



3 Recreation Inventory



In order to determine the recreational needs for Holland Charter Township, an analysis of the existing facilities was undertaken. The intent of the analysis is to provide a clear evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the existing recreational opportunities the Township has to offer its citizens. The inventory is based on information provided by Township staff and site inspections carried out by M. C. Smith and Associates as part of the planning process.

Township Park Facilities

Holland Charter Township owns and maintains five (5) public parks on 332.5 acres of land. There are also several undeveloped green spaces in the Township's ownership. The Township properties can be classified as follows: two neighborhood parks, three community parks and two natural resource areas. This classification is adapted from "Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines," J. D. Mertes and J. R. Hall, 1995, as recommended by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. A more detailed description of these facilities follows.



An Existing Recreation Facilities map at the end of this section illustrates the location of public park/recreation areas, quasi public and private facilities within the Township, and an Existing Recreation Facilities matrix provides a summary of the facilities provided at each site. A Park Accessibility Assessment is also provided at the end of this section.

Neighborhood Parks

A neighborhood park is the basic unit of the park system and typically serves a residential area of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distance. A size of 5-10 acres is considered optimal for this type of park. The focus is on informal active and



passive recreational activities, such as field games, court games, playground equipment, and picnicking. Two of the Township's parks are considered to fit into this category.



Beechwood Park is a three and a half (3.5) acre neighborhood park located on the north side of Lake Macatawa. It includes play equipment, two (2) tennis courts, one (1) basketball court, ten (10) lighted shuffleboard courts, picnic facilities, and a parking area. There is also a small natural/woodland area and the Township's bike path system runs past the park. Significant improvements to Beechwood Park were completed in 2001.

Brookwood Park is a small neighborhood park located in the east central section. The park is only one (1) acre in size and provides a shelter building, picnic facilities, play equipment, and an open play field area. Its use, because of its small size and location in an established residential area, is limited to adjacent residents.



Community Parks

Community-wide parks serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks and provide a range of facilities and areas capable of supporting structured and unstructured community participation. These areas are typically between 30 and 50 acres in size and serve two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3 mile distance. Facilities may include wooded or natural areas, picnic shelters and grills, bike or hiking trails and other semi-active and passive uses for large groups of people. They may also contain specialized recreational facilities such as swimming pools, community centers and lighted ball diamonds. Community Parks should be serviced by arterial or connector streets and should be easily accessible from throughout their service area by interconnecting trails. There are three Township parks classified within this category.



Howard B. Dunton Park is the Township's only waterfront facility. Dunton has nearly twenty acres of scenic area on the northern shoreline of Lake Macatawa in a mixed residential, industrial and commercial. It has two play equipment areas, two modern restroom facilities, picnic facilities with four shelters, a beach area, over 2,000 linear feet of lakefront boardwalks, decks, fishing pier, marsh land and launch ramp, and associated parking for approximately 140 cars and trailers.



Quincy Park is in the northwest corner of the Township. The area is characterized by traditional residential neighborhoods to the south and a new residential/ golf course development to the north. It consists of 140 acres, approximately half of which is currently undeveloped. Existing park facilities include one major league baseball field, multipurpose athletic field, two (2) lighted softball diamonds, four (4) Little League fields, two (2) soccer fields, fence enclosed dog park, a modern restroom/concession building, (3) picnic shelters, playground equipment and parking. Substantial improvements were made to this park in 2012 and in 2013.

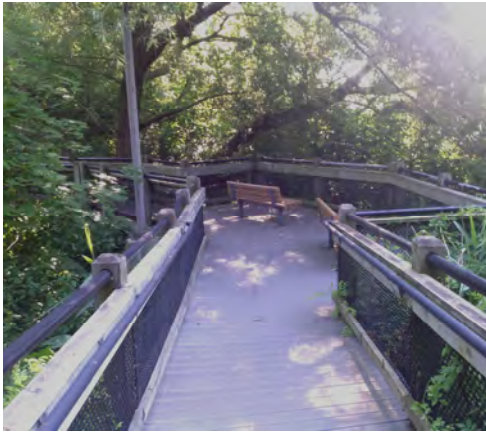


Helder Park is the largest of the Township Parks with 167 acres in the northeast section of the Township; an area exhibiting substantial residential growth. Sixty (60) of these acres were purchased in 2002 and are undeveloped at this time. The current park facilities include two (2) lighted softball fields, modern restroom and concession building, three (3) picnic shelters, four (4) lighted tennis courts, two (2) sand volleyball courts, a basketball court, five (8) lighted and irrigated soccer fields with bleachers, playground equipment, parking and woodland trails. The

site has a natural wooded area and a stream, as well as open fields. In 2012, improvements were made to the park including the addition of an access drive from Quincy Street with parking and a trailhead, walking trails, and a pedestrian bridge.



In 2005 the **Jim Kaat Baseball Park** was developed in the north of Helder Park with three (3) Little League fields, restroom/ concession building, playground, shade shelter, parking and linking walkways to the southern part of the park.



Natural Resource Areas

Natural resource areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, landscapes and open space. These sites are typically unsuitable for development but offer natural resource potential and can support recreational activities at a level that preserves the integrity of the sites environmental features. The location and size of these parks are largely governed by availability. The Township has two such facilities, both part of the **Macatawa Greenway Network**.

The Township owns a 19 acre parcel of wetland west of U.S. 31, on the south side of the Macatawa River. This is an important marshland habitat and adjoins an additional parcel of land owned and managed by the Wetland Foundation. It has potential for future development of the Macatawa Greenway trail.



Hawthorn Pond Natural Area, jointly owned with Ottawa County, is a forty (40) acre parcel in the south east corner of the Township, east of I-196. The land is located within the 100-year floodplain along the Macatawa River and includes a 5 to 6 acre borrow pit lake and large areas of woodland. Improvements added in 2011 include an asphalt entrance drive and 10 space parking lot; fishing deck; kayak launch; ½ mile path around the 5-acre pond; and two (2) fishing landings with benches.



Linear Parks and Pathway



Township Bike Paths

Holland Charter Township has developed approximately 68 miles of bike paths and sidewalks along many of its major roadways. These paths tie into those developed by the adjacent local governmental units of Holland and Zeeland cities and Park and Zeeland Townships. The paths allow residents the opportunity to travel to many of the regional recreational facilities along the coast of Lake Michigan, as well as simply to enjoy walking and biking in safety. Development of the system is continuing, with the addition of a pedestrian bridge on Adams Street over I-196 completed in 2011.

Macatawa Greenway

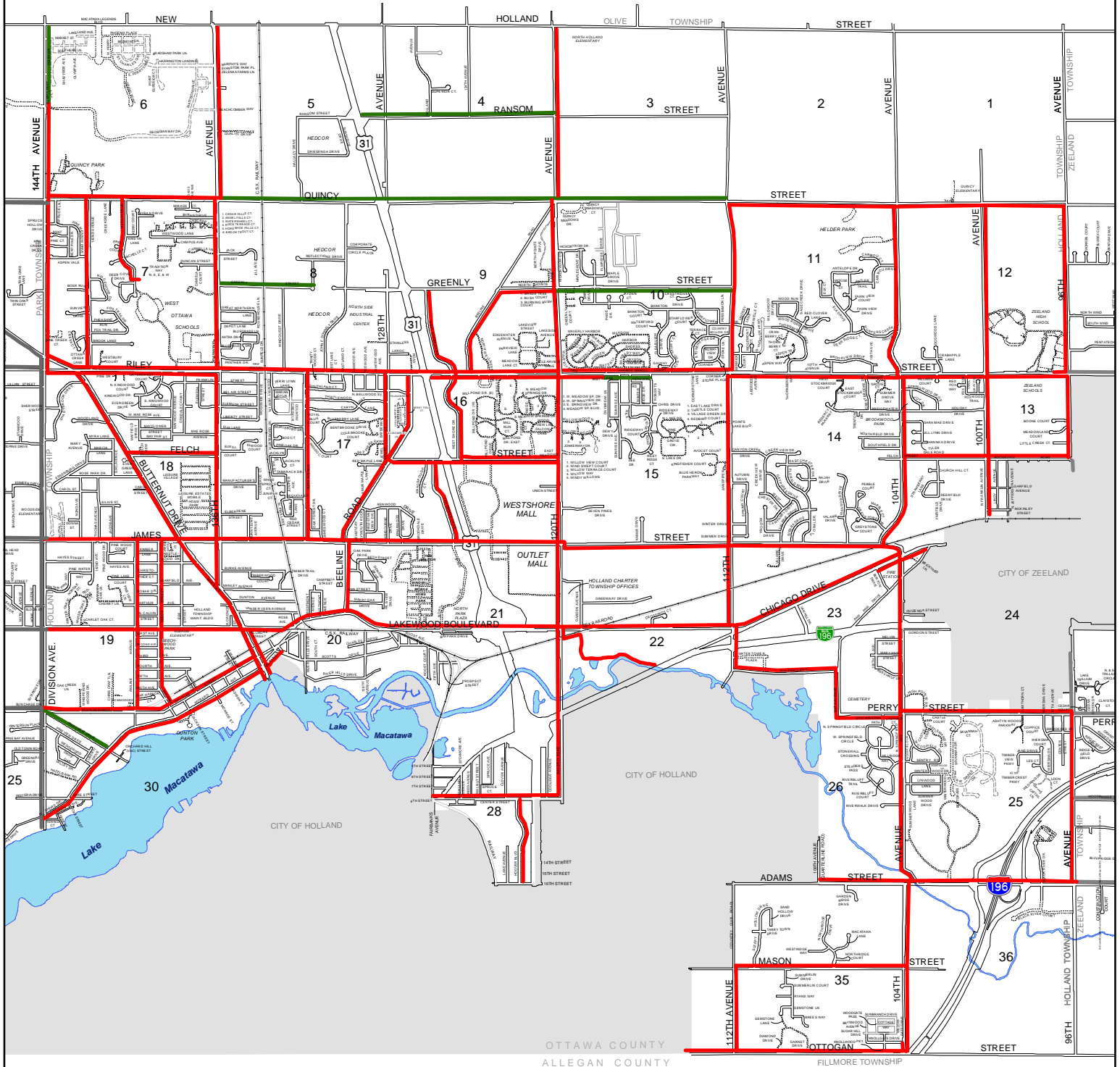
The Macatawa Greenway Partnership is a private nonprofit organization formed in 1995 whose mission statement is to “*preserve and connect open and green spaces, streams, and natural lands to create greenway corridors to benefit people and wildlife in the Holland/Zeeland area, developing recreational opportunities along these greenway corridors where appropriate*”. The partnership has developed a master plan (see Appendices) to construct a trail system along the Macatawa River from Windmill Island to the Paw Paw Park, and has plans to further extend the trail/park network in the area with the co-operation of local Townships, the City of Holland and Ottawa County Parks.






Holland Charter Township constructed a portion of the bike path/trail from Lakewood Boulevard along the north bank of the Macatawa River in 2003 and is highly supportive of efforts to further expand the system in the future.



Holland Charter Township Bike Path Master Map 2012



Legend

-  Existing Bike Path - Holland Township
-  Existing Bike Path - outside of jurisdiction
-  Future Bike Path - Holland Township



Map Updated: August 23, 2012
NOT TO SCALE



DNR Recreation Grant Inventory

Holland Charter Township has been fortunate to receive a total of sixteen grants through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources over the last 35 years. The grants assisted with acquisition and development of park property at Dunton, Helder and Quincy Parks.



The most recent grant funded projects include the expansion of facilities at Howard B. Dunton Park in 1997; including new parking area and entrance drive, site lighting, boardwalks and overlook decks, restroom and storage building, group picnic shelter, site furniture, fencing, shoreline riprap and landscaping. In 2000, the Helder Park Development project included many of the core park facilities, including; a new play area, group picnic shelter, restroom building, basketball court, 2 tennis courts, 2 sand volleyball courts, walkways and landscaping. In 2003, a substantial grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund resulted in the construction of four new Little League Fields with lighting and irrigation, new access drive and parking, restroom and concession building, walkways, site amenities and landscaping. In 2009, Helder Park Improvements included development of a new entrance drive and parking area, walking trails, wetland boardwalks, a pedestrian bridge and overlook deck, renovations of existing softball fields and a sidewalk to 104th Avenue. In 2012, Helder Park Improvements included an access drive from Quincy Street with 15 parking spaces, a trailhead, a connecting asphalt pathway system, and a bike/pedestrian bridge over Noordeloos Creek. The addition of a shade shelter and renovation of 2 existing softball fields were also included in the 2012 improvements. All of the above improvements are in good condition and are well used by the community.



An itemized Recreation Grant History is provided in the Appendices of this plan.



Accessibility Assessment

As part of the Recreation Inventory, M.C. Smith and Associates completed a review of the accessibility of each of the Township’s recreation facilities using the ranking system recommended by the Michigan DNR. The following table summarizes this assessment and improvements needed to bring the parks in line with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

School Facilities

Holland Charter Township is served by West Ottawa School District in the west and Zeeland School District in the east. West Ottawa Schools offer the following facilities within Holland Charter Township:

Harbor Lights Middle School occupies the former site of West Ottawa High School (now in Park Township) on 138 acres in the northwest area of the Township. There are seven (7) tennis courts, two (2) football fields, four (4) softball fields, two (2) baseball fields and four (4) practice soccer/football fields, as well as parking. The school has a gym, auditorium and indoor pool.



Macatawa Bay Middle School is a part of the Harbor Lights and Pine Creek Elementary site and provides two (2) softball diamonds, four (4) basketball courts, ten (10) tennis courts, three (3) soccer fields, play equipment and school parking.

Glerum Elementary School is in the southwest portion of the Township in a moderately dense residential area adjacent to Beechwood Park. The school has two (2) basketball courts, play equipment, an open, unimproved play area with soccer goals for general school use, and two (2) softball fields.

Park Accessibility Assessment

<u>PARK</u>	RANK	DESCRIPTION OF FACILITIES	RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS
Beechwood Park	4	Paved barrier-free parking and accessible walkways to all of the park's facilities are provided.	Bark mulch in the playground needs to be maintained at the bottom of the access ramp level.
Brookwood Park	3	Paved accessible walkway from street to shelter and playground. The single picnic table is not barrier-free and there are no on-site parking facilities.	Consider replacement or addition of accessible picnic table. Replacement of concrete needed in near future to overcome settlement at shelter.
H.B. Dunton Park	3	Barrier-free parking, walkways, restroom, picnic and fishing facilities are provided. Small playground has a limited amount of rubber tiles to a transfer station, but remainder of play area surfacing is sand and is not accessible.	Consider barrier-free access to the beach and accessible walkways to picnic tables and grills.
Helder Park	4	The majority of this park's facilities have been developed in recent years and meet or exceed accessibility standards. Facilities include a play structure with ramped access. Accessible walkways are provided to all of the parks facilities.	Ensure access path to older shelter is in accordance with ADA guidelines. Consider some pedestrian links to the nearby residential development.
Jim Kaat Baseball Park	4	This is a newer facility designed to meet and exceed ADA guidelines.	Maintenance of barrier-free surfacing in playground area.

Park Accessibility Assessment

PARK	RANK	DESCRIPTION OF FACILITIES	RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS
Quincy Park	3	The Little League Complex was developed in accordance with ADA guidelines. The softball fields have paved walkway access and bleacher areas. Picnic area south of softball fields has no accessible route or facilities. North soccer field bleacher is not accessible.	The park would benefit from the addition of paved pedestrian trails linking the parks facilities. Consider addition of new accessible picnic shelter, grills and picnic tables.
Hawthorn Pond Natural Area	4	Paved barrier-free parking, portable toilets and accessible walkways to all of the park's facilities are provided.	Any future development should be done in accordance with ADA guidelines.

The ranking system used is as follows:

- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design.

The recommended improvements are scheduled to be completed during the renovation of each specific park as outlined in the Action Program.



Pine Creek Elementary School is part of the Middle School complex and provides three (3) new softball fields, a recreational-size soccer field, an attractive play area, two (2) basketball courts, and a new gym.

North Holland Elementary School is on New Holland Road at the northern limit of the Township in an essentially rural area, on ten (10) acres of land. It provides for parking, play equipment, open field play with two (2) soccer fields, one (1) softball diamond, and two (2) basketball courts.

New Groningen Elementary School is located just west of the City of Zeeland city limits on Chicago Drive. It is a 12-acre site containing four (4) basketball courts, one (1) soccer field, two (2) little league ball fields, some play equipment and parking.

Creekside Middle School and Roosevelt Elementary School are located on a 70-acre parcel of land north of the City of Zeeland and on the eastern edge of the Township. This area also includes the football stadium complex with seating for 4,000, parking for 750 and restrooms. The stadium and school sites combined have eight (8) tennis courts, four (4) irrigated softball fields (one lit), eight (8) soccer fields, eight (8) basketball courts, and two (2) little league fields. The school sites also have nature trails and two (2) playgrounds. Indoor facilities consist of two (2) gyms at the Middle School.



Quincy Elementary School located on the north side of Quincy Street, east of Helder Park, opened in 2003. Facilities include three (3) basketball courts, one (1) softball field, one (1) soccer field, play equipment and an open play field on a 15 acre site.

Zeeland High Schools (East and West) provide two (2) softball fields, a track, twelve (12) tennis courts, three (3) baseball fields, one (1) basketball court, five (5) football fields, three (3) soccer fields and a range of indoor facilities. The high schools, which occupy a 75 acre site,



are also linked to the football stadium by an underpass at Riley Street.

The following parochial and charter schools are also located in the Township:

Rose Park Christian Elementary School is located adjacent to North Shores Middle School at the intersection of Butternut and James. This site is about five (5) acres in size and is nearly completely developed, with three (3) basketball courts, a softball field, four (4) soccer fields, four (4) tennis courts and play equipment.



Eagle Crest Charter Academy, in the center of the Township, has one (1) basketball court and one (1) soccer field and play equipment.

Corpus Christi Catholic Center and School, located on Quincy Street, has two (2) basketball courts, one (1) soccer field, one (1) softball field, and play equipment. In addition to the above mentioned facilities, all of the schools have multi-use gymnasiums, which provide many types of organized, as well as general, activities for both the school district and the residents of the Township. Play equipment for lower age group use is available at most school sites and ranges in terms of age and quality of play value provided.



Commercial / Private Facilities

Holland Charter Township has growing commercial enterprises offering a variety of local and regional recreational opportunities. Increased growth in the Township has stimulated this sector of the recreational market, creating a number of new businesses. It is anticipated that more growth in the commercial recreation area will continue over the next decade in response to demand.



Craig's Cruisers is a family fun center located at the intersection of Chicago Drive and 120th Avenue. Activities include go-karts, bumper boats, batting cages, game room, mini-golf and a private outdoor pavilion and picnic area.

Crazy Bounce, centrally located north of Westshore Mall, offers year-round fun with large indoor inflatables for open play or organized parties.

Drew's Country Camping offers 86 modern campsites, swimming pool, ballfield and playground in the north of the Township.

The Edge indoor ice rink is located on the north Township boundary and provides two (2) rinks, as well as a weight/cardio room.



Fitness Centers: there are currently five fitness centers located in the Township. Anytime Fitness, 977 Butternut Drive; Fitness Together Lakeshore, 3155 West Shore Drive; Planet Fitness, 12330 James Street; Snap Fitness, 12059 Felch Street, Girlfriends Gym, 2975 West Shore Drive.

Holland Fish and Game Club has 10 acres with facilities available for special events. It also offers programs such as Hunter's Safety, which are open to the public.

The Lost City is a family indoor entertainment center featuring laser tag and a games room and is located south of Westshore Mall.

Northland Lanes offers \pm 10 alleys and a Game Room in the southwest area.



Ridgepoint Community Church owns a large parcel of land bounded by Adams Street and 104th Avenue in the southeastern corner of the Township. The property, which borders the Macatawa River, is available for hiking and wildlife viewing on an informal basis.



The Soccer Stop, located in the southeastern area of the Township, offers indoor soccer facilities, baseball and softball batting cages, arcade area, meeting and party room as well as two (2) outdoor fields. It supports indoor and outdoor leagues for youth and adult soccer and other sports.

Sundae Sundae Golf Golf is available at the intersection of Lakewood and 120th Avenue.

Sportsquest is located just west of the Zeeland West High School complex.

Boys and Girls Club is located at the intersection of Riley Street and Butternut Drive. This facility provides indoor youth activities and programs.

Golf Courses

There is one golf course currently located within the Township limits.

Macatawa Legends Golf Course and Country Club is a recently completed private 18 hole championship course with clubhouse, practice range, putting greens, golf shop, tennis courts, outdoor family aquatic center and fitness center. It is located immediately north of Quincy Park and extends west across 144th Avenue into Park Township. Golf opportunities in the surrounding area are summarized as follows:

Crestview Golf Course (Open to Public) 18 holes
90th Avenue, Zeeland

Pheasant Run Golf Course (Public) 9 holes
Port Sheldon Street, Zeeland

Pigeon Creek (Public) 18 holes
10195 120th Avenue, West Olive





Rolling Meadows 9 holes golf course and condominium development 48th St., Holland

Winding Creek Golf Course (Public) 27 holes
8600 Ottagon Street, Holland

West Ottawa Golf Course (Public) 27 holes and practice range
6045 136th Avenue, Holland

Wuskowhan Players Club (Private) 18 holes
Blair Street, Port Sheldon Township.

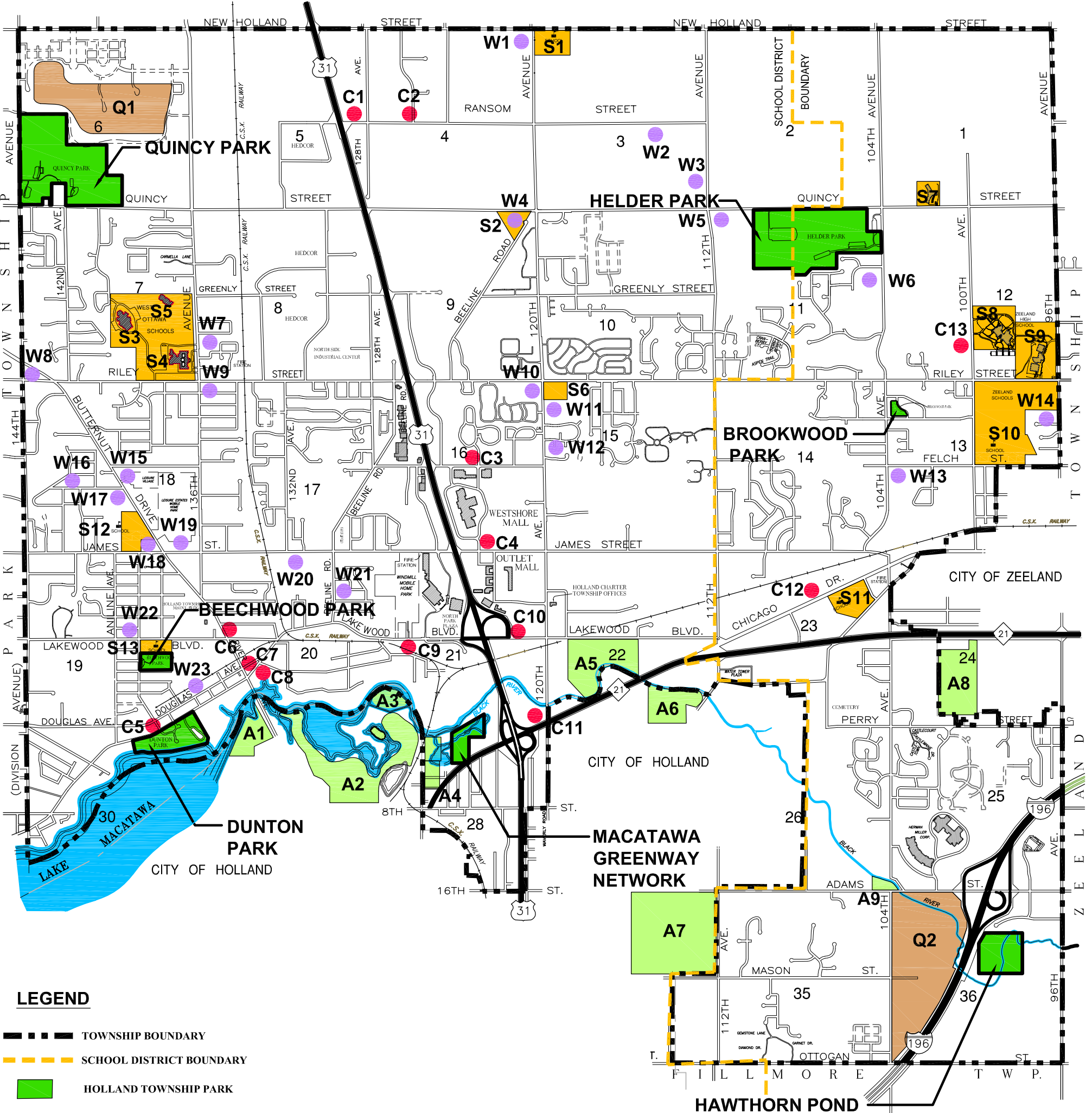
The following map and matrix illustrates the location and amenities available at the existing public, quasi-public and commercial recreation facilities in Holland Charter Township.

Adjacent Municipal and Township Facilities

Holland Charter Township is bordered to the north and east by several rural Townships, which have no recreational facilities of any size or special significance for neighborhood/community use.

To the south the City of Holland borders the Township and provides a range of facilities. The Matt Urban Sports Complex is available within the City limits along 32nd Street. This facility provides four (4) softball fields, one (1) soccer field, basketball, sand volleyball, play areas, and parking. There is also a special-use facility, VanRaalte Farm, located off Adam's street just beyond the Township boundary. This is a historical/educational exhibit with running and cross-country ski trails. Paw Paw Park is a natural area located along the south banks of the Macatawa River, with hiking trails, picnic facilities, fishing and kayak access. Window-on-the-Waterfront provides a linear walkway along the south banks of the Macatawa River





LEGEND

- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY**
- SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARY**
- HOLLAND TOWNSHIP PARK**
- ADJACENT PARK FACILITY**

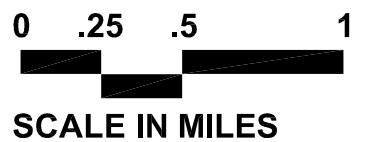
- A1. VANBRAGT PARK - CITY OF HOLLAND
- A2. WINDOW-ON-THE-WATERFRONT - CITY OF HOLLAND
- A3. WINDMILL ISLAND - CITY OF HOLLAND
- A4. MACATAWA GREENWAY - MACATAWA GREENWAY
- A5. MACATAWA GREENWAY - MACATAWA GREENWAY
- A6. PAW PAW PARK - CITY OF HOLLAND
- A7. VAN RAALTE FARM - CITY OF HOLLAND
- A8. HUIZENGA PARK - CITY OF ZEELAND
- A9. ADAMS STREET LANDING - OTTAWA COUNTY

- QUASI-PUBLIC FACILITY**
- Q1. MACATAWA LEGENDS GOLF COURSE
- Q2. RIDGEPPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH

- PLACES OF WORSHIP**
- W1. NORTH HOLLAND REFORMED CHURCH
- W2. VICTORY POINT MINISTRIES
- W3. NOORDELOOS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
- W4. NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP
- W5. GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
- W6. FIRST PROTESTANT REFORMED CHURCH
- W7. HARVESTIME FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL
- W8. IGLESIA ALAS DE AGUILA
- W9. CROSSWINDS COMMUNITY CHURCH
- W10. CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
- W11. WESTSHORE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
- W12. JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES KINGDOM HALL
- W13. COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH
- W14. ZEELAND FREE METHODIST CHURCH
- W15. LAKESHORE CHURCH OF CHRIST
- W16. ROSE PARK REFORMED CHURCH
- W17. ROSE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH
- W18. PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
- W19. HISPANIC HOPE MINISTRY
- W20. CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
- W21. HOLLAND CHURCH OF CHRIST
- W22. CALVIN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
- W23. REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

- COMMERCIAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITY**
- C1. DREWS COUNTRY CAMPGROUND
- C2. EDGE ICE ARENA
- C3. CRAZY BOUNCE
- C4. THE LOST CITY
- C5. AMERICAN TACKLE
- C6. NORTHLAND LANES
- C7. ULTIMATE FITNESS
- C8. THE SOCCER STOP
- C9. FAMILY FITNESS
- C10. SUNDAE MINI-GOLF
- C11. CRAIGS CRUISERS
- C12. HOLLAND FISH AND GAME CLUB
- C13. DEWITT INDOOR FACILITY

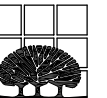
Base Map prepared by:
Prein & Newhof
 Engineers • Surveyors • Environmental • Laboratory
 Holland Michigan



EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES

HOLLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP
 2014 COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

M.C. SMITH ASSOCIATES AND ARCHITECTURAL GROUP, INC.
 Landscape Architecture • Park & Recreation Planning • Architecture
 Downtown Planning • Interior Design • Sports Facility Planning
 529 Greenwood Avenue S.E. • East Grand Rapids, MI 49506
 616-451-3346 • FAX: 616-451-1955 • EMAIL: la@mcsmagroup.com





Another significant neighboring recreational facility is Huizenga Park in Section 24, within the City of Zeeland limits. This 27-acre park contains several ball fields, parking, picnicking, play areas and a new skate park.



Wendt Park, near the central eastern border of Park Township, covers approximately 17 acres and offers a basketball court, softball field, tennis courts, soccer field, picnic area, playground, and fitness course. This park is used for some of the Holland & Park Township Recreation Programs.

County Regional Facilities

There are a number of county and regional facilities and public lands that provide for the recreation needs of Holland Charter Township residents. The Ottawa County

Parks and Recreation Commission manages the following facilities within a ten-mile radius of the Township.



Adams Street Landing is a recently developed property in the south of Holland Charter Township providing parking area and a river access point for anglers and kayakers to the Macatawa River. The site is envisioned as a staging area for bicyclists riding the future greenway trail.

Spring Grove Park has 16 acres in Jamestown Township that offers picnic facilities, including a fully enclosed Picnic Building, a flowing spring and small natural area, and a trellis constructed in 2000 designed for outdoor weddings and other ceremonies.



Pigeon Creek Park is 282 acres with another 150 adjacent acres of County Open Space land, located in Olive Township. It has over 10 miles of trails through woodland and along the Pigeon River for hiking, biking and equestrian use. There is also a group camp area available for use by recognized organizations. During the winter, this park is a popular cross-country ski destination and a sledding hill is also provided. Three miles of ski trails and the sledding hill have lights for night use. The Pigeon Creek Lodge provides ski rental, a food and beverage concession and serves as a warming house (open limited hours).

Kirk Park consists of 68 acres of sandy beach, high bluffs and wooded dunes on the Lake Michigan shoreline in Grand Haven Township. This park offers a reservable lodge and picnic shelter, swimming beach, limited play equipment and natural trails with a lake overlook deck.



Tunnel Park is a 22 acre park also situated on the shores of Lake Michigan, in Park Township. In addition to the unique tunnel through a dune, this park has a children's playground complete with a dune climb and a dune stairway with scenic views of Lake Michigan, as well as swimming and picnicking opportunities.

Hemlock Crossings/Pine Bend is 239 acres of woods and wetlands along the Pigeon River in Port Sheldon Township just west of US 31. Facilities include two small picnic shelters, a kayak/canoe launch, over a mile of paved trail and over 6 miles of trails for hiking and cross country skiing. A pedestrian bridge and numerous overlooks offer scenic views of the river corridor, wetlands, natural springs and woods. Pine Bend is a secondary access on the west end of the property that offers parking and a trailhead. Future plans include the development of a Nature Center at this site.



The Upper Macatawa Conservation Area, located in Zeeland Township, includes 576 acres along the Macatawa River. The site offers passive recreation opportunities while recognizing the value of the site for water quality improvement, flood water storage and wildlife habitat enhancement. Recent improvements include parking areas on 84th and 76th Avenues as well as the development of footbridges, picnic areas and overlooks. Trails for hiking and cross-country skiing, including a section of paved trail that will be part of the future Macatawa Greenway trail system is also complete. In addition, there are two State Parks in the region, offering additional recreation opportunities and facilities for Holland Charter Township residents.

Holland State Park is located eight miles west of Holland. It offers an expansive, sandy beach along Lake Michigan and two large modern campgrounds with 342 sites. The park is divided into two separate units; one along Lake Michigan and the other along Lake Macatawa. A day-use area has picnic facilities, playground equipment, a toilet building, and a beach shelter and concession. The beach day use area of the park is open all year round.



Saugatuck Dunes State Park is a day-use park along Lake Michigan, offering 1,000 acres of land with two and one half miles of shoreline. In addition, the park has fresh water coastal dunes that are over 200' tall. The park's terrain varies from steep slopes to rolling hills. The park, located in Allegan County, is relatively undeveloped, with a picnic area, swimming beach and hiking trails. In the winter there are 13 miles of un-groomed trails for cross-country skiers. Other State Land in the vicinity includes the **Allegan State Game Area**, which is located within 10-20 miles of the Township. This covers 50,000 acres of public land; providing hunting, fishing, rustic and group camping, hiking, equestrian, snow-mobile and cross-country ski trails.



The surrounding urban areas of Holland, Grand Rapids and Grand Haven, also offer significant regional facilities to area residents.

Recreational Programming

Holland Charter Township has a full-time Recreation Director who is responsible for development of recreation programs and use of recreation facilities. Many of the recreational programs are jointly sponsored with Park Township and West Ottawa School District.



The programs are held primarily at existing Holland Township parks and Winstrom Park in Park Township. Many of the indoor programs, clinics and classes, especially swimming, basketball, volleyball and gymnastics are housed at the West Ottawa Schools. Private venues are also used for some of the classes, including gymnastics, karate, and archery.

Following is a summary of the programs coordinated by Holland Township, including participation numbers. Additional programs offered to residents, but administered by Park Township include, tennis, soccer, golf, gymnastics, jazz dance and nature trails.



In addition to the regular programs, the Township co-hosts a number of annual events. Most notable is the Hershey Track & Field Meet which attracts approximately 75-200 children from the greater Holland/Zeeland area as well as Michigan ASA Adult Slow Pitch Softball tournament play including state qualifiers and championships featuring teams from all over the state.

The School Districts offer leisure time/community education programming, as well as jointly sponsoring the recreation programs with Holland Charter Township. It is expected this joint recreational programming will continue into the future, as it makes the most effective use of available facilities.

Program Listing for Holland Township Recreation

Program/Team #'s

Adult Basketball	Dropped
Adult Slow Pitch Softball - Summer & Fall	30+ teams, 400+ participants
Adult Volleyball	20 teams, 150+ participants
ATV Safety	When offered, limited to 20
Boaters Safety	2 Classes, limited to 50 total students
Boys & Girls Tball	Approximately 140 participants
Boys Coach Pitch Baseball	Approximately 180 participants
Boys Middle School Rugby	14 participants
Daddy Daughter Dance	Approximately 100 participants
Easter Egg Hunt	Approximately 300 participants
Elementary School Dance	25 participants
Girls Coach Pitch Softball	Approximately 90 participants
Girls Middle School Fast Pitch Softball	14 players
Girls Little Panthers Basketball	Approximately 170 participants
Hershey Track and Field	Approximately 75 participants
Hunter Safety	4 Classes, Limited to 20 per class
Introduction to Basketball	3 Classes, Approximately 50+ participants
Little League Baseball	Approximately 320+ participants
Little League Softball	24 participants
Little Sluggers	13 participants
Middle School Dance	13 participants
Panther Cubs Volleyball	Dropped, new program pending
Punt Pass & Kick	Approximately 30 participants
Rocket Cheerleading	Approximately 90 participants
Rocket Football	Approximately 200+ participants
Snowmobile Safety	1 Class limited to 20 participants
Tiny Tacklers	Pending
WO WE Volleyball	Dropped, new program pending
Youth Flag Football	54 participants
Rentals	
Travel Team Soccer	Pending
MI ASA Softball Tournaments	54 teams, approximately 700 participants
MRPA Basketball/Volleyball Championships	28 teams, approximately 300 participants
Lakeshore Storm Girls Fast Pitch	40 teams, approximately 500 participants
USSSA Baseball	1 tournament, 8 teams, about 100 participants
Possible Additions	
Middle School Volleyball	Pending
Boys Little Panthers Basketball	Pending