to expand the volunteer program in accordance with established plans to assist with park stewardship activities, park maintenance functions, and outdoor educational programming.

Communication

Continue to improve the website and expand use of social media. Proactively explore all existing media outlets as well as new means of communication to familiarize Ottawa County resident with their county park system and programs.

Interpretive Programs and Nature Education Center

Continue to improve operations and programming at the Nature Education Center. Expand programs for schools and other youth groups. Increase efforts to raise awareness of the Nature Education Center and programs. Expand efforts to secure donations for the Nature Education Center Endowment Fund.



Stewardship Activities

Continue to provide a high level of land stewardship through control of invasive species, development of land management and stewardship plans, restoration of degraded sites and managed deer hunts. Continue to inventory natural features throughout the park system with special focus on the lakeshore through a grant-funded initiative.

Sustainability

Continue to implement the 2014 sustainability plan for the park system, encompassing environmental sustainability as well as social and financial sustainability.

Accessibility

Stay committed to achieving universal accessibility throughout the park system while constructing new facilities and modifying existing parks. Complete renovations of Kirk Lodge and the Grand Ravines North Lodge to be universally accessible facilities.

Open Space Lands

Continue to improve public awareness of and access to Open Space lands. Construct and mark additional trails at selected open-space lands to facilitate expanded public use.

Lake Michigan Coastal Greenway

In partnership with the Historic Ottawa Beach Society, complete restoration of the pump house structure at Historic Ottawa Beach Parks. Make final improvements to and dedicate Black Lake Boardwalk – a new waterfront walkway on Lake Macatawa.

Pigeon River Greenway

Continue to monitor the availability of key lands in the river corridor for potential acquisition, and promote the use of existing parks.

Grand River Greenway

Work to build support for the greenway initiative, including funding for the first segment of the Grand River Greenway Trail. Efforts will also continue to monitor and acquire target properties in the river corridor, seeking grant support as needed.

Bend Area Site: Continue to work with the mining companies and other landowners to acquire land consistent with the Bend Area Master Plan, with a long-range goal of expanding opportunities for swimming and other water-based activities in eastern Ottawa County.

Grand Ravines, North and South: Continue to implement improvements from the master plan, including renovation of the lodge at the North to be used as a rental facility; building the county's first dog park at the South location; and seeking funding for the connector trail between the two locations.

Macatawa River Greenway

Complete the segment of the Macatawa Greenway Trail through Upper Macatawa Natural Area (UMNA) and improve the park access point on 84th Avenue. Continue to support the Michigan Edge Mountain Bike Association in completing a system of mountain bike trails at the UMNA.

Paw Paw Park: Enter into a long-term lease with the City of Holland for Paw Paw Park and begin to implement trail, signage, and other improvements to the property.

APPENDIX A

OTTAWA COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACES ACREAGE AND WATER FRONTAGE

As of December 31, 2014

Parks & Open Spaces	Acreage	Lake Michigan Frontage (feet)	Grand, Pigeon & Macatawa River Frontage (feet)	Bayou & Inland Lake Frontage (feet)
Grand River Greenway				
Connor Bayou	142	0	4,563	1,687
Crockery Creek Natural Area	334	0	2,640	0
Jubb Bayou (Open Space)	97	0	4,589	4,026
Riverside Park	95	0	6,737	0
Bur Oak Landing (Open Space)	263	0	7,392	5,267
Eastmanville Farm	229	0	1,365	0
Eastmanville Bayou (Open Space)	157	0	9,364	8,300
Deer Creek Park	2	0	530	0
Ripps Bayou (Open Space)	173	0	7,550	7,992
Kuits Bayou (Open Space)	80	0	6,191	2,650
Grand River Open Space	279	0	7,890	0
Grand River Ravines	187	0	2,640	0
Grand River Park	162	0	2,505	0
Bend Area (Open Space)	258	0	6,931	0
Georgetown East Property	6	0	422	0
Total Grand River Greenway	2,464	0	71,309	29,922
Pigeon River Greenway				
Hemlock Crossing/Pine Bend	239	0	7,920	0
Pigeon River Open Space	46	0	2,354	0
Pigeon Creek Park	282	0	3,200	0
Pigeon Creek Forest (Open Space)	130	0	0	0
Total Pigeon River Greenway	697	0	13,474	0
Macatawa River Greenway				
Macatawa Greenspace	122	0	4,815	0
Adams Street Landing	10	0	1,100	0
Hawthorn Pond Natural Area	40	0	1,792	0
Upper Macatawa Natural Area	612	0	13,100	0
Total Macatawa River Greenway	784	0	20,807	0
Lake Michigan Coastal Greenway				
North Ottawa Dunes	513	0	0	0
North Beach Park	7	745	0	0
Rosy Mound Natural Area	164	3,450	0	0
Kirk Park	68	1,850	0	0
Olive Shores	21	738	0	0
Tunnel Park	23	950	0	0
Historic Ottawa Beach Parks	58	756	0	2,560
Total Lake Michigan Coastal Greenway	854	8,489	0	2,560
General Parks, Open Spaces and Trails				
Musketawa Trail	N/A	0	0	0
Un-named Site - Wright Township	8	0	0	0
Grose Park	40	0	0	823
Marne Bog	83	0	0	0
Robinson Forest (Open Space)	80	0	0	0
Johnson Street Forest (Open Space)	50	0	0	0
Hiawatha Forest (Open Space)	365	0	0	0
Hager Park	104	0	0	0
Port Sheldon Natural Area (Open Space)	440	0	0	0
VanBuren Street Dunes (Open Space)	120	0	0	0
Spring Grove Park	16	0	0	0
Riley Trails	300	0	0	0
Total General Parks, Open Spaces and Trails	1,606	0	0	823
GRAND TOTAL	6,405	8,489	105,590	33,305
TOTAL MILES	1.6	19.7	6.3	



Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission

The Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission enhances quality of life for residents and visitors, by preserving parks and open spaces and providing resource-based recreation and education opportunities.



The activities and programs of the Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission are brought to you by the members of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners.

Joe Baumann, Chair

Greg DeJong, Vice Chair

Roger Bergman

Allen Dannenberg

Don Disselkoen

Matthew Fenske

Mike Haverdink

James Holtvluwer

Philip Kuyers

Dennis Van Dam

Stu Visser

