



7 Goals and Objectives



Holland Charter Township has developed the following goals and objectives for Parks and Recreation facilities and programs. These goals and objectives are based upon the recreation inventory and needs assessment, the Community Survey and direct input from citizens, elected and appointed Township officials and Township staff.

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The goals are long-range, broad in scope and flexible to accommodate future change. Objectives are the actions the Township intends to follow to achieve the stated goals. The objectives are specific and intended to direct program and development decisions to be made during the next five years. Goals and objectives are flexible enough to reflect changing attitudes and opportunities as may present themselves. Time and attitude changes can impact specific options. It is therefore essential for the Township to be responsive to its citizens and evolving needs.

GOAL 1. PROVIDE A BALANCED SYSTEM OF PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN THE TOWNSHIP WITH OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRAMS FOR RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES.

Objectives:

- Continue to maintain the high quality of existing parks.
- Acquire and develop land for parks to serve existing and future residents.





- Develop existing and recently acquired land to provide a variety of recreation facilities and opportunities throughout the Township.
- Plan and develop park areas to offer passive as well as active opportunities.
- Rehabilitate and improve existing park sites to meet and exceed all safety and accessibility regulations.
- Continue to provide quality programs that will allow recreation to be a fulfilling experience and promote healthy lifestyles.
- Ensure a variety of programming to provide opportunities for all residents, regardless of race, income, and ability.



GOAL 2. *EXPAND THE DIVERSITY OF RECREATION FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO OFFER YEAR-ROUND OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET CURRENT AND FUTURE DEMAND.*

Objectives:

- Develop a Community Recreation facility to provide a diversity of indoor activities and programs.
- Meet the demand for active sports facilities to support the Township’s recreational programming.
- Expand opportunities for winter recreation activities.





- Expand opportunities for passive recreation and un-programmed activities, such as picnic facilities, walking trails, fishing and wildlife viewing.

GOAL 3. NATURAL, SCENIC OR ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS FOR APPROPRIATE PUBLIC USE AND ENJOYMENT AND HABITAT PROTECTION.

Objectives:

**PRESERVE
PROTECT
ENHANCE**

- Protect the Lake Macatawa watershed through appropriate design and management techniques and controlled access to the waterfront.
- Promote access to Lake Macatawa, the Macatawa River and other water bodies for appropriate public recreation; including trails, fishing and canoeing.
- Protect and enhance the Township's floodplains and wetlands and provide trails to promote public access to natural habitats.
- Support the Macatawa Greenway partnership with their programs for protection and preservation.





GOAL 4. PROMOTE AND MAINTAIN STRONG WORKING RELATIONSHIPS BASED ON COORDINATION AND SUPPORT WITH THE SCHOOLS, SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES AND BODIES OF GOVERNMENT, AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ORGNIZATIONS.



Objectives:

- Work with, encourage and support all community, school system and municipal groups, organizations and agencies to promote and expand recreation opportunities and programs for all age groups in all areas of the Township in an efficient and coordinated manner.
- Work cooperatively with adjacent communities to provide joint facilities and connections between park systems.
- Mutually utilize recreation facilities and resources to minimize deficiencies.
- Encourage the expansion of private recreational development to supplement public development and programs.



GOAL 5. FOCUS ON PROGRAMS AND POLICIES FOR FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE PARK SYSTEM THROUGH CONTINUED ACQUISITION.



Objectives:



- Secure land for recreational use in areas of residential growth.
- Provide further waterfront access within the Township where possible.
- Strive to maintain and improve the quality and character of valuable natural resources for current and future generations through land acquisition.
- Acquire land adjacent to existing park properties to further increase the recreational facilities offered.

Connect parks, schools, and residential areas to non-motorized trails.

GOAL 6. STRIVE TO CONNECT RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO SCHOOLS, RESIDENTIAL AREAS AND TO ONE ANOTHER WITH NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS THAT PROVIDE SAFE, AND ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCES.

Objectives:



- Develop trail systems within existing park lands.
- Maintain and continue to expand existing bike path and sidewalk system.
- Construct additional bike path segments from existing system to all future acquisitions.



- Work with Ottawa County, the Cities of Holland and Zeeland, and neighboring Townships to add to and further develop the area's regional trail network.
- Work in partnership with the City of Holland to develop and construct a north/south non-motorized pathway and bridge connection from Windmill Island Gardens in the City, north across the Macatawa River to Scotts Drive or Roost Avenue in Holland Township.

