



Unadilla Township

Livingston County, Michigan

Parks & Recreation Master Plan



2024 - 2028

Adopted October 12, 2023

Assisted by:



www.cwaplan.com

Acknowledgments

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- Linda Topping, Clerk
- Julie Weiland, Treasurer
- Sue Cox, Trustee
- Lori Cowan, Trustee

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- Richard Green, Co-chair
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Chapter 1: Executive Summary

The Unadilla Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan articulates a vision for parks and recreation in the community. The purpose of this Plan is to guide recreation planning and development efforts of Unadilla Township over the next five years. Once adopted, the Plan is the official document to be used by the community to guide decisions regarding parks and recreation.

Unadilla's first recreation plan was adopted in 2004 and most recently updated in 2017. This iteration of the Recreation Plan was originally intended to be submitted to the DNR in 2021. Unfortunately, an administrative error delayed the process, and the plan was not submitted by the February deadline. The Township opted to complete the planning process in 2023, completing the necessary steps which would allow submittal in 2024. As a result, the plan is now valid through 2028.

The Township has become a key partner in developing and maintaining the Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail, and continues to seek opportunities to provide outstanding recreation options for her residents. This plan update highlights ongoing recreation efforts in the community. It meets state standards for community recreation planning that are necessary to gain eligibility for grant programs.

Key Plan Findings

Unadilla Township residents are invested and enthusiastic about their parks. Their recreation needs are well served by a combination of their local facilities and regional recreation resources. The Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail is of prime importance to residents, and is heavily utilized throughout the year. There is a desire to see additional development both in terms of upgrading existing amenities as well as development of new recreation opportunities.

Since 2021, several projects have been completed. At Township Hall Park, the swings have been replaced with new seats and an accessible child swing, and an accessible picnic table was added. At Unadilla Park, a bench seat for the playground area was installed, annual plants added under the park signs, and the portable toilet removed due to vandalism issues. Perhaps the most noticeable project involved adding a 5.5-foot wide asphalt lane on the Lakelands Trail between Main Street and Van Syckle Road, improving accessibility while retaining a gravel lane for equestrian use.

Top priorities for future projects include maintenance of existing properties, preservation of natural resources, and continued/improved access to trails and pathways.

What The Plan Contains

The Unadilla Township Parks & Recreation Master Plan follows the format suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans (2009, rev. 2018). While the order of the chapters in this plan are different than in previous years, the required elements are in place.

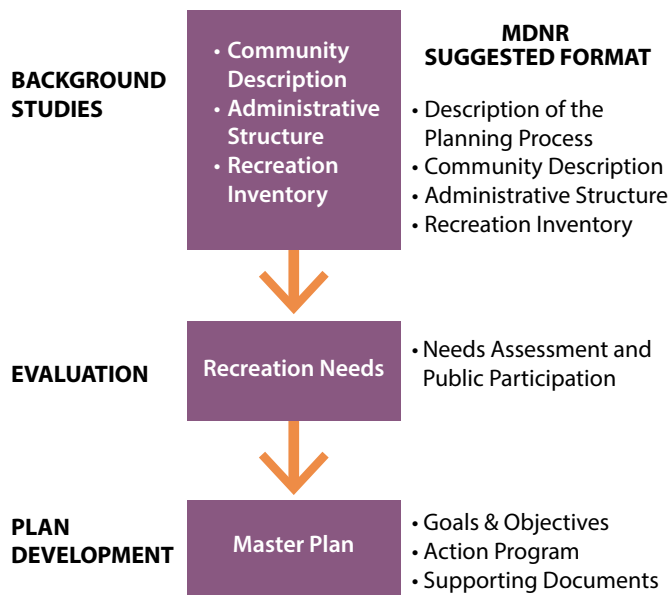
- This plan begins with Unadilla Township's **Goals and Objectives** which outline the overarching desires for Unadilla's parks, recreation facilities, and programs.
- The **Action Program** chapter outlines an action plan and strategies for implementation.
- The **Public Participation** portion of the plan presents the input received from local officials, staff, and residents. This information helped in formulating the Goals & Objectives and Action Plans.
- **Recreation Inventory** describes the existing parks and recreational facilities of the community as well as those of the state and the region located nearby.
- The **Administrative Structure** chapter includes a description of how parks and recreation services are administered in Unadilla Township, including budget and funding information.
- The **Community Description** chapter provides a summary of both the social and physical characteristics of the community.
- Finally, supporting documents including the resolutions and notices documenting the plan's adoption by Township Board, are included in the appendices to the plan.

Planning Process

The process used to draft the Plan consists of three phases: background studies, evaluation, and plan development. Each is described more fully below:

- Background Studies.** This phase involved gathering and updating data from the U.S. Census, existing documents and plans, and from field observations. The data is organized into three main categories: *community description*, *administrative structure*, and *recreation inventory*.
- Evaluation.** The second phase in the planning process evaluated and analyzed the data compiled to determine recreation facility deficiencies and needs. Public input to assess recreational needs was also sought at this level. A written survey and a public hearing were conducted to receive residents’ opinions and ideas for the park and recreation system. Input from Township officials and members of the Trails and Recreation Committee were also used.
- Plan Development.** The last phase in the process involves Plan development and adoption. Based on the deficiencies and needs, goals and objectives were formulated and a specific action plan developed. Strategies to implement the Plan were also discussed.

The following diagram illustrates the planning process and how it corresponds to the MDNR suggested format described earlier:



Unadilla Township recognizes the importance of public participation in the recreation planning process. This Master plan was developed with input from Township officials, staff, community stakeholders, and residents. The Township conducted an online survey from July 9 to August 27, 2021 as part of the original planning activities. The Plan was approved for public review by the Master Plan Steering Committee on September 27, 2021. Finally, the Plan was subject to a public hearing on November 11, 2021 following the 30-day public comment period, and prior to the Township Board adoption on December 9, 2021.

A clerical error prevented proper submittal of the plan to the DNR at that time, however, and the Township decided to re-open the process in 2023. Rather than re-run the survey, the Steering Committee held a public input session (see page 15). The plan was again released for a 30-day review period beginning on August 16, 2023, and a Public Hearing held on October 12, 2023, after which the plan was officially adopted.

Table 1. Input Participation

Participants	Rec. Inventory, Resource Inventory, & Community Description	Public Input	Goal Formulation	Action Program	Public Hearing	Plan Adoption
Township Board		√			√	√
Recreation Plan Steering Committee	√	√	√	√	√	
Township Residents		√	√		√	

Chapter 2: Goals & Objectives

The Unadilla Township Recreation Committee has formulated the following goals and objectives for the next five-year planning period. The goals and objectives are broad enough to encompass the needs expressed from the public and from Township officials and the observed deficiencies in the recreation resources of the area. They also consider demographics, current growth and forecasted development, the area's physical resources and recreation trends.

GOALS

Unadilla Township should provide outdoor recreational opportunities for persons of all ages and all abilities that are well-maintained and safe.

Unadilla Township should consider the future needs of the community and take actions to dedicate parkland in order to meet future recreational needs of the community.

OBJECTIVES

1. Improve the Lakelands Trail

The Lakelands Trail is a great asset to the community and its continued improvement is recognized as a priority for the community. Resurfacing of the trail with crushed limestone and smaller improvements such as the addition of benches near the trailhead and along the trail itself are projects the Township would like to pursue.

2. Improve Existing Park Facilities

In keeping with the goal of making park facilities accessible for persons of all ages and abilities, barrier-free paths to playground structures should be incorporated at Unadilla Township Community Park and the Unadilla Township Office Playground. Other amenities such as benches are also priorities.

3. Acquire and develop new recreation facilities

Potential land acquisition and parkland dedication should focus on preserving and protecting high quality natural areas, local rural, historic and educational opportunities as well as providing open space for active recreation use and community gathering. Of particular interest for the community is the potential acquisition of the old schoolhouse on Barnum Road for use as a community center.

Coordination with the Township Board and Planning Commission will be necessary to preserve open space and dedicate parkland in new developments.

4. Administration, finance and funding

Unadilla Township recreation resources are owned and operated by a variety of public and private entities such as the state, Stockbridge Community Schools, Unadilla Township, land conservancies and others. Coordination between and among the various entities maximizes the community's recreation potential. Recent park and trail improvements have been covered by a combination of disbursements from the Township's general fund and a variety of grant funding and other donations. The Township must continue efforts to generate revenues through grants and fundraising to provide necessary capital for improvement projects and parkland acquisition.

Chapter 3: Action Program

The action program details the manner in which the goals and objectives will be met. It includes a list of specific projects as well as a schedule with suggested capital improvement projects, time frame and strategies for implementation.

ACTION PLAN

The following outlines the list of specific projects and actions which are recommended for the next five years. A preliminary non-motorized pathway plan showing the proposed improvements is also included on Figure 13.

1. Maintain and Improve the Lakelands Trail

Maintaining and improving the Lakelands Trail is a high priority for the community. Improvements will best be accomplished through coordination with the MDNR and the Friends of the Lakelands Trail. Proposed improvements recommended include:

- Construction of a parking area at the intersection of Barton Road and M-36 including spaces for up to four cars, a simple identification sign, and brown “trail parking ahead” signs on M-36;
- Provision of safe crossings, installation of signs and maps, bollards, and pedestrian amenities such as additional benches and dog waste facilities where possible along the trail; and
- Development of a geographically linked discovery application, developed in coordination with existing heritage projects, which would highlight significant natural and historical features on the trails, at the Township’s parks, and at other important locations around the Township.

Justification: This action is a significant need identified at the public meeting and responds to national and regional trends.

2. Improve Unadilla Township Community Park

As the Township’s flagship park, Unadilla Community Park remains a priority for future park improvements. The proposed improvements include:

- Acquisition and restoration of the schoolhouse on Barnum Road;
- Construction of a small parking area at the schoolhouse site;
- Expansion of the walking path to meet the new play equipment and shorten the distance between the pavilion and the path;
- Add fire-resistant surfacing under grills; and
- Consider addition of additional facilities such as horseshoe pits or shuffleball courts, and gathering spaces including temporary stages for public events.

Justification: These items were identified at the public meeting and respond to observed deficiencies as well as environmental and social trends identified in the previous section.

3. Improve Unadilla Township Office Playground

The playground represents one of the few play opportunities for families within a short walking distance of downtown Gregory. As with the other Township properties, the playground should be developed in a manner which makes it as inclusive as possible. Possible improvements include:

- Provide barrier-free access to playground amenities; and
- Continue to update equipment with structures designed to be inclusive.
- Add shade trees
- Add small gazebo / picnic structure

Justification: These items were identified at the public meeting and respond to observed deficiencies.

4. Acquire and dedicate parkland

Future parkland acquisition and dedication is an important action the Township should consider as opportunities arise. Desired parkland should focus on providing active recreation use and preserving local rural, historic and educational opportunities. Desired properties would include enough room for a variety of active and passive recreation uses such as sports fields, specialized recreational uses, walking paths and picnic areas. Properties contiguous to existing parks and open spaces are also desirable.

Example of a specialized recreation use may include a working farm with cultivated fields and livestock which would protect Unadilla's agricultural heritage and provide educational opportunities. Properties with natural features providing habitat preservation and nature related activities would also be desirable. Land acquisition which would provide areas for active recreation uses is also desirable for Unadilla.

It will be important to work with the Township Board and the Planning Commission to ensure parkland needs are considered in the review of new developments and to encourage or develop regulations for developers to set aside land for park facilities. It will also be important to work with Livingston County, area land conservancies, and other organizations.

Justification: This action responds to trends related to the demographic and physical characteristics of the area.

5. Administration, finance and maintenance

Facilitate communication and partnerships to promote the shared use of the area's parks and recreation resources including the state, schools, land conservancies and private recreation providers as well as the Township facilities by community groups. A means of generating operational costs and revenues where possible should be pursued to support the improvement projects mentioned above and to maintain the existing park facilities to a high quality standard. Seeking grants and support must be done aggressively. The Unadilla Township Recreation Committee must continue to promote and advocate the social, economic and environmental value and benefits of parks and recreation by reaching out to the community and the region.

The Township Recreation Committee could develop and organize an after school program at the Township Hall and community events could take place at the Unadilla Community Park such as a movie night, concerts in the park, and a farmers market.

Justification: This action is recommended to implement the current master plan.

Project Schedule

Table 2 lists individual projects along with specific tasks to be accomplished, the objective the task refers to, a rough cost estimate, and potential funding sources. In addition, the projects are listed with a time frame for completion. Short-term (ST) projects are recommended for completion within one to two years while long-term (LT) projects may take longer to be completed, within five to six years. Mid term (MT) projects fall in between, from two to four years.

Table 2. Improvement Schedule

Description	Cost Estimate	Funding Source*	Time Frame
Lakelands Trail			
Apply for grants and conduct fundraising for trail improvements.	-	-	OG
Build a parking area near the intersection of Barton and M-36 including parking and signage.	\$15,000 - \$20,000	GF, G, D, V	LT
Install historical markers or interpretive signage to highlight significant natural features along the trail	\$200 - 500/ sign; total to be determined	GF, G, D, V	MT
Develop safe crossings, signs and maps, bollards, and other trail amenities	varies	GF, G, D	ST
Purchase ADA accessible picnic tables	\$900/table	GF, G, D	ST
Install dedication rock at Gregory trailhead	\$600	GF, V	ST
Unadilla Township Community Park			
Apply for grants and conduct fundraising for park improvements	-	-	OG
Develop parking area on schoolhouse site	To be determined	GF, G, D	LT
Expand walkway to meet with playground structure and connect pavilion to north path	\$3,000 - \$6,000	GF, G, D	ST
Add fire-resistant surfacing under grills	\$500	GF, G, D	ST
Develop mixed-use horseshoe pits or shuffleball court	\$1,000 - \$4,000	GF, G, D	LT
Unadilla Township Hall Playground			
Apply for grants and conduct fundraising for playground improvements	-	GF, D, V	OG
Develop a 5-foot wide barrier-free pathway with connection to playground structures - Phase 1 ~120 linear feet	\$9,000	GF, G, D, V	ST
Develop a 5-foot wide barrier-free pathway loop with connection to playground structures - Phase 2 ~320 linear feet	\$19,000	GF, G, D, V	LT
Purchase accessible swing units for inclusion on existing swingsets	\$600	GF, G, D	ST
Add shade trees	\$3,500	GF, G, D, V	MT
Add small gazebo / picnic area	\$20,000	GF, G, D, V	LT
Upgrade aging play structures with handicap accessible equipment as funds come available	To be determined	GF, G, D	LT

GF = General Fund, G = Grant, D = Donation, V = Volunteer

OG = Ongoing, ST = Short Term, MT = Medium Term, LT = Long Term

Table 2. (continued) Improvement Schedule

Description	Cost Estimate	Funding Source*	Time Frame
Parkland Acquisition			
Consider parkland acquisition to provide active recreation use and rural, historic, and educational opportunities	-	GF, G, D, V	OG
Work with the Township Board and Planning Commission to review development proposals and encourage developers to set aside open space, parkland, and trails	-	-	OG
Seek partnerships with the State of Michigan, Livingston County, area land conservancies, and others for parkland acquisition, development, and management	-	-	OG
Administration, Finance, and Maintenance			
Create a committee to meet with MDNR, Livingston County, Stockbridge Community Schools, land conservancies, and local groups to consider opportunities for shared services and facilities.	-	V	OG
Identify fund raising opportunities and potential grant seeking opportunities as an on-going task	-	V	OG
Maintain and develop volunteer opportunities	-	V	OG
Attract sponsors and donations for installing benches, trash receptacles, mile markers and signs in the park or along the Lakelands Trail	-	GF, G, D, V	OG
Develop a smartphone application that allows users to retrieve information on sites and amenities along Lakelands Trail or in Township parks	To be determined	GF, G, D, V	ST
Develop a walking club, an after school program at the Township Hall and community events such as a movie night, concerts in the park, and a farmers market at the Unadilla Community Park	To be determined	GF, D, V	ST
Continuously advocate and promote parks and recreation to the community	-	GF, V	OG

GF = General Fund, G = Grant, D = Donation, V = Volunteer

OG = Ongoing, ST = Short Term, MT = Medium Term, LT = Long Term

Implementation Strategies

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. The current budget provides only a limited amount of funds for park development and improvements. The amount is well short of the projected expenses involved in the project schedule. Therefore, the following strategies are recommended to proceed as planned.

Apply for Federal Funding

At the federal level, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) funds **Transportation Enhancements (TE)** activities for community-based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the transportation infrastructure. To be eligible, a project must fall into one of the TE activities. Activities which may apply to the Township include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles such as walkways, curb ramps, bike parking, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges and underpasses;
- Educational programs for pedestrians and bicyclists designed to encourage walking and bicycling by providing potential users with education and safety instruction through classes, pamphlets, and signage; and
- Preservation, conversion, and use of abandoned railway corridors for acquisition, development, planning, design, and construction of multi-use trails, as well as purchasing unused railroad property for reuse.

A minimum 20 percent local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis.

Apply for State Funding

At the state level, the **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** and the **Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)** continue to be the primary funding sources for parkland acquisition and development.

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase and development of parkland for natural resource based preservation and recreation. Goals of the program are to:

- Protect natural resources and provide for their access, public use and enjoyment;
- Provide public access to Michigan’s water bodies, particularly the Great Lakes and facilitate their recreation use;

- Meet regional, county and community needs for outdoor recreation opportunities;
- Improve the opportunities for outdoor recreation in urban areas; and
- Stimulate Michigan’s economy through recreation related tourism and community revitalization.

Grant proposals must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the minimum funding request is \$15,000 and the maximum is \$300,000. Applications are due in April and August for acquisition projects and April (only) for development projects.

The LWCF is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, who distributes funds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program has been on trailway systems and other community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields and walking paths. Minimum grant requests are \$30,000 and maximum grant requests are \$500,000. The match percentage must be 50 percent of the total project cost. Applications are accepted throughout the year, but must be in by April 1 to be considered for the following years grant funds.

The **Recreation Passport** grant program offers funding for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Minimum grant requests are \$7,500 and maximum requests are \$150,000. The local match obligation is 25 percent of the total project cost. Application are due on April 1st.

Local units of government may use the Forest Stewardship program to develop a management plan for a municipal forest which would include a component targeting outreach to private landowners. A total of \$2,000 may be granted with a 50 percent local match. Applications are due in September. Non-game Wildlife Fund Grants have also been offered in the past to identify, protect, manage, and restore native plant and animal species, natural communities, and other natural features.

Apply for Other Grant Funding

While Detroit Edison only serves a portion of the Township, the ***Detroit Edison Tree Planting program*** may be a source of funding. The Program began as DTE joined the US Department of Energy's voluntary Climate Challenge Program to address greenhouse gas emissions. Cost-share funds are available to municipalities in the Detroit Edison's service area on a competitive basis for tree planting projects. A total of up to \$4,000 may be granted to eligible tree planting projects on public and school property with a 50 percent local match. Applications are typically due in February.

Similarly, the ***Consumers Energy Foundation Tree Planting funds*** are available to local units of government within the service territory of Consumers Energy for tree planting projects on lands open to the public. A total of up to \$2,500 may be awarded to a single municipality per calendar year.

Non-game Wildlife Fund Grants have also been offered in the past to identify, protect, manage and restore native plant and animal species, natural communities and other natural features.

There are also a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways/pathways or greenway-related facilities such as ***Bikes Belong Coalition***. The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds projects in three categories: Facility, Education and Capacity Building. Requests for funding can be up to \$10,000 for projects such as bike paths, trails, lanes, parking, and safe routes to school. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Access to Recreation is a grant program available for universal access of people of all abilities to a wide variety of recreation opportunities, such as nature viewing and photography areas, hiking trails, scenic outlooks, waterfalls and water activities of all kinds, beaches, fishing and boating, playgrounds, picnic areas, campgrounds, and much more. There are two primary grant programs under this source of funding:

- ***Recreation Access Matching Grant*** provides up to 50 percent matching funds (up to \$10,000) for the purchase of universally accessible recreation equipment and materials such as all terrain hiking wheelchairs, pool lifts, accessible playground surface, transfer systems, beach access mats, trail surface enhancements, and accessible picnic tables that enhance recreation participation by people with disabilities; and
- ***Accessible by Design Awards*** is designed to stimulate the development of creative universally designed recreation experiences that invite, welcome, and support the inclusion of people of all abilities. Winning designs demonstrate how going above and beyond the minimum requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act can create greater access and usability for people of all abilities in the community. Winning designs are awarded cash prizes to build the projects up to \$250,000 with 25 percent minimum match.

Increase Support for Parks

Public support for parks and recreation is crucial in determining the level of services Unadilla Township will be able to provide in the future. A specific project millage over a limited period could be considered in the future for specific capital expenditures such as a park acquisition or development project.

Seek Other Sources of Funding

Unadilla Township Board of Trustees should continue to investigate additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund-raising events and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that should be pursued aggressively to raise funding for park acquisition and development.

Chapter 4: Needs Analysis & Public Participation

An essential task in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks system. Needs provide the rationale for the formulation of goals and objectives as well as identify areas for capital improvements. To assess needs, consideration was given to current recreation trends an on-line survey was made available to Unadilla Township residents. The opinions focused on identifying priorities for park development in the future.

National Recreation Trends

Recreation trends on a national and regional level provide insights into activities that show the greatest growth in popularity and may affect the future direction of parks and recreation. The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) regularly conducts national surveys to measure participation in physical activities and track changes from previous years. Table 3 lists the top seven outdoor activities persons aged seven years and older participated in at least once in 2016.

The 2016 study shows a continued trend towards individual-based outdoor activities, with open water sports, outdoor activities, and snow sports all showing increases in participation. Team related sports, with the exception of soccer and lacrosse, have showed a steady decline in popularity in recent years, while trail related sports continue to grow in popularity. The top growing outdoor activities between 2006 and 2016 were exercise walking (87.5 to 106.3 million), running/jogging (28.8 to 44.5 million), hiking (31.0 to 42.2 million) and kayaking (5.9 to 9.2 million).

Table 3. Top Outdoor Activities - 2016

Activity	Participation (National)	Overall Rank	Participation (East North Central Region)	Overall Rank
Exercise walking	106.3 million	1	15.4 million	1
Swimming	46.3 million	3	6.3 million	7
Running / jogging	44.5 million	5	6.2 million	8
Hiking	42.0 million	6	5.3 million	12
Camping	40.1 million	7	6.4 million	5
Bicycle riding	36.0 million	9	5.8 million	9
Fishing	29.5 million	13	5.4 million	10

Source: NSGA Sports Participation in the United States 2016

These trends are consistent with trends observed in Michigan. According to a survey of Michigan residents conducted as part of the 2018-2022 Michigan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, walking outdoors was identified as the most important outdoor activity by 26 percent of users statewide. A list of participation rates for the most popular activities is listed in Table 4 below. Participation rates for children under age 18 is provided in Table 5 on page 14.

Table 4. Top Outdoor Recreation Activities in Michigan

Activity	Participation Rate
Relaxing outdoors	75%
Walking outdoors, including dog walking	74%
Visit parks or playgrounds	67%
Sightseeing and/or driving for pleasure	64%
Visiting nature centers or historic sites	56%
Swimming outdoors	54%
Picnicking	53%
Fishing	41%
Biking of any kind (on or off road)	40%
Camping of any kind (modern, RV, tent, rustic)	39%
Team or individual sports outdoors	37%
Wildlife viewing and/or photography including birding	36%
Hiking/backpacking	34%
Jogging/running	34%
Canoeing, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, or wind surfing	32%
Road biking	31%
Motor boating	31%
Sledding/tubing	30%
Tent or rustic camping	30%
Shooting sports, including archery	30%
Modern or RV camping	25%
Hunting of any kind	20%

Source: Michigan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Table 5. Outdoor Recreation Activities - Children under 18

Activity	Participation Rate
Visit parks or playgrounds	85%
Swimming outdoors	76%
Sledding/tubing	54%
Fishing	52%
Non-league team or individual sports	46%
Team or individual sports in a league	44%
Road biking	41%

Source: Michigan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Some key findings include:

- Nearly 75 percent of residents feel that outdoor recreation is very important or moderately important to their household.
- Walking outdoors, including dog walking, was identified as the most important outdoor activity.
- 87 percent of participants went outside 52 or more days per year, with nearly 54 percent doing so for more than 100 days.

These national trends are consistent with trends in Michigan. According to a telephone survey of Michigan residents conducted as part of the 2013-2017 Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the top 10 outdoor recreation activities are: biking (all types), camping, fishing, walking outdoors (including dog walking), hiking (all types), playing outdoor games/sports, hunting or trapping, swimming (all types), boating, and visiting playgrounds.



The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration have published a list of future trends compiled from different sources that will influence the direction of recreation planning and programming. These trends include increases in:

- Environmentally sensitive lifestyles, natural area management, and water quality protection
- Concerns for personal and family security, in the importance for wellness activities, and a desire to preserve and maintain cultural heritage
- Public costs, in the provision of leisure services through the public and private sectors and partnerships, a greater recognition of the economic value of parks, open space, and green infrastructure
- Senior citizens and number of smaller households

Monitoring parks and recreation trends is important in determining how parks and recreation services should evolve. The implication of the trends noted above along with the demographic and physical characteristics of the area can be summarized as follows:

- As population increases, demand for recreation will likely increase;
- Recreation facilities and programs should respond to the expected increase of seniors;
- There is and will continue to be a demand for more linear parks, trails, and pathways for recreation and non-motorized transportation;
- With the increased popularity of exercise walking and fitness related activities, there will continue to be an increased importance on recreation contributing to walkable, livable, and sustainable communities; and
- The continued collaboration and partnerships between public, private, and non-profit agencies as well as with adjacent local municipalities for the provision of parks and recreation programs and facilities will be critical to help meet Unadilla's recreation requirements.

Public Input

This recreation plan is a continuation of efforts completed in 2021. Due to an administrative error, the plan was delayed and reworked in 2023. Full community outreach was completed for the 2021 plan, and the summary of those results is provided below and in the appendices.

A follow-up in-person meeting was scheduled for June 14, 2023. Despite advertising the plan on the Township website, on Facebook, and in the local newspaper (see Appendix A), no residents attended the meeting. The recommendations for this plan therefore are based on the 2021 outreach efforts, which we feel are comprehensive and representative of the community’s desires.

An online survey was made available for public input beginning on July 9 and ran through August 27, 2021. A notice was published on the Township’s website and Facebook (Appendix A, page 60). In addition, a public notice was posted at Township Office and flyers were posted at the trailhead in Gregory. Hard copies of the survey were made available at Township Hall to allow individuals without internet access to take the survey. A complete set of survey data is provided in Appendix F beginning on page 72.

Table 6. Survey Question 1: Relative importance of selected categories

Category	Very important	Important
Maintain existing park facilities	92%	5%
Protect natural resources	83%	14%
Access to paths and trails	80%	17%
Acquire/develop new rec. facilities	57%	29%
Access to active-use facilities	27%	38%
Access to passive-use facilities	21%	58%
Access to picnic facilities	17%	33%
Access to recreation programming	15%	32%

Ongoing maintenance of existing facilities, protection of natural resources, and access to paths and trails were clear priorities for the community. 97% of participants considered each of these topics to be “very important” or “important”; the very important rating was tagged at a 92% rate for maintenance, 83% for protection of natural resources, and 80% for access to paths and trails.

Acquisition and development of new park and recreation facilities also scored well (57% very important, 29% important), but not at the same level as the aforementioned categories. This was consistent with

the results for question 2, where 61% of participants indicated that the Township has too few parks (“far too few” 6%, “too few” 55%).

Residents were less enthusiastic in regards to the remaining categories, but even so, over 50% of participants gave each category high marks (see Table 6 above).

Questions 3 and 4 highlight the importance of the Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail to the community. 46% of respondents use the trail at least monthly, and 92% of users indicate that they are “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the trail. 92% of respondents regularly participate in walking or trail sports, and nearly 70% indicated a desire to see additional multi-use trails in the community. Continued development of the trail in the form of upgraded surfacing, new trailheads, or additional amenities such as benches would be well received.

In contrast, Community Park and the Township Hall Playground are underutilized, with only 8% visiting Community Park and 3% visiting the Playground on a monthly basis. Satisfaction rates are decent for Community Park, with 54% of participants “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the park.

Township Hall Playground, however, received poor marks. 27% stated they were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with the facility. All of the suggestions for the park mentioned updating the play equipment and amenities.

Residents were also asked if the Township should acquire the historic schoolhouse adjacent to Community Park. 79% were in favor of purchasing the structure, and offered a number of different suggestions for uses of the property. A few of the suggestions appear to overestimate the size of the school building, but do offer intriguing possibilities for the property as a whole. At a minimum, the school property would provide space development of on-site parking, which would help improve accessibility on the site, and could help spur additional development and activities at the park.

- Resurfacing of the Lakelands Trail with crushed limestone to bring the trail up to ADA standards
- New trailheads at Dutton Road and at the intersection of Barton Road and M-36
- Benches close to the trailhead and further along the trail

Visions for Unadilla Township Community Park include:

- Purchase of the old schoolhouse due to its historical significance; could be utilized as a parking area and possible community center
- Extension of the walking paths to the new play structure and north of the existing pavilion

Public Review & Public Hearing

After the Steering Committee considered the input received through the survey and the public session, and reviewed recreation trends, deficiencies, and other background information, they established the Recreation Plan's goals, objectives, and an action program for implementation. A draft Plan was then prepared and made available for public review beginning on October 1, 2021. Copies were placed at the Township Hall, on the Township's website, the Stockbridge Library, the Unadilla Party Store and The Gregory Market. The plan's availability was posted in the Stockbridge Community News (Appendix A). Following public review, the Steering Committee approved the draft Plan and recommended its adoption by Township Board at a meeting held on November 11, 2021 (Appendix B). The public input into the plan culminated in an advertised public hearing held on December 9, 2017 (Appendix C). After the hearing, the Township Board adopted the plan (Appendix D).

The parks and recreation issues considered by the Parks and Recreation Committee are summarized into the following main themes:

1. Park improvement and development;
2. Parkland acquisition; and
3. Community parks and recreation services.

These issues served to formulate the goals and objectives of the Unadilla Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan.



- Table of Contents
- Executive Summary
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- Action Plan
- Needs Assessment & Public Participation
- Recreation Inventory
- Administrative Structure
- Community Description

Chapter 5: Recreation Inventory

The residents of Unadilla have a variety of available regional recreational resources. Local recreation facilities are somewhat limited, but facilities have been improved and expanded since the 2009 Recreation Plan. This section describes the local and regional recreational resources located in and around Unadilla. The information provided in this section was derived from a variety of sources including the 2009 Recreation Plan, information from Livingston County Planning Department, the Internet and a field survey conducted in the fall of 2016.

LOCAL RECREATION FACILITIES

TOWNSHIP HALL PLAYGROUND

Unadilla Township offices are housed in a former Stockbridge school building in Gregory. The property includes a half-acre fenced-in playground with a variety of play equipment.

The property sits adjacent to a 16-acre open area and sports fields owned by the Stockbridge School District. The fields available for public use, and includes a basketball court and ball field.

A new accessible play structure was added to the park in 2023.



TOWNSHIP HALL PLAYGROUND

Playground - 0.6 acres - passive use

- A. Swing sets
- B. Slide
- C. Rocking horse
- D. Climbing equipment - updated 2023

Stockbridge School District property - 16 acres - active use

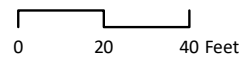
- E. Ball field
- F. Basketball court

Map 1. Unadilla Township Hall Playground



Township Hall Playground

Unadilla Township, Livingston County



Source: Livingston County GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
June 2021



UNADILLA COMMUNITY PARK

1.6 acres - passive use

- A. Picnic pavilion
- B. Climbing equipment
- C. Swing set
- D. Asphalt running/walking track (0.15 mile)
- E. Bike rack
- F. Grill



UNADILLA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARK

Unadilla owns and maintains a 1.6-acre facility in the southeast corner of the Township. The park includes a picnic shelter with solar powered lighting, a paved walking/running path, a large open field, a handicapped accessible play structure and swing.

A 0.2 acre lot on the south side of Joslin Lake Road is home to a historic school house. The property offers potential both as a meeting space and for a small parking lot.

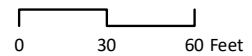


Map 2. Unadilla Township Community Park



Unadilla Township Community Park

Unadilla Township, Livingston County



Source: Livingston County GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
June 2021





LAKELANDS TRAIL TRAILHEAD

1.6 acres - passive use

- A. Picnic pavilion
- B. Climbing equipment
- C. Swing set
- D. Asphalt running/walking track (0.15 mile)
- E. Bike rack
- F. Grill



LAKELANDS TRAIL TRAILHEAD

Unadilla provides a trailhead for the Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail in downtown Gregory. The trailhead features parking which can accommodate equestrian trailers, a horse hitch and water trough, and a handicapped accessible horse mount. A new picnic pavilion with solar powered lighting was funded by a Recreation Passport grant in 2016. Picnic tables and benches, bicycle parking, a wheelchair accessible portable toilet, and signage are also present. The improvements were funded through a combination of state grants, volunteer labor, and private donations.



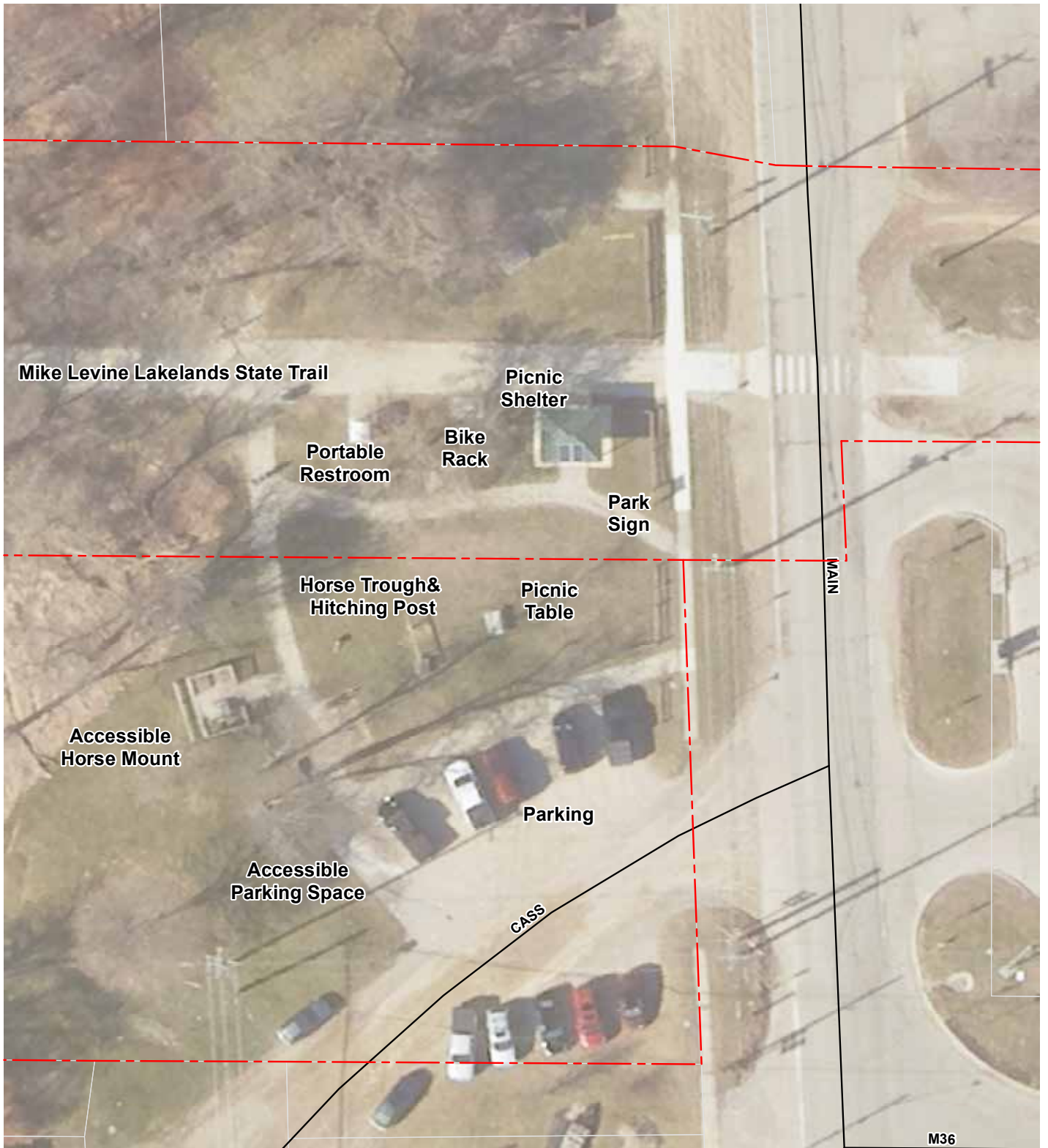
A portion of the trail in Unadilla Township was converted in 2022 to a combination asphalt/crushed limestone surface. One mile of trail, running from Main Street to Van Syckle Road, now includes a 5.5 foot-wide paved lane to improve accessibility for mobility challenged users. The remaining surface remains crushed limestone to accommodate horse riders and bikers who prefer a softer surface.



The state park itself is a rails-to-trail which runs from Hamburg Township to Stockbridge for approximately 26 miles. The trail includes a 10-foot wide paved pathway in Hamburg Township and a crushed stone surface in the remaining portion. The trail segment located in Unadilla is leased from the MDNR by the Township as are the portions in Hamburg and Putnam Townships. Each section is maintained and operated by the respective townships and the Friends of the Lakelands Trail in cooperation with the MDNR.

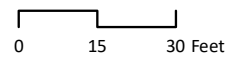
The trail is also part of the Great Lake-to-Lake Trail, which runs from Port Huron to South Haven. A further description of the route is provided on page 31.

Map 3. Mike Levine Lakelands Trail - Gregory Trailhead



Downtown Gregory Trailhead

Unadilla Township, Livingston County



Source: Livingston County GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
June 2021

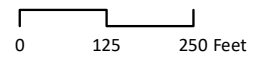
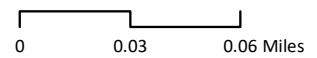


Map 4. Recreation Facilities - Downtown Gregory



Downtown Gregory Recreation Property Detail

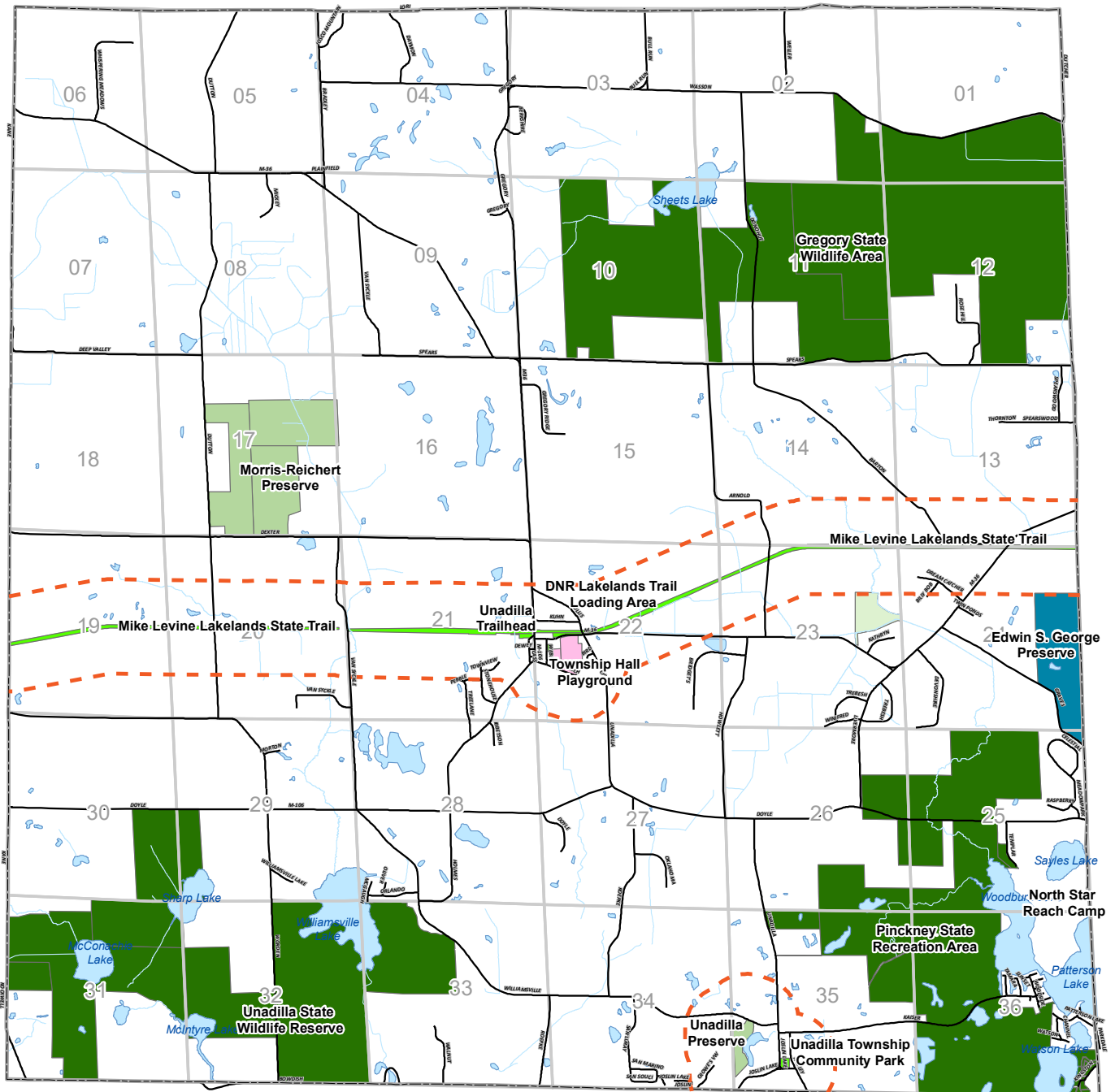
Unadilla Township, Livingston County



Source: Livingston County GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
June 2021



Map 5. Recreation Facilities and Service Area

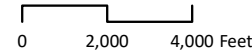
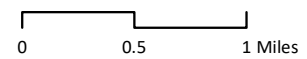


Unadilla Township Recreation Facilities

Unadilla Township, Livingston County

--- 1/4 mile (15 minute) walk zone for local parks & preserves

- | | |
|--|--|
| Unadilla Township Property* | University of Michigan Property |
| Michigan DNR Property | Private Park Space |
| Other Preserve Space | School |



* Note: The Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail is owned by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, but operated and maintained by Unadilla Township within the township boundaries

Source: Livingston County GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
June 2021



Table 7. Unadilla Township Park Amenities

NAME	TYPE	ACCESS		PASSIVE USE				MISC.		TRAILS		
		PARKING AREA	HANDICAP ACCESS	PLAY EQUIPMENT	PICNIC TABLES / BENCHES	PAVILION	RESTROOMS	LITTLE LIBRARY	BIKE PARKING	PAVED WALK/HIKE TRAIL	UNPAVED TRAIL	EQUESTRIAN FACILITIES
Unadilla Township Community Park	C		•	•	•	•			•	•		
Township Office Playground	N	•		•					•			
Lakelands Trail Trailhead	T	•	•		•	•	•		•		•	•

*TYPE KEY: C = Community Park, N = Neighborhood Park, T = Trail

Preserves and Natural Areas

Unadilla Township also contains three preserves and natural areas which are owned by land conservancies and by the University of Michigan, and over 3,500 acres of state-owned land. The land conservancy sites are open to the public for hiking, nature viewing and guided tours.

The 13-acre **Unadilla Preserve** was donated by Fay and Almeda Roepcke. Located on Williamsville Road, the preserve contains rolling upland woods and includes a portion of the shoreline along Unadilla Mill Pond. It is located behind the Presbyterian Church on Williamsville Road west of Unadilla.

The **Morris-Reichert Nature Preserve** is owned by the Southeast Michigan Land conservancy and contains 242 acres of rolling hills and woodlands. It is located on Dexter Trail Road and Dutton Road in the northwest quadrant of the Township and is a refuge for bluebirds and foxes.

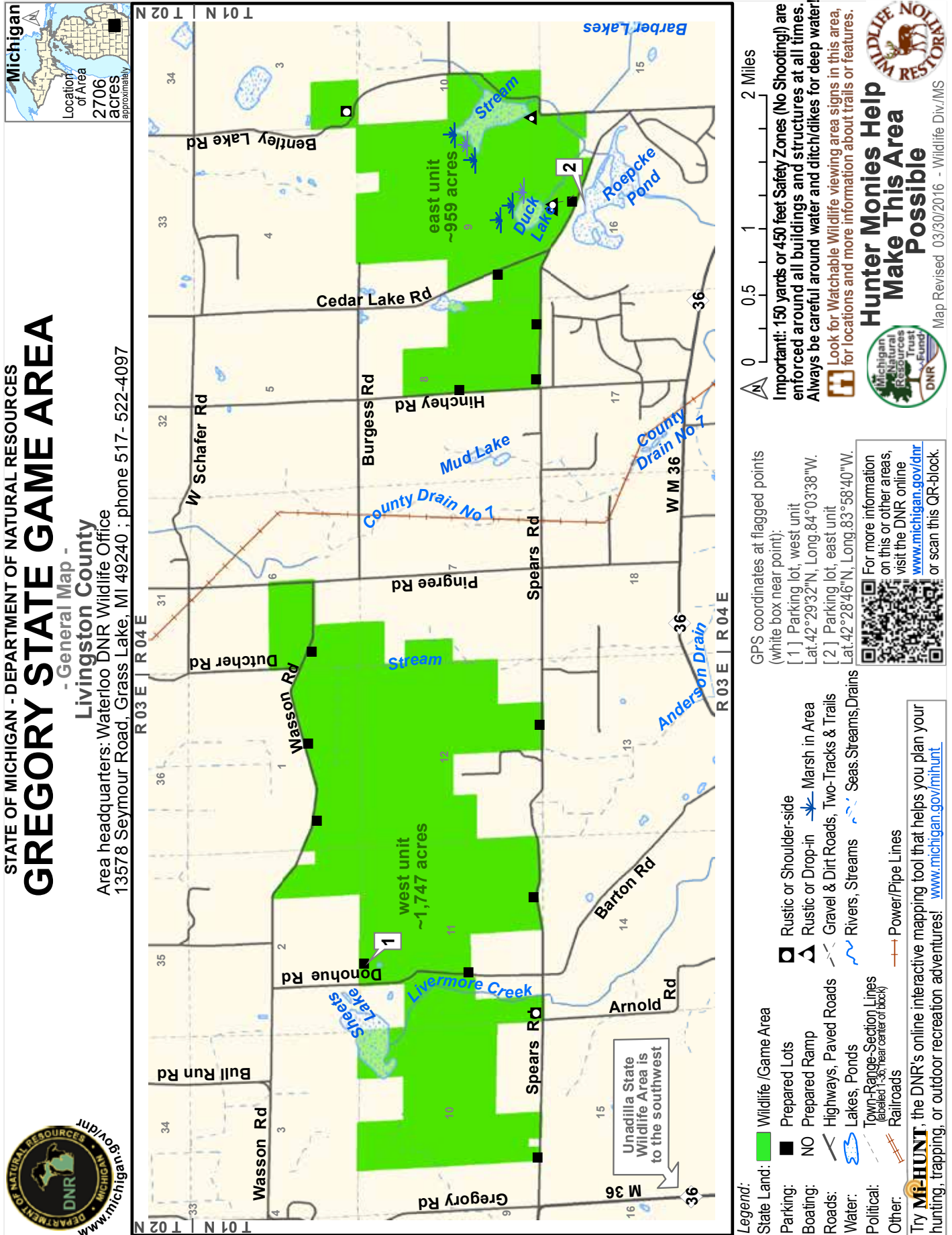
The **Unadilla State Wildlife Area** covers much of the southwest corner of the Township and continues into Washtenaw County. It is operated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). The property, dedicated for wildlife conservation and management by the DNR Wildlife Division, consists of approximately 1,106 acres of rolling mixed forest.

Approximately 1,590 acres of the 1,747-acre west unit of the **Gregory State Game Area** is located in Unadilla Township. The remaining west unit area and another 959 acres of the east are located in Putnam Township. Both the Unadilla State Wildlife Area and Gregory State Game Area allow hunting, fishing, hiking, and limited rustic camping.

The 11,000-acre **Pinckney State Recreation Area** spans Washtenaw and Livingston counties with a small portion located in Unadilla Township (about 539 acres in sections 25, 26, 35, and 36). It is comprised of three major use areas: Silver Lake day use area, Bruin Lake campground and Halfmoon day use facility. The Bruin Lake campground is accessible from Kaiser Road in Unadilla. Activities and facilities include:

- Picnic areas/shelters with playground;
- Two swimming beaches with concession, volleyball courts, horseshoe pits at Halfmoon and Silver Lake day use areas;
- 62 miles of trails for hiking, 24 miles for mountain biking, 8 miles of equestrian trail and 59 miles of cross-country skiing trails;
- Several boat launches on many of the lakes and a boat rental on Silver Lake;
- Fishing pier on Silver Lake and shore fishing on all lakes;
- Snowmobiling in designated areas;
- 269 modern campsites, four 4-person cabins available for rent (one wheelchair accessible) and four 6-person cabins (two wheelchair accessible) with electricity; and
- Seasonal hunting.

Figure 1. Gregory State Game Area Map



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Figure 2. Unadilla State Wildlife Area Map

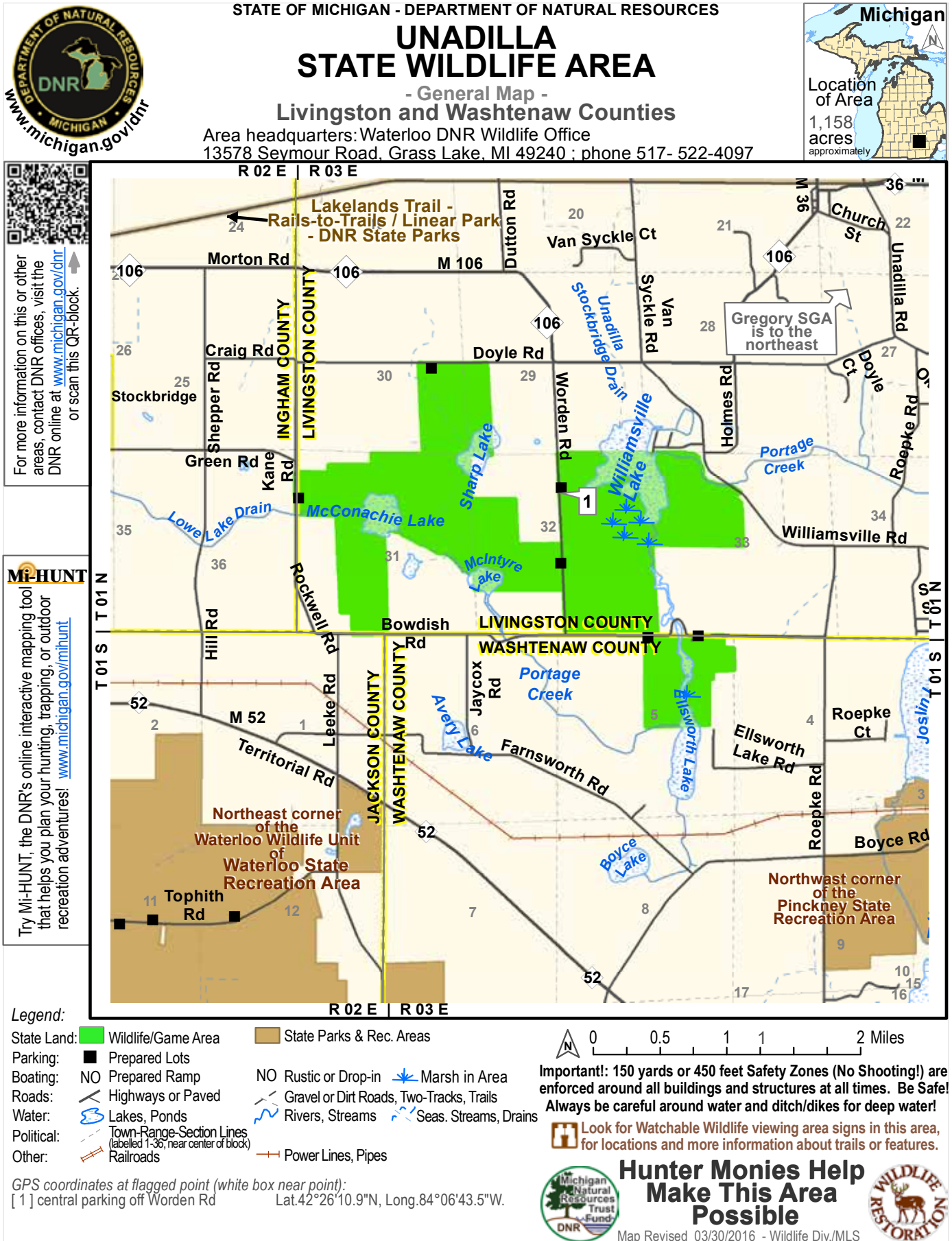
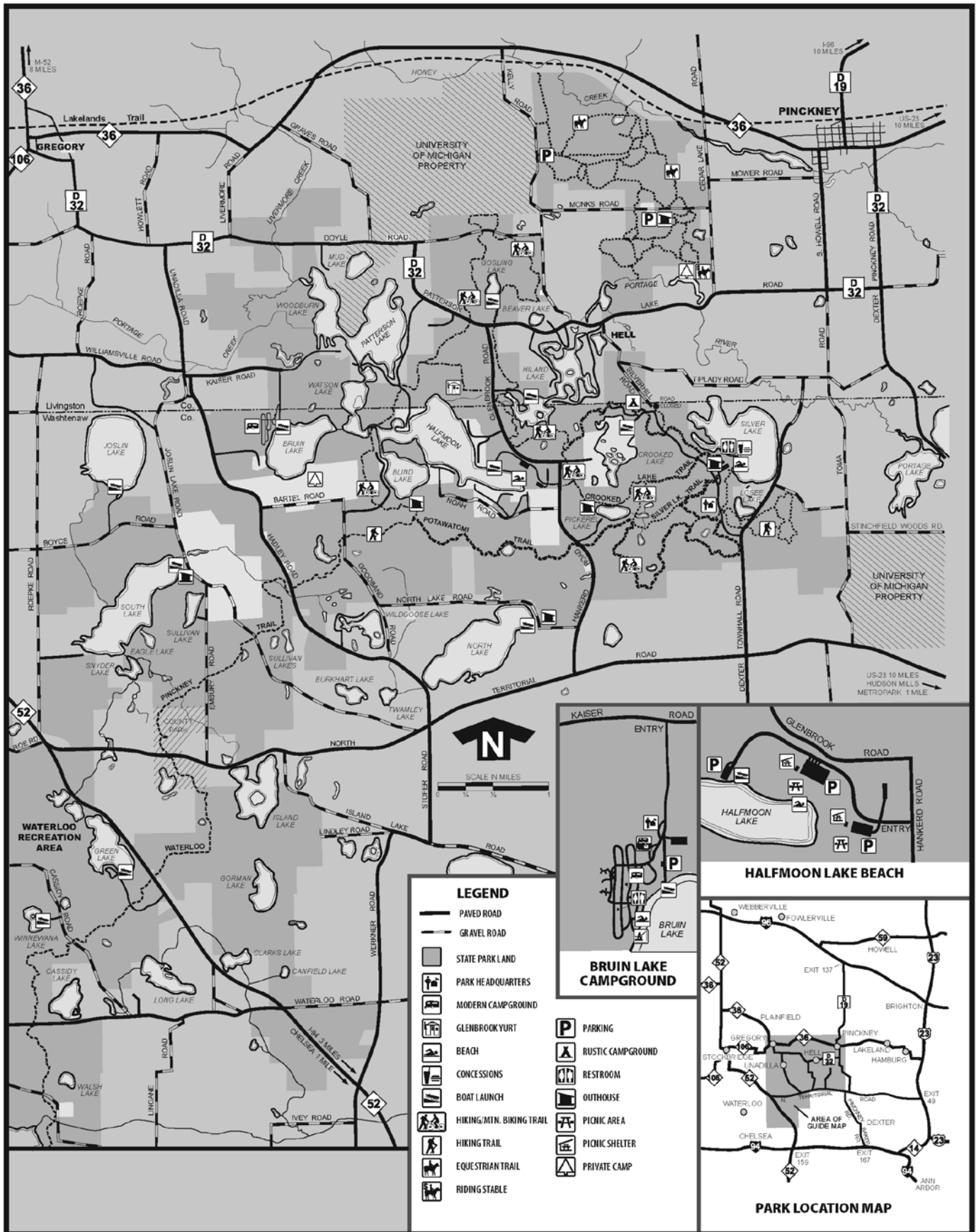


Figure 3. Pinckney State Recreation Area Map



Trails & Linear Parks

Unadilla Township sits in the heart of some of the most important trail developments in the state of Michigan. Of primary importance is the **Mike Levine Lakelands Trail State Park (MLLT)**. Renamed in 2018 to reflect the generous donations of Mike Levine, the MLLT is one of five linear state parks constructed along abandoned rail corridors in the Michigan state park system. The trail includes seven trailheads, including the Unadilla trailhead in downtown Gregory, and runs from the City of Jackson east to Hamburg Township.

Portions of the trail are paved, while other sections are constructed of compacted limestone. The stretch of path in Unadilla is currently constructed of compacted limestone, with asphalt added to a stretch between Gregory and Vansyckle Road. Totalling 22-miles in length, the trail is popular with walkers, hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders and cross-country skiers.



Figure 4. Mike Levine Lakelands Trail State Park



Mike Levine Lakelands Trail State Park

Multi-use rail-trail
Livingston, Ingham, Jackson Counties

Updated: 10/05/2020
Michigan.gov/DNRTrails

Page 1 of 6

Trailhead, nonmotorized
 Multi-use rail-trail surface
 Asphalt
 Crushed limestone
 Roads
 Highway
 Paved
 County

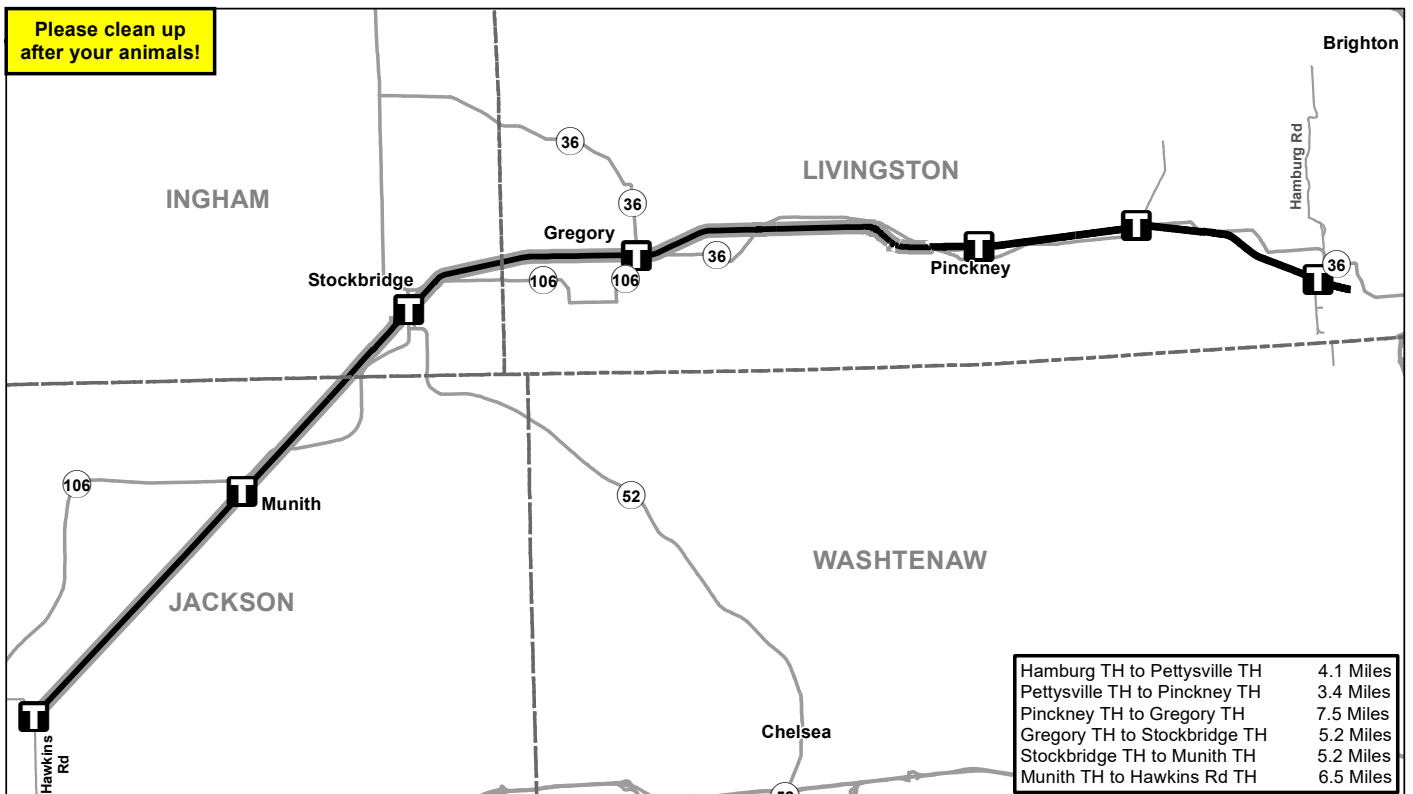
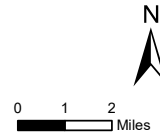
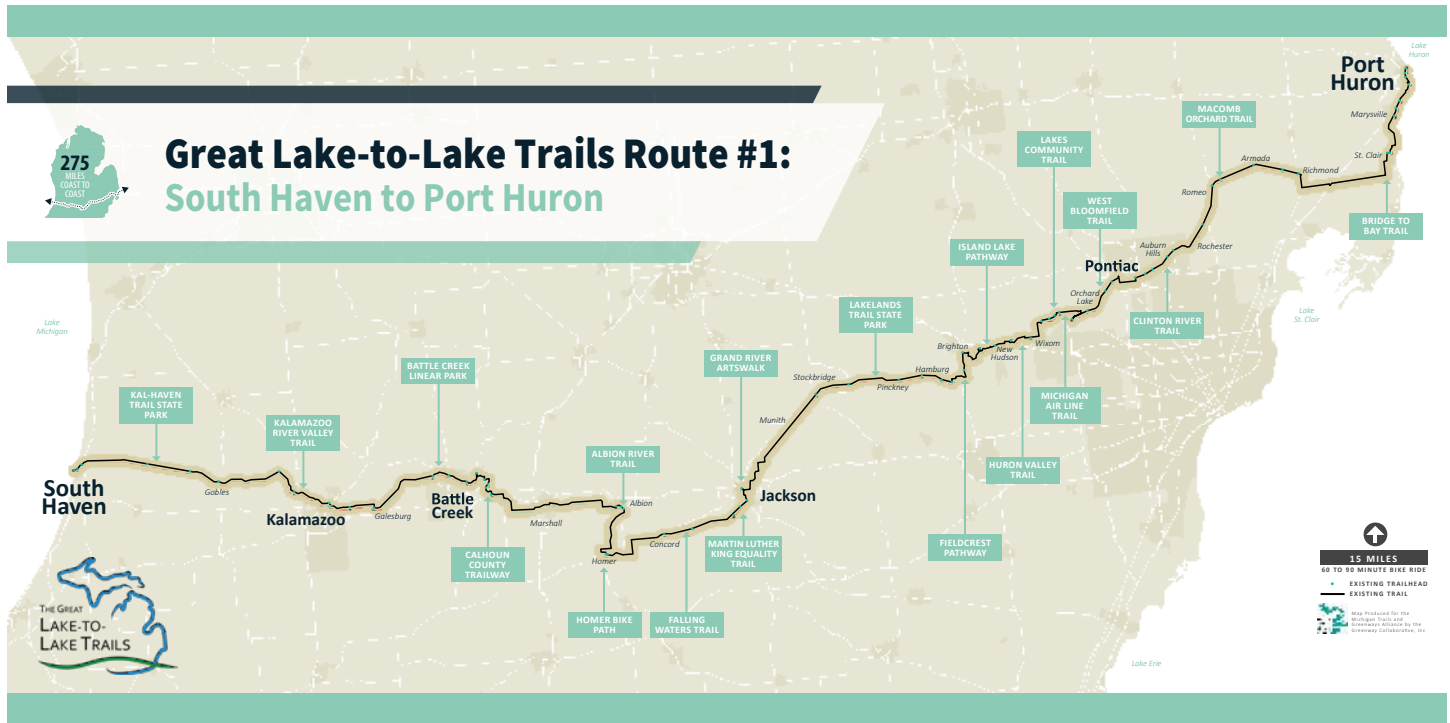


Figure 5. Great Lake-to-Lake Trail



The MLLT is key component in the **Great Lake-to-Lake Trail (GLLT)** that stretches from South Haven to Port Huron. Originally envisioned as a single trail, the GLLT concept has expanded to include four additional routes in both the Lower and Upper Peninsulas. Route 1 is the longest of the alignments, and incorporates nineteen regional systems spanning 315 miles. The trail is roughly 75% complete as of the fall of 2021.

The MLLT/GLLT merges with the **Iron Belle Trail (IBT)** in Stockbridge. The IBT is a 2,000+ mile route running from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the far western Upper Peninsula. First announced in 2012, the Iron Belle Trail (IBT) system is the longest designated state trail in the United States. The IBT will provide a 1,273 mile biking and 791 mile hiking route winding from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the far northwest corner of the Upper Peninsula. The trail takes advantage of existing multi-use trail systems, and fills gaps between communities where needed.

The IBT will become an important leg in the **North Country Trail**, the 4,600 mile trail system which spans from eastern New York to central North Dakota. Michigan's section of the trail will be the longest in the North Country system. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) maintains the bike trail along US-2 in the Upper Peninsula, while the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and local municipalities are responsible for the bike sections in the Lower Peninsula.

The IBT has spurred a flurry of activity across the state, with communities vying for the opportunity to connect with the system. The IBT will eventually travel just west of Unadilla Township, following Washtenaw County's **Border to Border Trail (B2B)** and connecting with the Lakelands Trail just north of the Township. Providing connections through the Pinckney and Waterloo State Recreation Areas could bring significant amounts of bikers, hikers, and equestrians to the Township.

Finally, Washtenaw County's **Border to Border (B2B) Trail** will connect the communities of Stockbridge, Dexter, Chelsea, and Pinckney. The original B2B configuration followed the Huron River north through Hudson Mills Metropark, ultimately connecting to the Lakelands Trail. The B2B's "Loop" configuration follows M-52 west to Stockbridge. This revised Loop alignment was developed in part due to easement issues with the original configuration and to ensure that gaps in the Iron Belle Trail network were filled as quickly as possible. While the original configuration has not been abandoned, its completion date has been postponed in favor of the new western route through Chelsea.

Figure 6. Iron Belle Trail

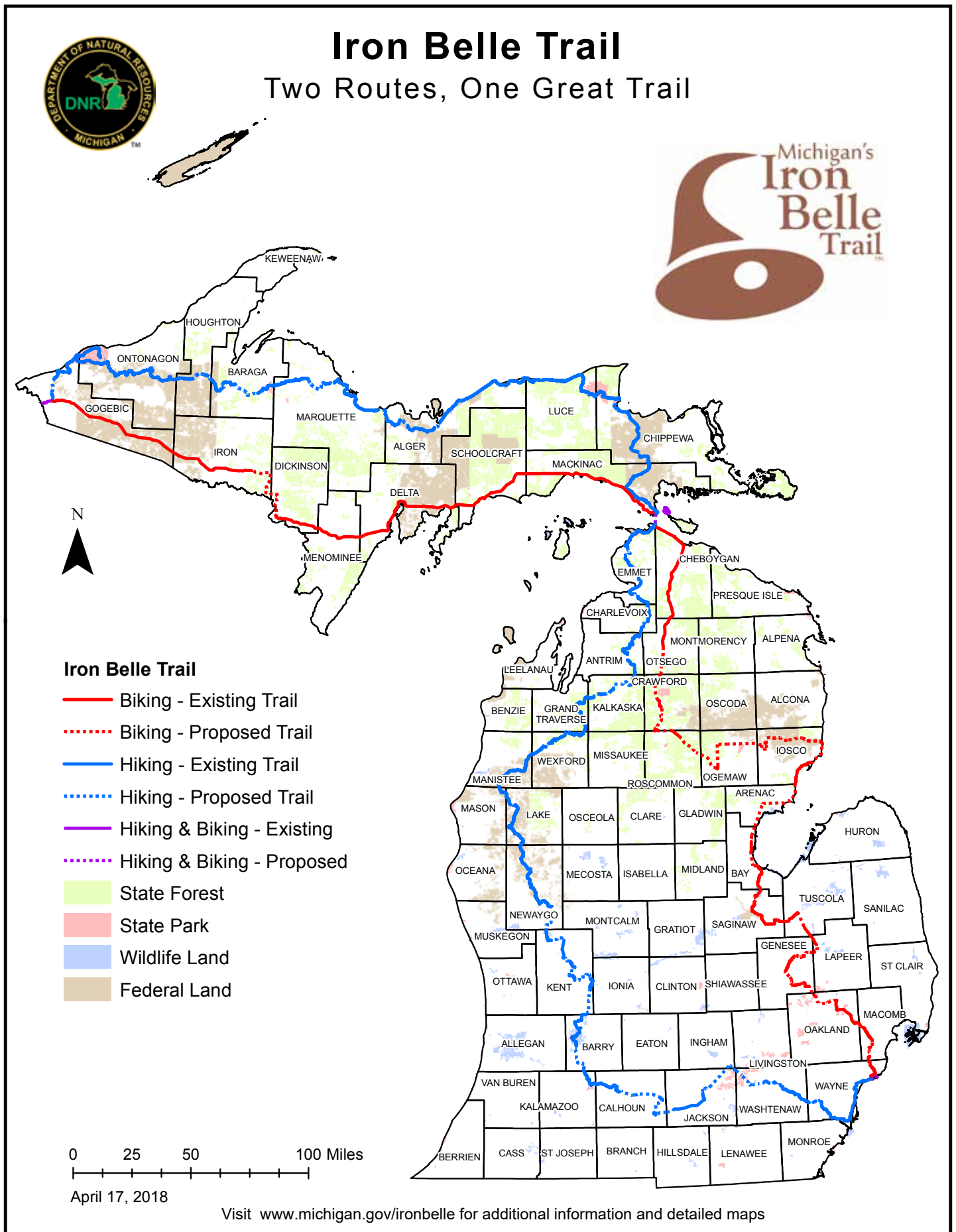
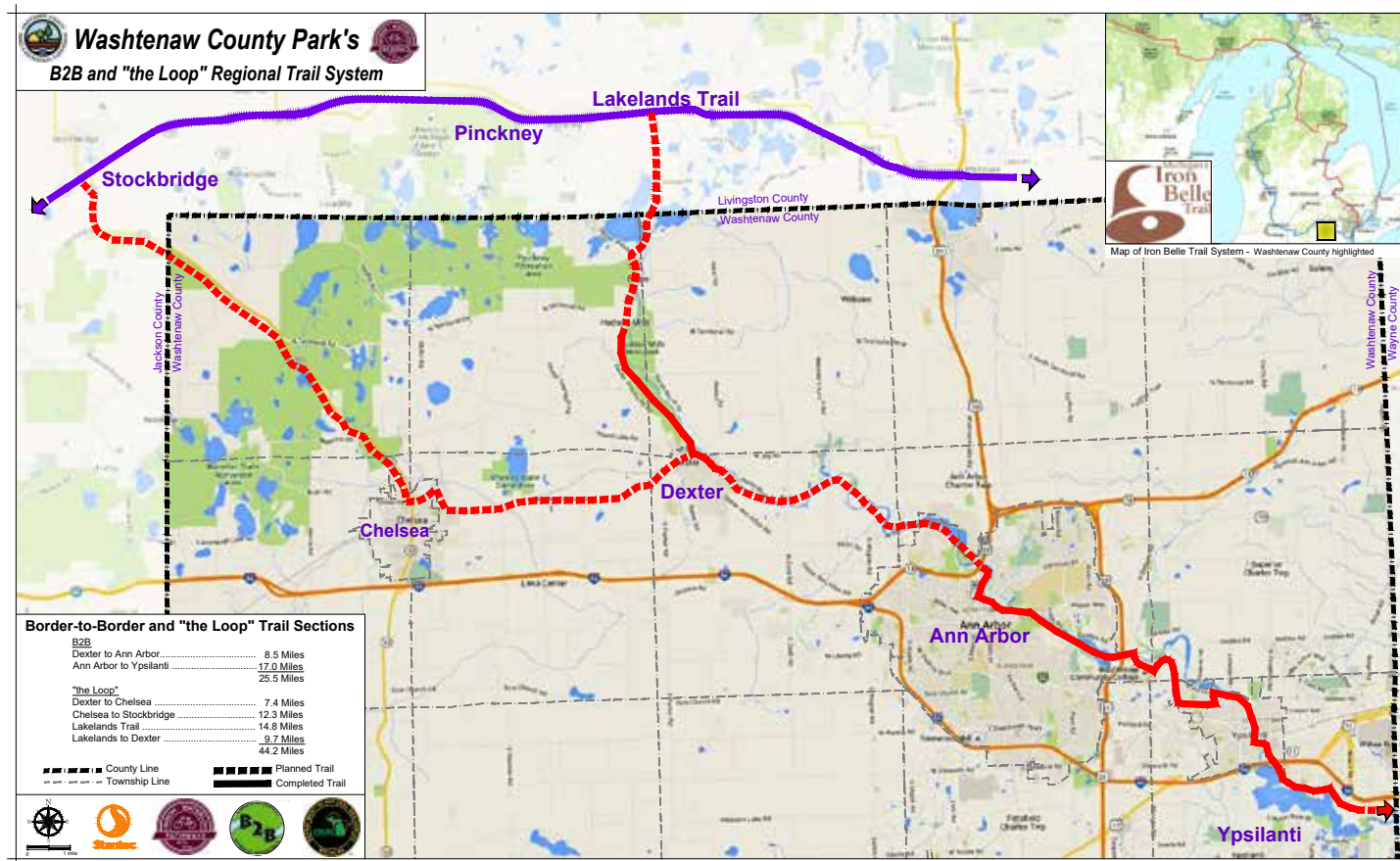


Figure 7. Border-to-Border Trail



School Facilities

While there are no public school buildings in Unadilla Township, the Stockbridge Community School District retains a sixteen acre property with a ball field and basketball court adjacent to the Township Hall Playground (see page 18).

Private Facilities

The *Edwin S. George Reserve* is a wildlife sanctuary and biological research area owned by the University of Michigan. It includes 268 acres in Unadilla Township and 1,300 acres of land in Putnam Township. The Reserve is used for research purposes by the University and is not open to the public.

Just south of the reserve is a former campground which has been redeveloped by the University as a camp for children with chronic and life-threatening health challenges. The 105-acre *North Star Reach*, located just north of Kaiserville on a peninsula between Patterson and Woodburn Lakes, serves over 1,500 area children and their families free-of-charge each year, including those with cancer, heart disease, ventilator dependency, organ transplants, sickle cell disease and other conditions.



Regional Recreation Facilities

In addition to the local recreation facilities, there are almost 3,000 acres of state-owned recreational facilities in Unadilla Township as well as an approximate additional 43,000 acres of parkland owned by the state and the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) in adjoining townships. These facilities are considered regional recreational facilities. They are large facilities that provide opportunities such as camping, swimming, boating, hiking and golfing which are typically beyond the ability of a local municipality to provide. Descriptions of the regional parks located within the Township's borders are provided beginning on page 26. Table 8 lists the recreational activities they offer.

REGIONAL RECREATION FACILITY KEY

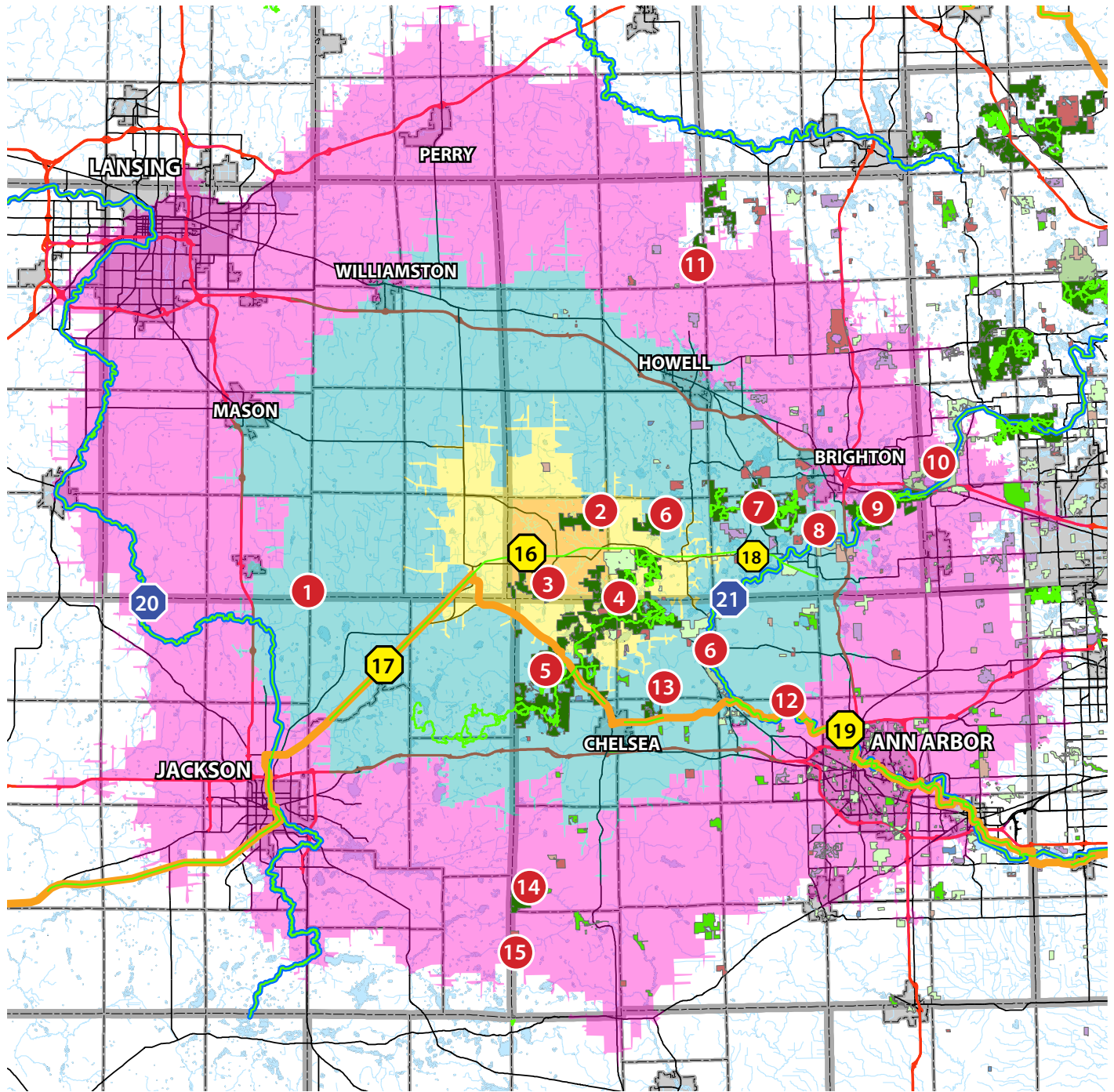
1. Meridian-Baseline State Park
2. Gregory State Game Area
3. Unadilla State Game Area
4. Pinckney State Recreation Area
5. Waterloo Recreation Area
6. Hudson Mills Metropark
7. Brighton State Recreation Area
8. Huron Meadows Metropark
9. Island Lake Recreation Area
10. Kensington Metropark
11. Oak Grove State Game Area
12. Delhi Metropark
13. Chelsea State Game Area
14. Sharonville State Game Area
15. Watkins Lake State Park & County Preserve
16. Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail
17. Iron Belle Trail*
18. Great Lake-to-Lake Trail*
19. Border-to-Border Trail
20. Upper Grand River Water Trail
21. Huron River National Water Trail

**Larger trail system composed of smaller components, e.g. the M. Levine Trail is part of the Great Lake-to-Lake Trail.*



Waterloo Recreation Area

Map 6. Regional Recreation Facilities



Regional Recreation Facilities

Unadilla Township, Livingston County

15 minute drive
 30 minute drive
 45 minute drive

Major Linear Trails
 Iron Belle Trail

- | | |
|---|---|
| State or Federal Property | Conservation Area |
| County Parks | Golf & Country Club |
| Huron Clinton Metroparks | Hunting or Sportsman's Club |
| Municipal or Education Facility | Private Facility |

0 5 10 Miles



Source: State of Michigan GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
July 2021



TRAILS		WATER / BOATING		WINTER SPORTS		CAMPING AMENITIES						HUNTING																			
Hiking	Biking	Bike Rental	Mountain Biking / BMX Course	Equestrian	Swimming / Beach	Splash Pad / Pool / Water Slide	Paddlesports	Boat Rental	Boat Launch	Snowshoeing	Cross Country Skiing	Snowmobiling	Ice Skating / Hockey	Sledding	Equestrian Camping	Electrical Service	Winter Camping	Concession Store / Food	Cabins And Lodges	Rustic Site	Group Use Area	Walk-In / Paddle-In Sites	Yurt	Vault Toilet	Modern Restrooms	Sanitation Station	Shooting Range	Hunting	Fishing	Fishing Pier	
•			•	•			•	•	•		•				•			•	•	•	•		•	•		•		•	•	•	
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Brighton Recreation Area



Huron River Water Trail



Huron Meadows Metropark



Fillmore County Park



Waterloo Recreation Area



Iron Belle Trail

Comparison to Recreation Standards

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has classified parks and recommended an appropriate amount of parkland for a given population size. Although these guidelines are useful in pointing out deficiencies, a community's recreation system should be tailored to meet the needs of the community and not based on national guidelines.

According to the NRPA, parks and open spaces are categorized as mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks. The mini, neighborhood, and community parks are the close-to-home parks, designed to satisfy the recreational needs of local communities within a service radius of up to two miles. Unadilla Township Community Park, the Township Hall Playground, and downtown Gregory trailhead are all considered close-to-home parks. According to NRPA standards, the amount of close-to-home parkland recommended is 6.25 to 10.5 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Regional parks and preserves are parks that serve a broader area (a service radius of about 40 miles) than community parks and focus on meeting the recreation needs of the region as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. This would include the state-owned, HCMA, and County parks and recreation areas described in the preceding pages. The NRPA suggested standard for regional parks is 15 to 20 acres of parkland per 1,000 people.

Other types of parks including school sites, greenways, and private recreation facilities, which can also contribute to the local park and recreation system:

- Schoolyards: areas that can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks such as neighborhood and community parks, which include the former school facility in Gregory;
- Greenways: areas that link park system components together to form a continuous park environment, which include the Lakelands Trail; and
- Natural Resource Areas: land set aside for the preservation of significant natural resources or open spaces, which include the land conservancy sites.

According to the NRPA standards, the Township recreation properties do not meet the minimum acreage for close-to-home parkland. Several recreation facilities provided by the land conservancies, however, are open to the public and located within the Township borders. In addition, the residents of the Unadilla are well served by regional recreation and game areas provided by the state that are located in Unadilla and in adjacent townships.

Table 9 compares the NRPA suggested standard with existing Township parks based on American Community Survey (ACS) 2020 population estimates and SEMCOG projected population for 2045. According to these suggested parkland acreage standards, Unadilla's parks fall short of the total recommended acreage for close-to-home parkland. Inclusion of the school property adjacent to the Township Hall playground helps to offset this deficiency, however. As new developments are planned in coming years, it will be important to work with developers to set aside space for local recreation opportunities. Tot lots and micro-parks owned and operated by homeowner associations or other housing authorities can help to address the deficiency in this area.

Conversely, the residents of the area are exceptionally well-served by the regional park facilities provided by the state and other entities. These regional facilities, with their well blended mix of active and passive recreation opportunities, effectively act as the Township's community parks. Adjacent township parks, private, and school recreational facilities also act as important recreational opportunities for Township residents.

Table 9. Suggested Parkland & Acreage

Type of Park	NRPA Minimum Standard Acres per 1,000 residents	Required Parkland Acres (Based on 2020 population of 3,425)	Required Parkland Acres (Based on 2045 population of 4,246)	Existing Acreage	2021 Parkland Surplus / Deficiency
Close to Home Parkland	6.25 - 10.5	21.4 - 26.5	26.5 - 44.6	3.8	17.6 - 22.7 acre deficiency
Regional Parks (within Unadilla Township)	15 - 20	51.4 - 68.5	63.7 - 84.9	~3,500	3,400 acre surplus
School Sites	n/a	n/a	n/a	16.5	n/a
Trails	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 miles	n/a

Accessibility Assessment

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing barrier-free access to accommodate the needs of all people, including disabled individuals. The ranking system suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines (2006) to determine accessibility was used to evaluate Township parks. The ranking system ranges from 1 to 5:

1. None of the facilities 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 principles of universal design

Unadilla Township's three recreation properties were evaluated using the MDNR ranking system (Table 10). The specific elements that were evaluated include parking, paths of travel to activity areas, activity areas themselves, support facilities such as restrooms, and surfacing.

Future park projects will be designed to comply with or exceed accessibility guidelines of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). It is the intent of the Township to develop all future projects to meet or exceed ADA requirements, and provide recreational amenities that meet the needs of all Unadilla Township residents.

Table 10. Accessibility Assessment

Facility Name	Rating	Comments
Unadilla Township Community Park	3	Lack of accessible parking primary reason for 2 rating. New playground structures are ADA compliant, but lack a barrier free path to the structures. The recent addition of accessible swings on the new swingset and accessible picnic tables have improved conditions. Parking and pathways would raise the score to a 4.
Unadilla Township Hall Playground	1	No accessible paths to play structures. Play structures themselves are not considered ADA compliant.
Mike Levine Lakelands Trail Trailhead	4	All of the new facilities including the portable toilets are designed to be accessible. The handicap accessible horse mount is specifically designed for universal accessibility. The trail itself was resurfaced in 2017 to crushed and compacted limestone, which is considered accessible, and plans to convert a portion to asphalt will further improve accessibility.

Status Of Grant Assisted Projects

Unadilla Township has received three MDNR grants for the development of parks facilities, and one additional grant from the Chelsea Wellness Foundation for the purchase of a playscape. The most recent grant was used in conjunction with a TAP grant and private donations to help fund improvements to the Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail.

Table 11. MDNR Grant Assisted Projects

Grant Source	Year	Amount	Grant #	Description / Status
Recreation Passport	2013	\$39,676	RP11-430	Unadilla Township Community Park: Walking trail around perimeter of park, pathway from Barnum Road to pavilion, solar lighting in pavilion. Improvements are in good condition.
Recreation Passport	2015	\$60,000	RP13-480	Lakelands Trail Trailhead: Handicap accessible horse mounting block, bike racks, park benches, picnic tables, pavilion with solar lighting, pathway from parking area to pavilion/beginning of trail, handicap parking space, decorative fencing. Improvements are in excellent condition.
Chelsea Wellness Foundation	2013	\$15,500	n/a	Unadilla Township Community Park: New handicap accessible play structure.
MNRTF	2017	\$300,000	TF17-0093	Improve six miles of trails to crushed limestone surface. Total project cost was \$1.25 million with \$700K from TAP funding, \$300K MNRTF, \$200K provided by private donations, and the remainder provided by the Township. The trail remains in excellent condition and is heavily used.



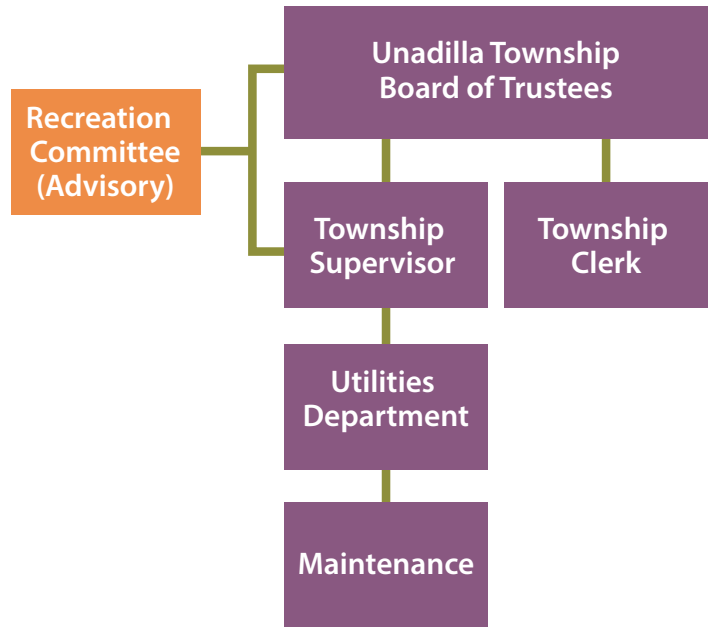
Chapter 6: Administrative Structure

The administration of parks and recreation services in Unadilla Township is the responsibility of the Township Board. A Recreation Committee was reconvened in 2016 to guide the preparation of the 2017 Recreation Plan, and continues in an advisory role to the Board.

Funding & Budget

Maintenance and improvements of the Township recreation facilities are funded through the Township General Fund. In 2021-2022, the Township allocated \$26,000 to recreation facilities and management.

Figure 8. Organizational Chart



Volunteers & Partnerships

Unadilla Township now owns the former Stockbridge school building in downtown Gregory, utilizing it as the Township Office. Along with the building itself, the associated playground is also owned and maintained by the Township and utilized as park space. The large open space and sports fields adjacent to the playground are still owned and operated by Stockbridge Schools. Unadilla has a close relationship with Stockbridge schools and residents regularly take advantage of recreation programs offered by Pinckney, Stockbridge and Fowlerville Community Schools.

Other organizations run various athletic recreation programs independently from the Township. For the most part, the sports programs that are available to Unadilla residents are part of the communities of Pinckney, Stockbridge and Fowlerville. These organizations oversee soccer, baseball and softball recreation leagues and programs. They are typically responsible for all expenses related to the sports programs. Some of these organizations include:

- The **Hamburg Community Soccer Club** which offers non-travel and travel soccer programs for boys and girls ages 14-18;
- The **Pinckney-Hamburg Baseball Softball Association**, which provides youth recreation baseball and softball for ages 4-12, travel baseball for ages 9-18, travel softball for ages 11-14 and adult co-ed softball.

Service clubs and community groups have also played a significant role in providing additional volunteer labor and financial support for park facilities and programs. Resident groups that are not necessarily affiliated with any specific organization have also made a large impact on Unadilla facilities, assisting with maintenance and upkeep as needed. Clubs and groups which have had an active role in the Township include:

Local service clubs:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockbridge Lions • Stockbridge Legions • Fowlerville Rotary • Fireman's Association
Scouting Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boy Scouts of American • Girl Scouts
Recreation Use Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterloo Horsemen's Assoc. • Brighton Trail Riders • Michigan Mountain Biking Association • Pinckney Pedalers
Land Conservancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livingston Land Conservancy • Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy
Other Organizations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends of the Lakelands Trail • Lakelands Trail Committee • Adopt-a-Trail Volunteers

Outside of organized groups, numerous individuals have donated time, effort, money, and materials towards Unadilla recreation facilities. Unadilla may want to consider connecting these individuals with the aforementioned organizations, or help existing "Friends of..." groups expand their charters to include the Township's individual recreation facilities.

Chapter 7: Community Description

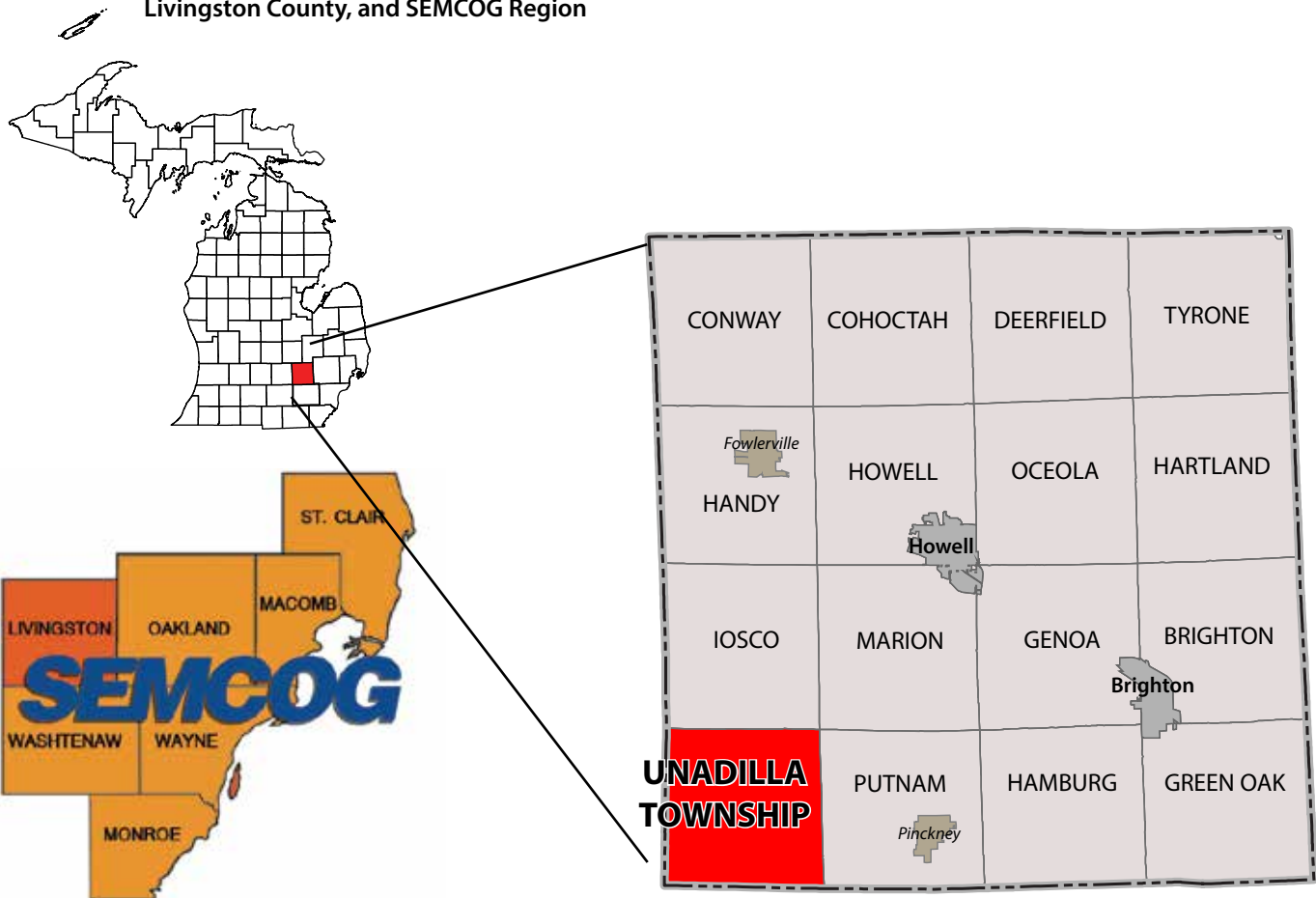
Regional Setting

The Township of Unadilla is located in southwestern Livingston County. It borders Washtenaw County to the south, Jackson County to the southwest and Ingham County to the west. Unadilla Township is approximately 13 miles south of I-96, 19 miles west of US-23 and nine miles north of I-94. As a result, it is not highly accessible from a regional perspective. Locally, two major roads bisect the community: M-36 and M-106. M-36 runs east-west from US-23 to US 127 and connects Pinckney to Gregory. From Gregory, it runs northwest through Plainfield. M-106 runs east-west from Gregory to Stockbridge in Ingham County. The Township contains the agricultural community of Plainfield, the business center of Gregory and the hamlet of Unadilla, which is nestled in a river valley. Unadilla Township enjoys a reputation as a highly desirable place to live because of its open spaces and natural areas.

Livingston County is located in the northwest area of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) region. SEMCOG is the regional planning agency that conducts planning studies and maintains a comprehensive database of information about each community it serves. It is a source for some of the population and land use related data included in this report.

In planning for the future recreation needs of Unadilla Township, it is essential to understand both the community of people to be served and the recreation resources which the community offers. The first part of this document provides an overview of the population, physical, and recreation resources of the Township with the goal of understanding the unique features and opportunities the community offers.

Figure 9. Context Maps - State of Michigan, Livingston County, and SEMCOG Region



Population

Table 12 and Table 13 present the population, household, and housing characteristics of Unadilla Township according to the U.S. Census Bureau and SEMCOG Forecast information. Unadilla experienced a population decline of 1% between 2010 and 2020, and decreases were seen in two of the Township's immediate neighbors, with the Putnam Township experiencing the largest drop. SEMCOG forecasts steady growth for most of the region, however, with only Iosco Township projected to lose population. Unadilla's 27% projected growth is the highest percentage rate in the region. From population perspective, only Marion Township is expected to gain more residents by 2045 (1,826 new residents compared to Unadilla's 918).

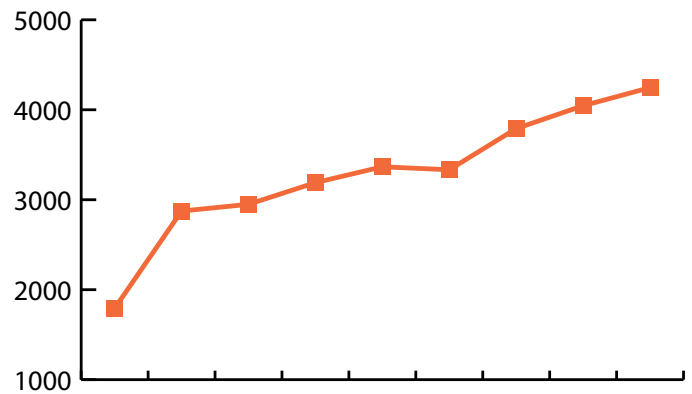
Table 12. Population Projections, Unadilla Township Area*

Community	2022	2045	% change 2022-2045
Unadilla Twp	3,365	4,246	27.4%
Iosco Twp	3,242	3,242	-16.2%
Marion Twp	11,769	13,071	16.2%
Putnam Twp	2,351	2,845	17.8%
Pinckney (City)	5,531	6,333	15.7%
Dexter (City)	4,605	4,641	3.1%
Dexter (Twp) (W)	6,608	7,326	9.4%
Lyndon Twp (W)	3,067	3,067	15.5%
Livingston Cty	196,820	241,566	21.7%
Southeast MI	4,792,437	5,104,922	7.1%

Table 13. Historical Population Data, Unadilla Township Area*

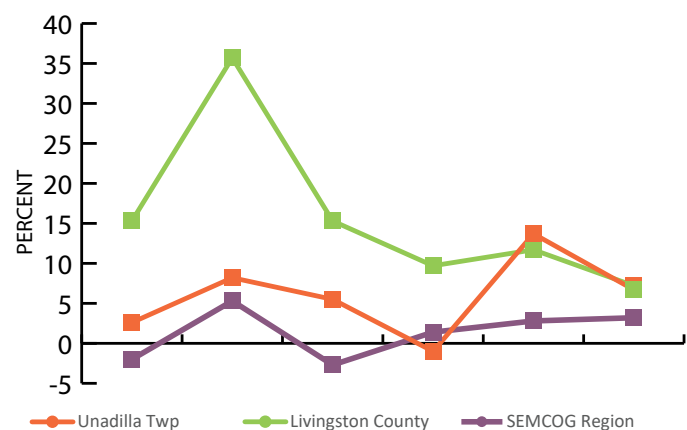
Community		1990	2000	2010	2020	Percent change 2010 - 2020
Livingston County	Unadilla Twp	2,949	3,190	3,366	3,333	-1.0%
	Iosco Twp	1,567	3,039	3,801	3,870	1.8%
	Marion Twp	4,918	6,757	9,996	11,245	12.5%
	Putnam Twp	4,580	5,359	5,821	2,415	-5.9%
	Pinckney	1,603	2,141	2,427	5,475	-0.5%
Washtenaw County	Dexter, City of	1,497	2,338	4,067	4,500	10.6%
	Dexter Twp	4,407	5,248	6,042	6,696	10.8%
	Lyndon Twp	2,228	2,728	2,720	2,656	-2.4%
Ingham / Jackson	Stockbridge Twp (Ingham)	2,971	3,435	3,896	3,912	0.4%
	White Oak Twp (Ingham)	1,074	1,177	1,173	1,199	2.2%
	Waterloo Twp (Jackson)	2,321	2,758	2,671	2,931	-2.0%
Livingston County		115,645	156,951	180,967	198,525	7.1%
Southeast MI		4,590,468	4,833,368	4,704,809	4,768,427	2.7%

Figure 10. Unadilla Township Population Trends



Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

Figure 11. Population Trends by Percentage



Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

* Note: Stockbridge, Waterloo, and White Oak Townships fall outside of the SEMCOG region. 2020 counts are based on American Community Survey estimates. 2045 projections are not available.

Table 14. Median Age, Unadilla Township & Region

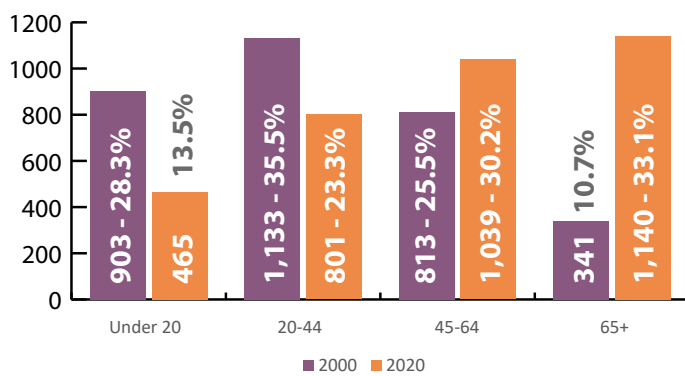
Year	Unadilla Township	Livingston County	State of Michigan
2010	42	39.9	38.1
2011	41.7	40.5	38.5
2012	41.5	40.9	38.8
2013	40.1	41.4	39.1
2014	44.1	41.8	39.3
2015	41.5	42.1	39.5
2016	45.1	42.5	39.6
2017	47.1	42.9	39.6
2018	48.8	43.2	39.7
2019	47.8	43.5	39.0
2020	56.3	43.7	39.8
2021	56.1	43.6	40.2

Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

While the Township’s population is increasing, its median age is also increasing. As shown in Table 14, Unadilla’s median age rose from 42 in 2010 to 56.1 in 2021. The median age in Unadilla is significantly higher than the medians in Livingston County and the State of Michigan, and the rate of increase from 2010 to 2021 is higher in Unadilla as well (14.1 years for Unadilla, 13.7 in Livingston County, 2.1 years in Michigan, and 1.6 years across the United States).

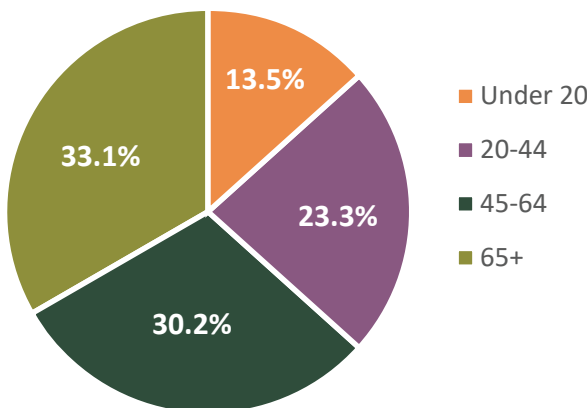
A look at the Township’s age breakdown helps explain the jump in median age. Table 15 and Figure 12 on this page and Table 16 on page 46 shows a clear shift in demographics even as population numbers are growing. Household sizes continue to decrease while the number of households with seniors 65 and older is increasing. The number of households with seniors living alone jumped 134% between 2010 and 2020, while the number of households without children increased almost 60%. These figures suggest that established Unadilla residents are more likely to “age in place”, and that new residents tend to be older and living without children at home. This trend was noted in the previous recreation plan and looks as if it will continue, and emphasizes the need to meet the recreation needs of an older population.

Figure 12. Age Distribution Comparison 2000 - 2020



Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

Figure 13. Unadilla Township Age Distribution 2019



Source: US Census, ACS

Table 15. Unadilla Township Age Ranges 2000 - 2020

Age group	Census 2000	Census 2020	ACS 2020	% change 2000 - 2020
Under 5	187	180	135	-27.8%
5 - 9	224	222	162	-27.7%
10 - 14	253	210	103	-59.3%
15 - 19	239	231	65	-72.8%
20 - 24	139	138	89	-36.0%
25 - 29	155	157	170	9.7%
30 - 34	232	180	158	-31.9%
35 - 39	305	247	236	-22.6%
40 - 44	302	255	148	-51.0%
45 - 49	283	315	132	-53.4%
50 - 54	253	308	215	-15.0%
55 - 59	168	276	336	100.0%
60 - 64	109	220	356	226.6%
65 - 69	99	155	529	434.3%
70 - 74	92	99	196	113.0%
75 - 79	76	63	246	223.7%
80 - 84	45	65	100	122.2%
85 and up	29	45	69	137.9%

Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

Table 16. Household Characteristics

Household Types	Census 2010	ACS 2020	% change	2045 SEMCOG
With seniors 65+	294	805	173.8%	832
Without seniors	992	799	-19.5%	823
Live alone 65+	85	199	134.1%	168
Live alone, under 65	180	144	-20%	166
2+ persons with children	413	294	-28.8%	432
2+ persons without children	608	967	59%	889
Total Households	1,286	1,604	24.7%	1,655

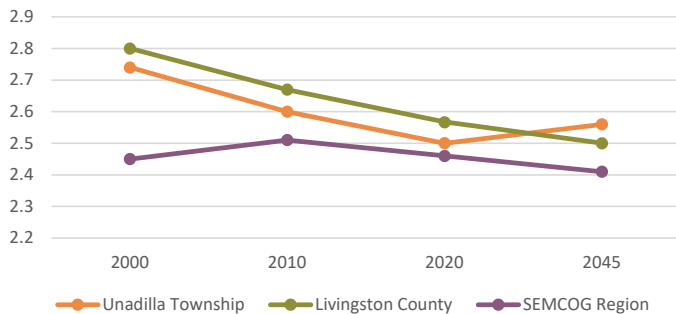
Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

Table 17. Household Size, Unadilla Township & Region

	2000	2010	2020	2045
Unadilla	2.79	2.69	2.50	2.56
Livingston Cty	2.8	2.67	2.59	2.5
SEMCOG Region	2.45	2.51	2.46	2.41

Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

Figure 14. Household Size Trends



Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

Table 18. Components of Population Change

Component	2000 - 05 average	2006 - 10 average	2011 - 18 average
Natural increase (births/deaths)	16	6	-6
• Births	46	35	28
• Deaths	30	29	34
Net Migration (movement in - movement out)	6	7	22
Population Change (Natural Increase + Net Migration)	22	13	16

Source: Michigan Dept. of Community Health Vital Statistics, US Census, SEMCOG

Housing

According to the SEMCOG, there are 1,523 housing units in Unadilla Township, an increase of 2.6% from 2010. Unadilla's housing units consist almost exclusively of single-family detached units (89.1%) with the majority of the remaining housing being mobile homes (10.2%). 10 units are described as townhomes or attached condominiums. In comparison to surrounding communities, Unadilla lags behind half of its neighbors in overall housing stock.

Table 19. Housing Stock, Unadilla & Surrounding Region

Community	Census 2010	SEMCOG 2020	# Change	% Change
Unadilla Twp	1484	1523	39	2.6%
Iosco Township	1352	1395	43	3.2%
Marion Township	3676	4234	558	15.2%
Putnam Township	2452	2501	49	2.0%
Village of Pinckney	927	884	-43	-4.6%
City of Dexter	1704	1914	210	12.3%
Dexter Township	2612	2800	188	7.2%
Lyndon Township	1141	1192	51	4.5%
Stockbridge Twp	1409	1581	172	12.2%
Waterloo Twp	1289	1334	45	3.5%
White Oak Twp	433	486	53	12.2%
Livingston County	72809	77892	5083	7.0%

Source: US Census, ACS, SEMCOG

89% of Unadilla's housing units are occupied, with 82% owner-occupied and 7% renter-occupied. Vacant units fell from 13.3% in 2010 to 10% in 2019. Residential property values fell 12.5% between 2010 and 2019, with the median housing value dropping from \$234,031 to \$204,700. Gross rent increased slightly during that period, however, rising by 3.3%, with the median gross rent at \$1,316 in 2019.

New building permits started to recover from the Great Recession in 2018, but were hit hard by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. A net total of 48 new permits have been issued since 2016.

Land Use Patterns & Development Trends

Unadilla Township is primarily a rural and agricultural community consisting of significant amounts of farmland, open space and low density residential development. This development pattern is principally due to the following factors:

- Numerous lakes, wetlands and natural features;
- A limited road network, including many miles of unpaved roads; and
- Vast public land holdings including the Gregory State Game Area, Unadilla Wildlife Area and Pinckney Recreation Area.

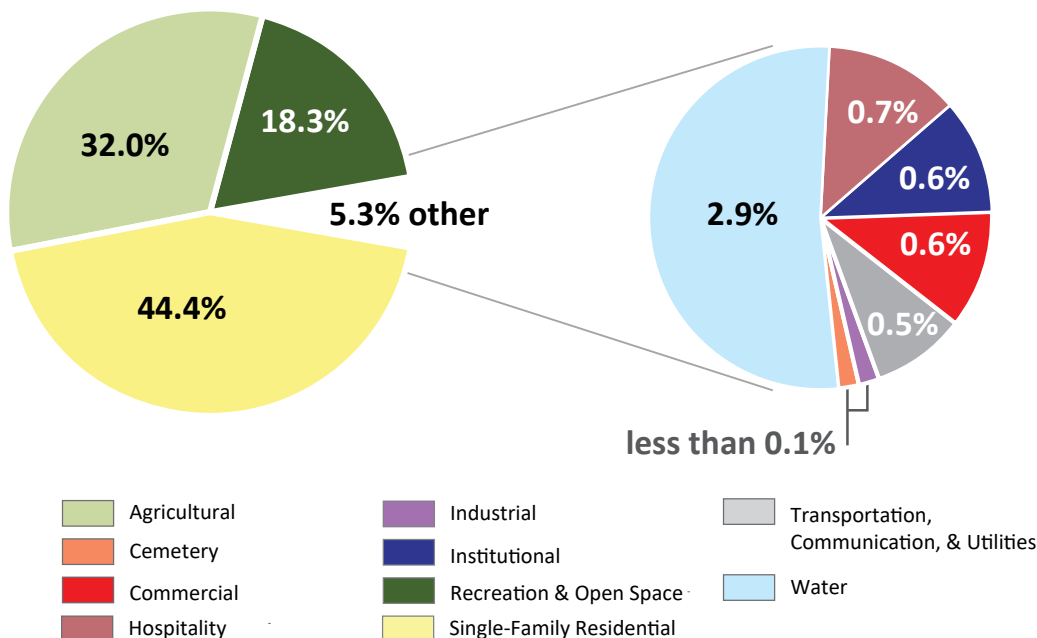
Unadilla continues to see increases in single-family residential development. Total land area dedicated to housing increased from 10,121.7 acres in 2017 to 10,184.2 acres by 2020. The changes comes primarily at the expense of agricultural land. While change is not dramatic, it does show a slow but steady move away from agriculture and highlights the importance of preserving open spaces. The state-owned recreation properties offer a certain level of open space protection, but the Township may wish to consider other acquiring sensitive properties while they remain available.

Table 20. Existing Land Use 2020

Land Use	Acres	Percent
Agricultural	7,341.9	32.0%
Single-family Residential	10,184.2	44.4%
Commercial	135.4	0.6%
Hospitality	167.06	0.7%
Industrial	4.2	0.0%
Governmental/Institutional	141.4	0.6%
Park, recreation, & open space	4,189.1	18.3%
Transportation, communication, & utility	104	0.5%
Water	676	2.9%
Total Acres	23693.6	

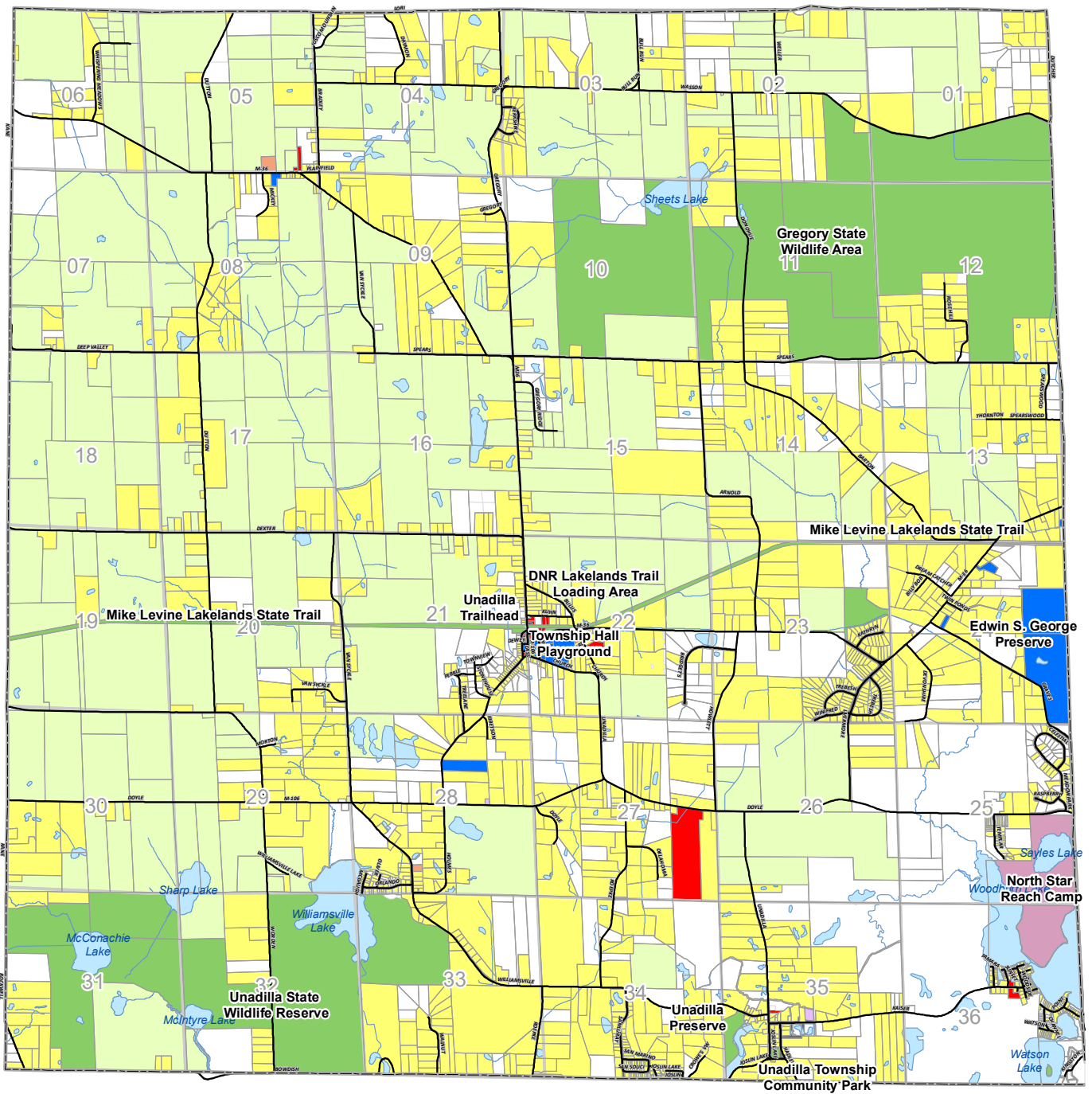
Source: Livingston County GIS

Figure 15. Existing Land Use 2020



Source: Livingston County GIS

Map 7. Existing Land Use



EXISTING LAND USE

	PublicSurveySection_v1_StateofMI selection		Single-Family Residential		Cemetery, Livingston County
	Agricultural - Farming		Transportation/ROW		Vacant/Open Space
	Commercial		Recreation		Water
	Industrial		0 0.5 1 Miles		
	Institutional		0 1,950 3,900 Feet		
	Hospitality				

Source: Livingston County GIS
 Carlisle/Wortman Associates
 June 2021

Natural Features

Unadilla is known for its abundance of woodlands, lakes and wetlands. The natural features of the area have played a major role in influencing growth and development to the area. Like much of Michigan's southern lower peninsula, the area's landscape is characterized by gently rolling topography formed through glacial action. As the glaciers retreated, the outwash of sand, soil and debris created an irregular pattern of hills and depressions that collected water, creating the region's lakes and wetlands.

Geology and Topography

Unadilla Township sits on bedrock composed primarily of shale that was created during the Paleozoic Era. The elevation of the Township ranges from a low of 890 to a high of 1,015 feet above sea level. The topography throughout most of the Township varies between 900 and 960 feet with the elevation falling from the north to the south part of the Township. The highest spot is located in the southwest corner of Section 17 at an elevation of 1,015 feet above sea level. The lowest spots in the Township are at an elevation of 890 and located along both sides of D-19 in Sections 35 and 36, just east of Unadilla and extending to the west side of Woodburn and Watson Lakes.

Soils

According to the Soil Conservation Service, soils in Unadilla Township consist of five soil associations: Carlisle-Houghton-Gilford, Fox-Boyer-Octavo, Miami-Hillsdale, Fox-Boyer-Octavo-Houghton and Spinks-Oakville-Boyer-Octavo. The first two soil associations cover most of the Township. Carlisle-Houghton-Gilford soils are the predominant soil association and are characterized as very poorly drained, organic soils on outwash plains, in glacial drainage ways and on lake plains. This soil association is present in all four corners of the Township and in the middle of the Township including Gregory. The Fox-Boyer-Oshtemo association is found throughout the middle of the Township surrounding Gregory and Unadilla. This soil association is characterized as well-drained soils found on moraines.

The last three soil associations are present in small areas of the Township. Miami Hillsdale soils are well-drained soils found on moraines and till plains along the western boundary and in the northwest quadrant of the Township. The Fox-Boyer-Oshtemo-Houghton soils are only present in a small area north of M-36 in Section 13. This soil association is described as well-drained soils and very poorly drained organic soils on outwash plains. Most of the soils are underlain by gravelly sand and are a potential source for sand and gravel. A small area of the Spinks-Oakville-Boyer-Oshtemo association is found along the eastern boundary of the Township in Sections 24 and 25 and consists of well-drained soils on moraines.

Water Resources

Unadilla Township includes two watersheds. The northern portion of the Township is part of the Red Cedar Watershed, which drains to Lake Michigan. The remaining portion which includes most of the Township is part of the Huron Watershed which drains to Lake Erie.

The Township includes ten major lakes of 10 acres or more which are located in the south portion of the Township. The three largest lakes include: Patterson Lake, which is split between Unadilla and Putnam townships, Williamsville Lake and Woodburn Lake. Sheets Lake is the fourth largest and only lake located in the northern portion of the Township. The five additional lakes range in size from 11 to 33 acres. They are located near the southern boundary of the Township and include: Mud, Watson, McConachie, Sharp and McIntyre lakes.

Unadilla Township does not contain any major rivers. However, there are two important creeks. Livermore Creek is located in the east half of the Township and travels in a north-south direction between Sheets Lake and Woodburn Lake. Portage Creek is located in the south portion of the Township and travels in a west-east direction between Williamsville and Woodburn Lakes.

In addition, the Unadilla-Stockbridge Drain travels in a north-south direction and is located in the west half of the Township. The drain extends from Section 7 near the northwest corner of the Township to connect with Williamsville Lake in Section 29.

Wetland areas are interspersed throughout the Township. The largest wetland systems are adjacent to lakes. A wetland system associated with Mud, Woodburn, Patterson and Watson lakes in the southeast corner of the Township forms the largest contiguous area of wetlands in the Township.

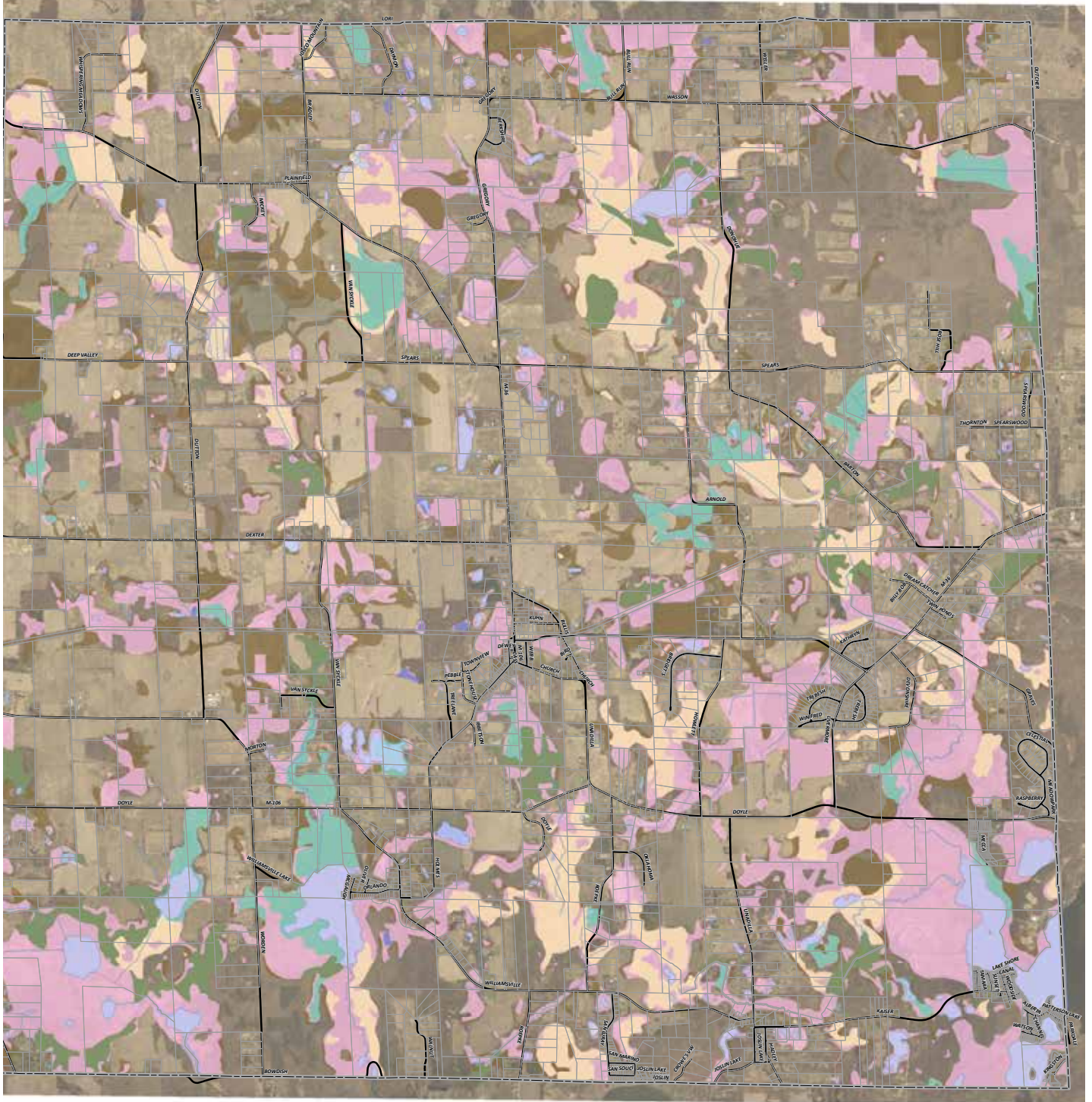
Table 21. Unadilla Township Lakes

Lake Name	Section	Acreage	Max Depth in Feet	Public Access
Patterson	36	170	60	Yes
Williamsville	28, 29, 32, 33	75.5	27	Yes
Woodburn	25, 36	67	26	No
Sheets	2, 3, 10, 11	61	20	Yes
Mud	25	33	Unknown	No
Watson	36	30	Unknown	No
McConachie	31	22	Unknown	No
Sharp	29, 30, 31, 32	20	Unknown	No
McIntyre	31, 32	10.5	23	No

Pinckney State Rec Area, Google/Shonda Adams



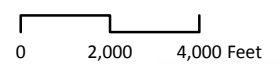
Map 8. Natural Features



NATURAL FEATURES

Unadilla Township, Livingston County

- Soil areas which include wetland soils
- Wetlands unclassified
- Lakes and Ponds
- Rivers and Streams
- Aquatic Bed
- Emergent
- Forested
- Scrub-Shrub



Source: Livingston County GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
October 5, 2016



Woodlands

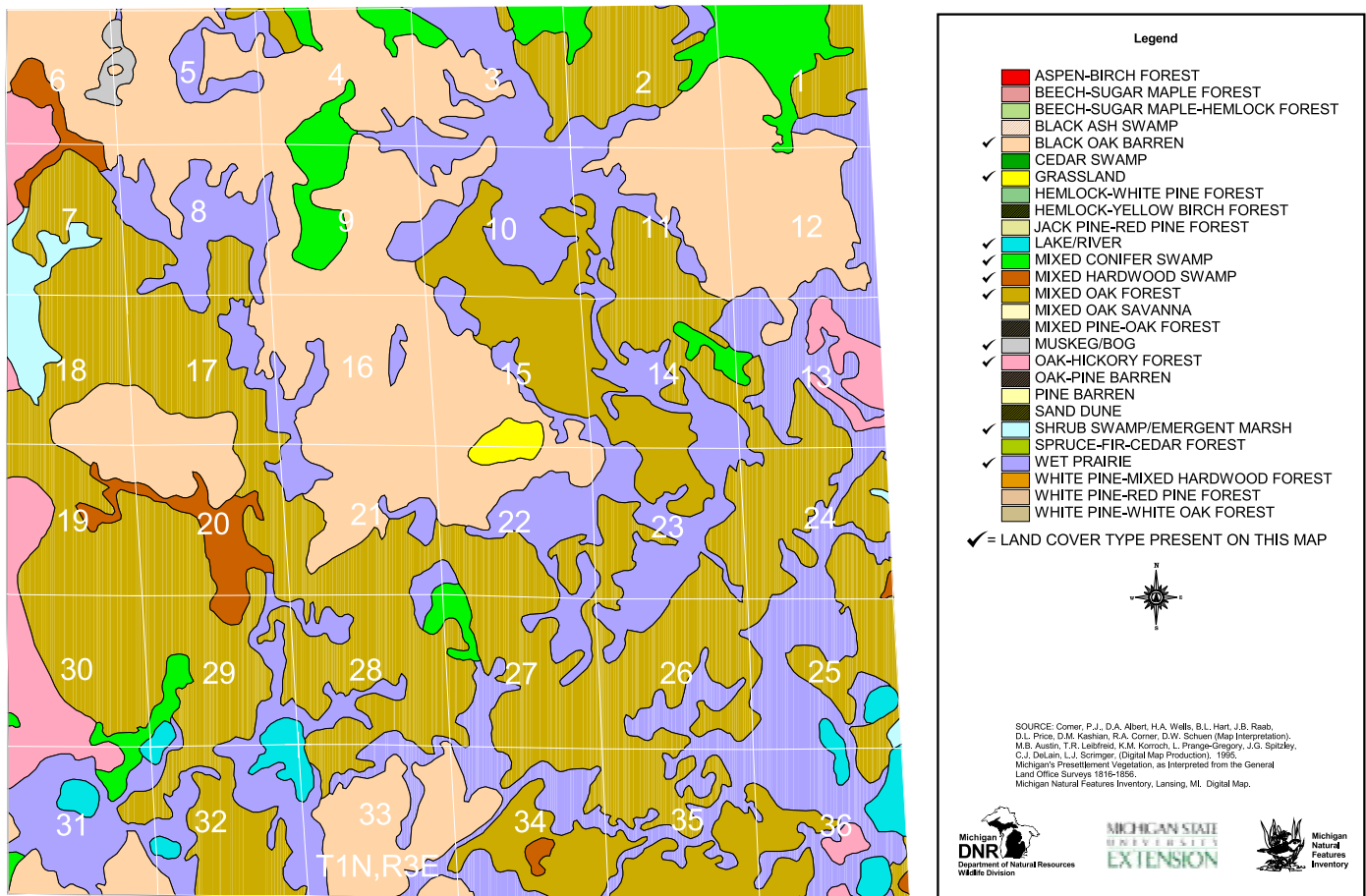
Existing woodlands are located primarily within the state parkland, along the waterways and wetlands. Moderately to well drained woodlands consist mostly of a mixture of hardwoods including oak, hickory, sugar maple, ash, cherry, beech, basswood and elm, while poorly drained woodlands consists mainly of elm, red maple, aspen, white cedar and tamarack.

Approximately 1,163 acres of woodlands are preserved in public ownership by MDNR which comprises Gregory State Game Area in the northeast portion of the Township. Other large woodland areas include approximately 150 acres in the northwest quadrant preserved by the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, 437 acres of woodland owned by the MDNR which includes Unadilla Wildlife Area in the southwest portion of the Township, 302 acres of woodland owned by the MDNR which contains Pinckney State Recreation Area in the southeast corner and 118 acres of woodlands owned by the University of Michigan in the southeast portion of the Township.



Pinckney State Rec Area, Google/Kenneth Nemchak

Figure 16. Unadilla Township Historical Vegetation Circa 1800



Source: Adapted from "Vegetation circa 1800 of Livingston County, Michigan", Michigan Department of Natural Resources, 1997

Planning Initiatives

While change is inevitable and growth in both population and housing will occur, Unadilla Township is committed to managing that growth to preserve its rural character and natural resources while enhancing recreational activities and overall quality of life for all its residents. The 2004 Livingston County Comprehensive Plan, the 2003 High-Quality Natural Areas study and the 2012 County Parks and Open Space Plan are recent local (Livingston County) initiatives that have relevance to the current plan. On a regional level, Michigan's trail initiatives, particularly those related to the Iron Belle Trail network and the Lake-to-Lake Trail system, as well as SEMCOG's 2014 Bicycle and Pedestrian Travel Plan for Southeast Michigan and Livingston County's Parks initiatives, have had significant bearing on Unadilla's recreation planning. Unadilla's most recent Master Land Use Plan was adopted in 2009.

2018 LIVINGSTON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The 2018 Livingston County Comprehensive Plan contains a significant amount of information directly related to parks and recreation development. Public input on the plan showed a desire for additional recreation facilities on the west side of the county, with multi-use trails being the most desired green infrastructure element. Improved mapping of recreation amenities received high priority in the plan as well. Specific goals and objectives include:

- Improved coordination and collaboration between governmental entities on recreation mapping and inventory development;
- Mapping planned and proposed linkages between parks and recreation resources;
- Facilitate conservation, trail, and recreation development between public and private recreation providers;
- Encourage communities to include Complete Streets
- Encouraging the incorporation of green areas into the County's land use pattern.

SEMCOG PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

The SEMCOG plan, adopted in 2019, was developed to highlight available recreation resources and ensure that the region's recreation system meets the needs of residents and visitors. The Plan notes that with over 2,300 parks covering 214,000 acres, over 400 miles of trails and greenways, and 450 miles of designated water trails, the region is well served by local, state, regional, and federal recreation authorities.

The plan provides several regional policy recommendations to address recreation development. Among the recommendations, prioritization of investment in land acquisition is viewed as necessary to address gaps in access to outdoor recreation facilities. Fostering collaboration among outdoor recreation stakeholders speaks to the need for ongoing cooperation between local and regional recreation authorities. Utilization of universal design principles ensures that facilities are accessible to residents of all abilities. Supporting conservation and stewardship of natural resources recognizes the value of open space and the desire of the region's residents to have access to natural areas in reasonable proximity to their homes.

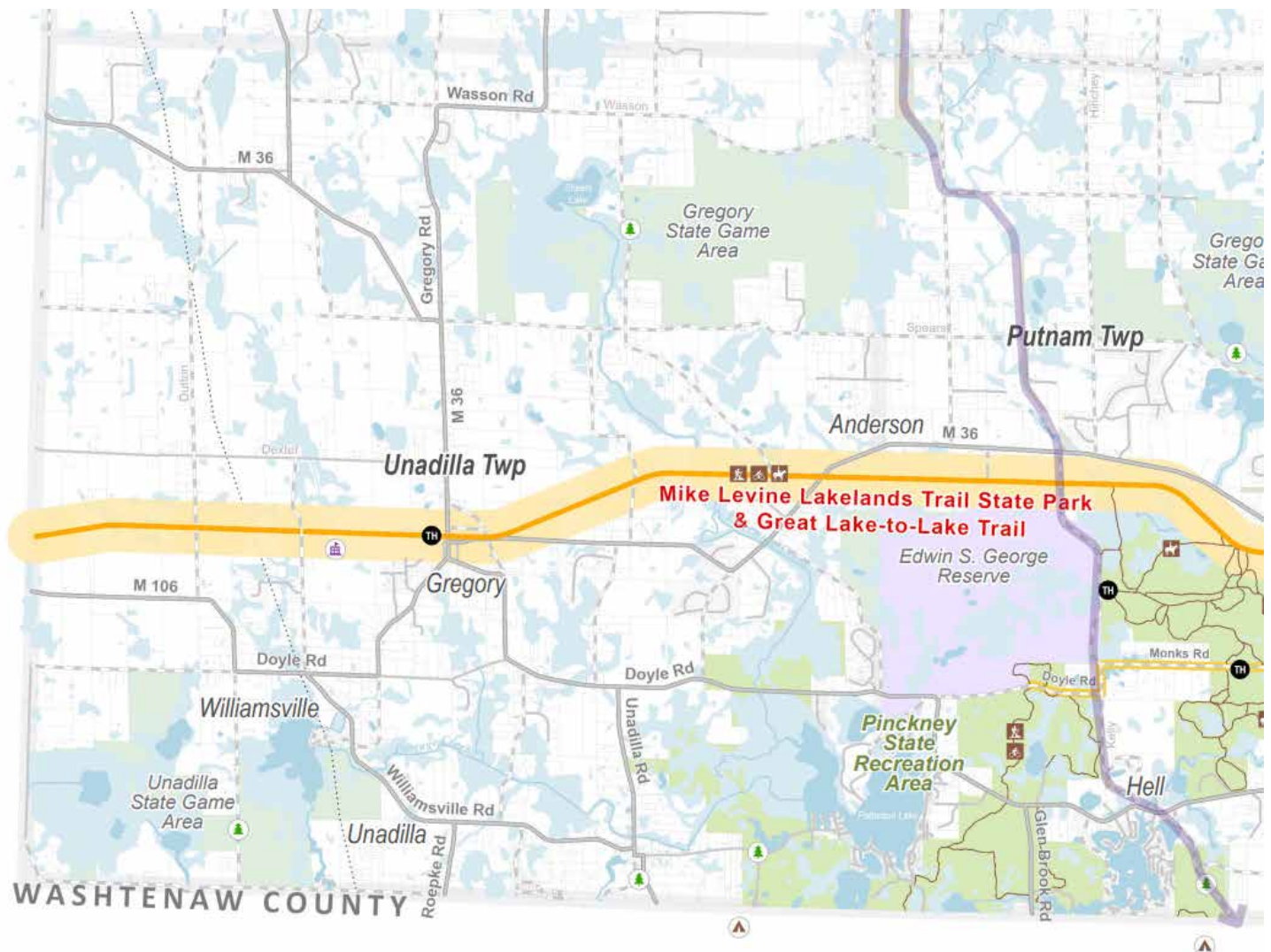
2009 UNADILLA TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN

The Township adopted future land use goals and objectives in 2009 which spells out a plan for the future development of the Township. Preservation of the community rural character, open spaces, farmland and environmentally sensitive areas is extremely important to residents of Unadilla and is reflected in the Master Plan's goals and objectives.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY TRAILS PLAN

Adopted in 2020, the Livingston County Trails Plan gathered input from governmental representatives and community stakeholders to create an interconnected trail network. The plan identifies three named priority routes and four unnamed routes, some of which relate directly to Unadilla Township. Expansion of the Flex Route on US-23 offers improved crossing opportunities over the freeway, and direct connections between Island Lake State Recreation Area, Huron Meadows Metropark, and the Brighton State Recreation Area. Long term systems include a new route connecting south into Washtenaw County and north through Putnam, Marion, and Handy Townships.

Figure 17. Livingston County Trails Plan

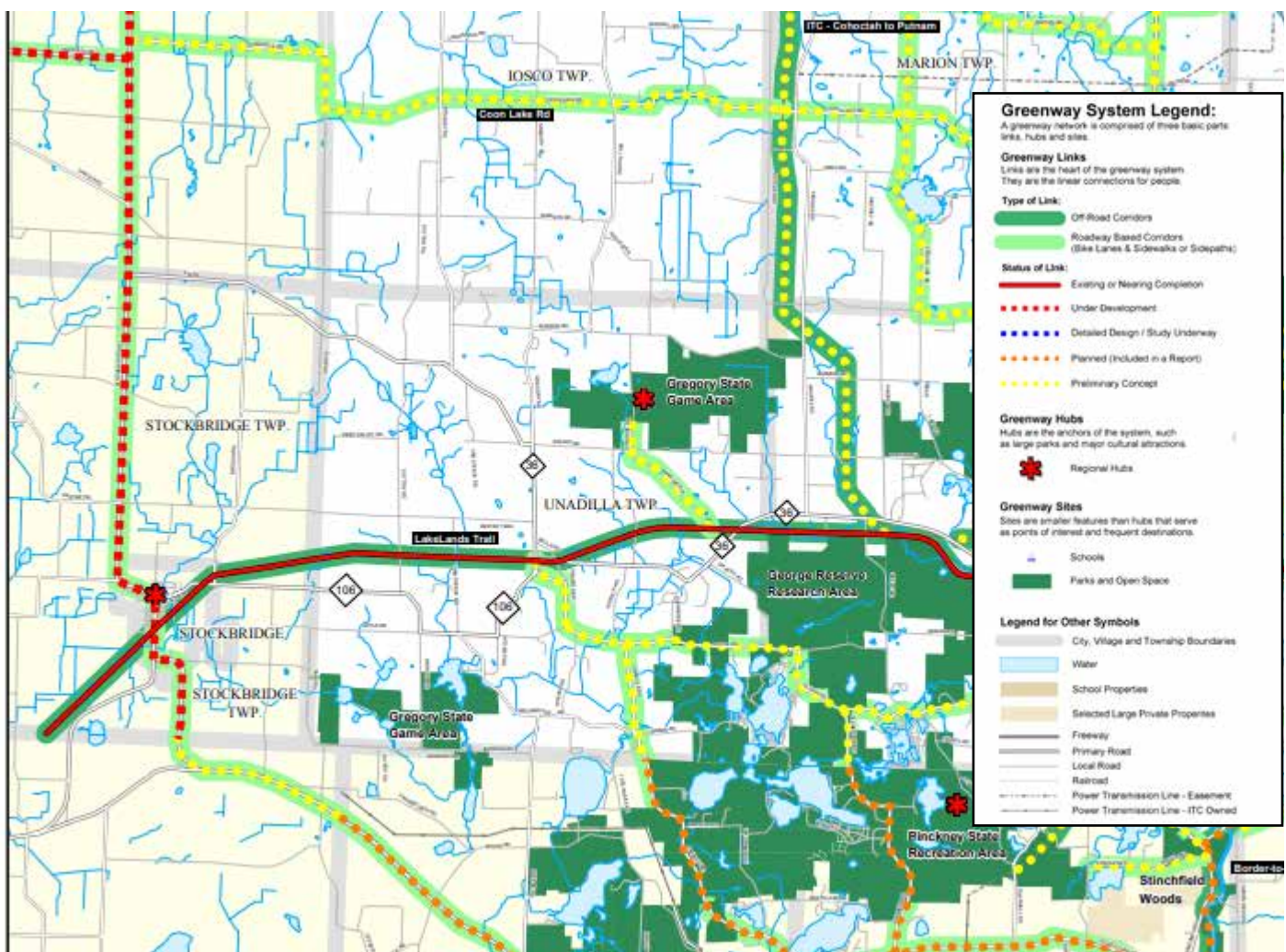


SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN GREENWAYS VISION

In 2006, the seven-county region of southeast Michigan updated the Southeast Michigan Greenways Vision to reflect the desired non-motorized connections in the region. This initiative was facilitated by the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. Counties worked together with local municipalities and community interest groups to develop a long-term vision for a connected system of greenways and trails.

Since the initial framework was developed, the initiative has expanded to include water trails as well as hiking and biking trails. Maps of existing and planned facilities show an ambitious trail network connecting facilities throughout the area. Among the proposed facilities, connections between the Lakelands State Trail and the Border-to-Border Trail are consistent with the vision laid out in this and other plans.

Figure 18. Southeast Michigan Greenways Vision

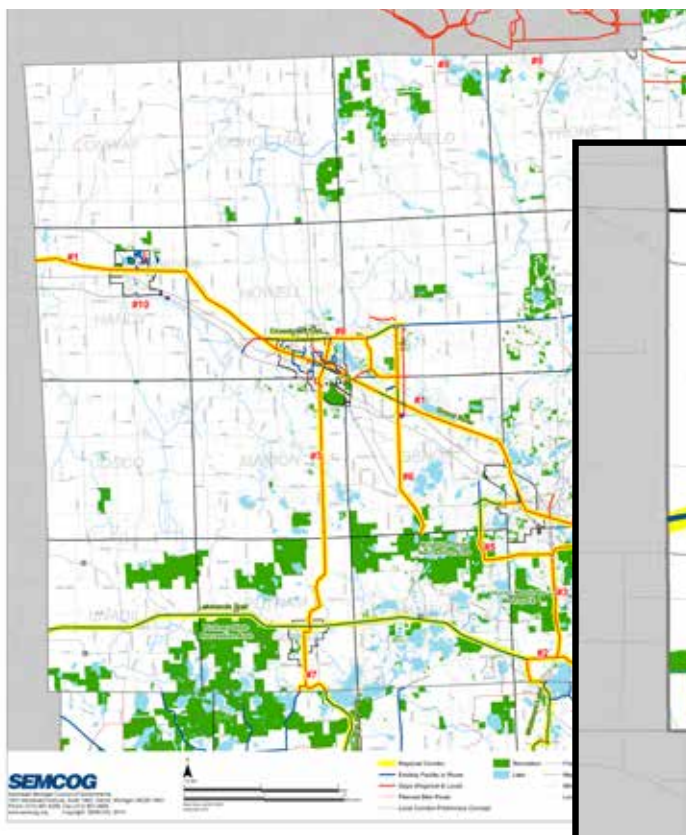


SEMCOG 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN / 2014 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN FOR SE MICHIGAN

The 2045 Regional Transportation Plan provides broad transportation recommendations for projects across the seven-county region, with a budget of over \$5 billion proposed for transportation infrastructure improvements. While this plan focuses on motorized infrastructure, it does provide a chance to look at upcoming projects and plan accordingly for other related infrastructure improvements. Generally speaking, road infrastructure improvements represent opportunities for adding to bicycle networks and implementing complete street programs.

The 2014 SEMCOG plan is a joint effort between Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The plan provides recommendations for bicycle and pedestrian facilities across 10 regions and incorporating 60 different action items. SEMCOG’s larger regional focus places more emphasis on existing non-motorized transportation options.

Figure 19. SEMCOG Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan



2003 LIVINGSTON COUNTY’S HIGH-QUALITY NATURAL AREAS

The study focused on identifying and evaluating potential natural areas of the County on which to target preservation efforts. Natural Areas are defined as areas of potential ecological significance which have been ranked based on the overall score of several criteria including: size, presence of riparian lands, wetlands and connectivity to assess each natural area’s ecological value. The analysis revealed a large number of sizable, high-quality natural areas.

Unadilla includes fifteen “Priority 1” areas located in the northeast, southeast and southwest corners of the Township. The northeast corner contains about 1,780 acres of Priority 1 natural area including parts of the Gregory State Game Area. The southeast corner of the Township contains about 1,460 acres surrounding a cluster of lakes and contains the Pinckney Recreation Area and a University of Michigan reserve. 1,240 acres in the southwest corner of the Township surrounds Williamsville, Sharp, McConachie and McIntyre lakes in the Unadilla Wildlife Area.

Priority 2 areas are more abundant and are scattered throughout the township. Most are between 50 and 200 acres in size and are often located near other natural areas. Priority 3 areas have cumulative scores of 10 points or less and are typically less than 40 acres in size. These areas are also scattered throughout the Township.

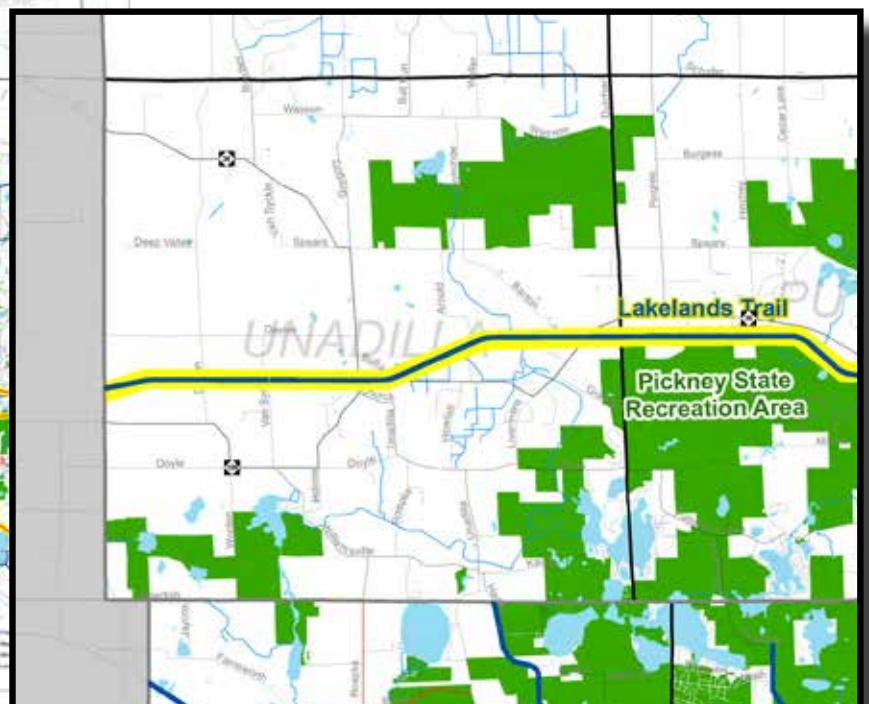
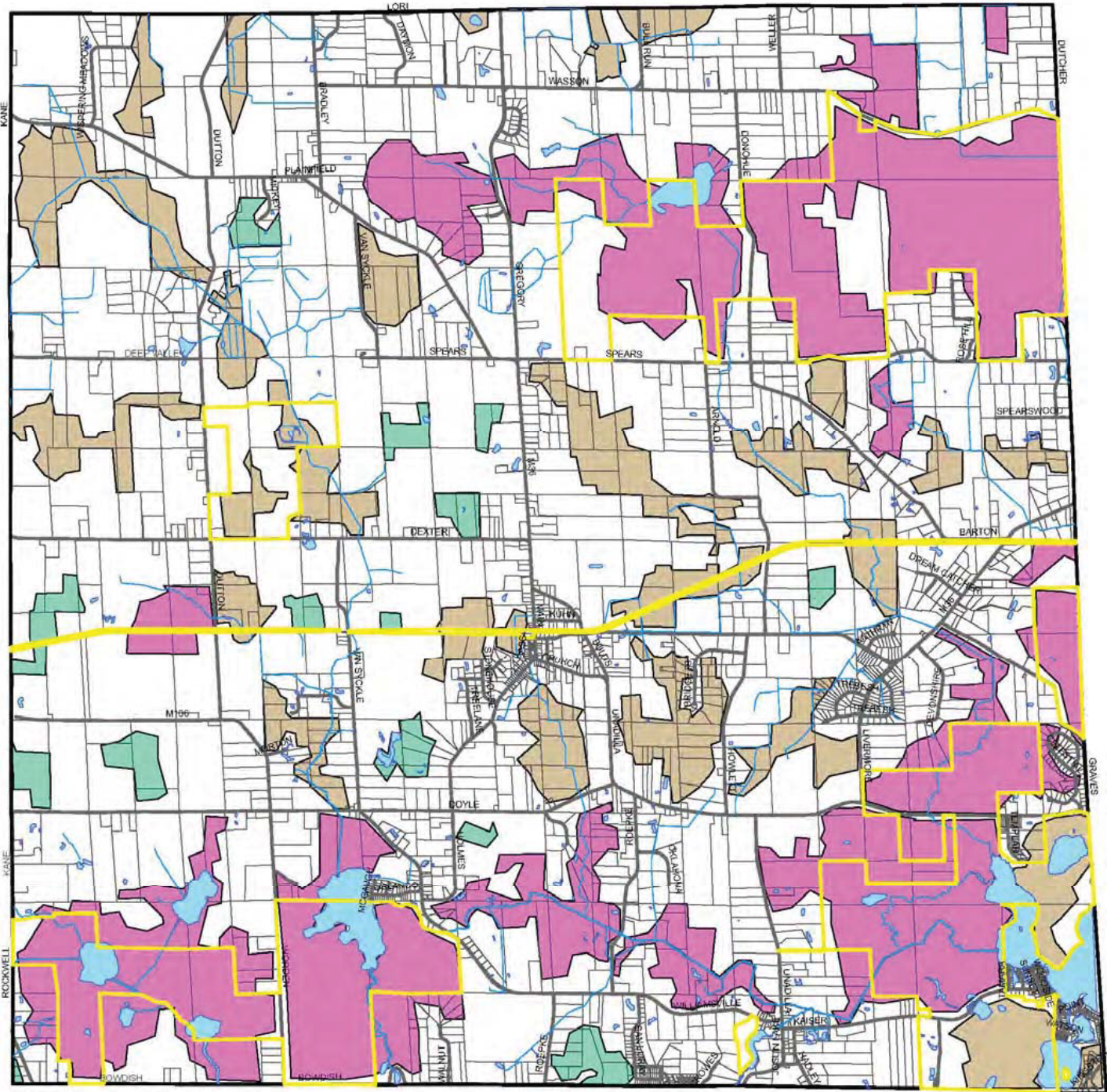


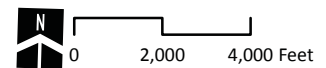
Figure 20. High Quality Natural Areas



- Priority 1 Natural Area
- Priority 2 Natural Area
- Priority 3 Natural Area
- Public Land
- Lakes
- Rivers, Streams, and Drains

High Quality Natural Areas

Unadilla Township, Livingston County



Source: Livingston County GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
October 5, 2016



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Appendices



Appendix A - Public Notices

Public meeting notices - June 14, 2023



Unadilla Township Parks & Recreation Plan Community Input Meeting



A community open house will be held on
Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
 Unadilla Township Community Park - intersection of Barnum Road & Joslin Lake Road
 In case of rain, event will be held at the Unadilla Township Offices, 126 Webb Street, Gregory, Michigan

Unadilla Township is seeking input from residents regarding recreation opportunities in the community via an open house meeting. Please join us and let us know your thoughts on existing and potential future recreation development in the Township. Your input will have a direct impact on the future of parks, trails, and recreation services in the community.

126 Webb Street | Gregory, MI 48137 | Phone: 734-498-2502 | E-mail: unadillatwp@yahoo.com

Property Taxes Taxes FAQ

Township Announcements

Unadilla Township Parks & Recreation Plan Community Input Meeting

[Click Here to see the Flyer](#)

[READ MORE >](#)

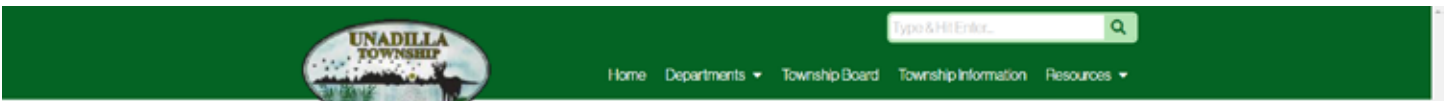
Board Meeting Cancellation

May Unadilla Township Board meeting has been cancelled next meeting will be June 6th.

[READ MORE >](#)

Calendar of Events

MAY 2023							EV
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	
30	1	2	3	4	5	6	No Event
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	




Unadilla Township Parks & Recreation Plan Community Input Meeting

[Click Here to see the Flyer](#)

12
Stockbridge Community News
June 2023

Active Aging

Gardening is a little piece of heaven



by **Mary Schwark**
 I love to go barefoot in my garden. Maybe not when I'm hoeing rows or using tools, but definitely when I'm sitting on the grass with a little evening breeze and a glass of wine plus a little music.

Legal Notice

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Village of Stockbridge has filed a lawsuit to quiet title to the property at 111 W. Main Street.

S

C

Mary Schwark is a member and volunteer coordinator at the Stockbridge Area Senior Center—a great place to spend time. Visit [stockbridgeareaseeniors.org](#) or call 517-480-0353 for information.

MENTION THIS AD AND GET 10% OFF YOUR FIRST MONTH OF SERVICE WITH SEASONAL CONTRACT. PLEASE CONTACT FOR MORE DETAILS: catsenservices.mi@gmail.com



Unadilla Township Parks & Recreation Plans Community Input Meeting

Unadilla Township Community Park - Intersection of Barnum Rd. & Joslin Lake Rd.
 In case of rain, event will be held at the Unadilla Township Offices, 126 Webb St., Gregory.

Unadilla Township is seeking input from residents regarding recreation opportunities in the community via an open house meeting. Please join us and let us know your thoughts on existing and potential future recreation development in the Township. Your input will have a direct impact on the future of parks, trails, and recreation services in the community.

126 Webb St. | Gregory, MI 48137 | Phone: 734-498-2502 | E-mail: unadillatwp@yahoo.com

The screenshot shows the Unadilla Township website interface. At the top, the date is July 8, 2021. The main header reads "Unadilla Township". A navigation menu on the left lists various township services. A central notice states: "Meeting Cancellation: The Board meeting scheduled for June 10 is cancelled and will be held on Tuesday, July 8, 2021 at 7:00p.m." Below this, a "NOTICES" section features the Unadilla Township logo and a survey announcement: "UNADILLA TOWNSHIP NEW ONLINE SURVEY... THE EMAIL IS CHECKED DAILY. PLEASE EMAIL A MESSAGE TO THE TOWNSHIP AT 7:00 HOURS." The survey link is <https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/Unadilla>. A social media-style post from the "Unadilla Township Parks and Recreation Committee" is overlaid on the right, containing the same survey information and a QR code. At the bottom, there is a weather widget for Ann Arbor, MI, showing 60°F and a "Stockbridge Health Center Survey" link.

Posts

Unadilla Township Parks and Recreation Committee
 8 hrs · 🌐

Hi folks- we hope you are enjoying the outdoors this summer! The Recreation Committee is asking for you to participate in a quick survey we put together in order to get your thoughts on our Unadilla parks and recreation areas. The short survey will ask you how you use the parks, what you may like to see in the future, and any thoughts or ideas you may have. You do not need to be a resident of Unadilla and the survey does not ask for any identifying information and is very secure.

Just follow this link to start the survey- THANK YOU!
<https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/Unadilla>

SURVEY.SOGOSURVEY.COM
Survey Participation

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share



The survey can be accessed at:
<https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/Unadilla>

Hard copies are available upon request at Township Hall, 126 Webb Street, Gregory, MI. The survey will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 27, 2020. All hard copies of the survey must be received by the Township Hall by that time to be included in the survey results.

Thank you for taking the time to help us better understand the recreation needs for Augusta Township. Your responses will have a direct impact on the future of parks, trails, and recreation services in the community.



126 Webb Street | Gregory, MI 48137 | Phone: 734-498-2502 | E-mail: unadillatwp@yahoo.com

Stockbridge Health Center Survey
<https://forms.ale/xx1H0G@kbnr.com/>

Drug Rehab Advice Center - Drug Addiction Rehab United States and Canada

30-day Review Period Notice - Website Notice & Affidavit of Publishing



Township Announcements

Three announcement cards: 'Notice of Plan Availability for Review', 'Unadilla Township Police Department Job Posting', and 'Summer Tax Bills are due Thursday September 14TH'.



LIVINGSTON DAILY PRESS & ARGUS NEWSPAPERS
323 East Grand River Avenue, Howell MI 48843

BE IT MADE KNOWN THAT THE FOLLOWING LEGAL AD APPEARED IN

UNADILLA TOWNSHIP
126 WEBB ST
GREGORY, MI 48137

REFERENCE: 3244686
FILE NO: 0008791308
THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE

LIVINGSTON DAILY PRESS & ARGUS a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper, in which the order was published on the date indicated below

LEGAL CLERK PRINTED NAME

LEGAL CLERK SIGNATURE

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF WISCONSIN COUNTY OF BROWN

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 5.15.27

Subscribed and sworn to before me on AUGUST 16TH, 2023

PUBLISHED ON: 8/16/2023

FILED ON: 8/16/2023

of Affidavits: 1
THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE

NANCY HEYRMAN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

NOTICE OF PLAN AVAILABILITY FOR REVIEW
Unadilla Township has revised their Parks & Recreation Master Plan and is seeking public input on the new 2024 -2028 Plan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires a minimum 30-day public review process as part of the master planning process. The Plan will be available for review through October 12, 2023, at which time a formal public hearing for adoption of the Plan will be held as part of the regularly scheduled Township Board meeting.
A copy of the draft master plan is available for review at the following locations:
• Unadilla Township Offices, 126 Webb Street, Gregory, MI.
• The draft plan is also available online on the Township's website at http://twp.unadilla.mi.us , or can be directly accessed at https://www.calameo.com/read/005107673e3749b910bd4 .
• For questions or comments, please call 734-498-2502.

Appendix B - Recreation Plan Committee Recommendation



December 1, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

The Unadilla Township Parks and Recreation Committee, as well as the Township Board, have completed the process for adoption of the new Recreation Plan, as mandated by the DNR, and feel that the plan accurately reflects the recreation needs of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Cowan". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Lori Cowan
Unadilla Parks and Recreation Committee Chair

Appendix C - Minutes of Public Hearing

Unadilla Township Regular Meeting Minutes October 12, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Pledge to flag.

Present: Walker, Topping, Weiland, Cowan, Cox. Absent: None.

Motion Walker support Weiland to approve the September meeting minutes. Carried.

Motion Walker support Topping to approve bills as presented. Carried.

Call to Public: None.

* Public Hearing on Recreation Plan. **Motion** Walker support Cox to close regular meeting and open public hearing at 7:03 p.m. Carried. Discussion and explanation by Cowan on updating plan. **Motion** Cowan support Weiland to approve the Recreation Plan. Carried. **Motion** Walker support Cox to close public hearing and return to regular meeting at 7:06 p.m. Carried.

Planning Report: Currently working on language and overlay area for Solar Ordinance.

Police Report by Chief Russell, officer Gelman on light duty thru mid-November.

Decommissioning 2003 car. Interviewing open positions.

Fire Report by Chief Hause, annual fire open house set for Sunday 11/2. 2 new members starting fire academy, Dominic Beutler moved back and has rejoined. 2022 runs to date 226
2023 runs to date 290, increase in runs every year.

Recreation Update: Walker received one bid on siding and repairs on old school house, seeking at least 1 more bid. Cowan reports gazebo in Unadilla needs some repairs.

Unfinished Business: Show causes all on hold all showing some progress.

Surf Air no new updates, County broadband ongoing.

New Business: None.

Final Call to Public: discussion on broadband availability.

Motion Walker support Weiland to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. Carried.



Linda Topping, Clerk

UNADILLA TOWNSHIP
LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE
UNADILLA TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN 12-2023

DECEMBER 19, 2023

WHEREAS, Unadilla Township has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2024 to 2028; and

WHEREAS, the Township began the process of developing a Parks & Recreation Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities; and

WHEREAS, The Township has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation opportunities for Unadilla Township; and

WHEREAS, residents of Unadilla Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunities during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on October 12, 2023, at Unadilla Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the Township to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Unadilla Township 2024 – 2028 Parks & Recreation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Board of Trustees voted to adopt said Unadilla Township 2024 – 2028 Parks & Recreation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the plan serves as a guideline for park land, open space, and recreation planning by Parks & Recreation; and

WHEREAS, the plan also serves as a planning tool for other Township boards and commissions, such as the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a five-year plan is mandated by the Department of Natural Resources for eligibility for DNR-administered grants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Unadilla Township Board of Trustees hereby adopts the Unadilla Township Parks & Recreation Master Plan for the years 2024 – 2028.

Motion by WALKER Supported by: COWAN

Absent: NONE Ayes: COWAN, COX, WALKER, WEILAND, TOPPING

Nays: NONE

Resolution Adopted.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I, Linda Topping, the duly qualified Clerk of Unadilla Township, Livingston County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a special meeting of the Unadilla Township Board of Trustees meeting held on December 19, 2023, and that public notices of said meeting were given pursuant to Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

Linda Topping
Linda Topping

12-19-2023
Date Certified

UNADILLA TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2023

Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m.

Pledge to flag.

Present: Walker, Topping, Weiland, Cowan, Cox. Absent: None.

Motion Walker support Cox to approve the agenda. Carried.

Motion Walker support Weiland to approve the November 30, 2023 regular meeting minutes.
Carried

Call to Public: None.

New Business: **Motion** Walker support Cowan to approve the Recreation Master Plan Resolution. Roll Vote: Ayes: Cowan, Cox, Walker, Weiland, Topping. Nays: None. Absent: None. Resolution adopted.

Final Call to Public: None.

Motion Cox support Walker to approve the December 19, 2023 special meeting minutes.
Carried.

Motion Walker support Cox to adjourn at 11:08 a.m. Carried.



Linda Topping, Clerk
Unadilla Township



Carlisle | Wortman
ASSOCIATES, INC.

117 NORTH FIRST STREET SUITE 70 ANN ARBOR, MI 48104 734.662.2200 734.662.1935 FAX

January 3, 2024

Scott Barb
Planning Director
Livingston County
304 East Grand River
Suite 206
Howell, Michigan 48843

Dear Mr. Barb:

The Unadilla Board of Trustees adopted the attached Parks & Recreation Master Plan at a meeting held on October 12, 2023. The plan has been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval. The plan will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any comments regarding this plan.

Thank you for your consideration,

CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.

Chris Nordstrom, PLA, ASLA

Landscape Architect

cc. Linda Walker, Supervisor
Linda Topping, Clerk
Lori Cowan, Trustee

Richard K. Carlisle, *President* Douglas J. Lewan, *Executive Vice President* John L. Enos, *Principal*
David Scurto, *Principal* Benjamin R. Carlisle, *Principal* Sally M. Elmiger, *Principal* Craig Strong, *Principal* R. Donald Wortman, *Principal*
Laura K. Kreps, *Associate* Paul Montagno, *Associate*



Carlisle | Wortman
ASSOCIATES, INC.

117 NORTH FIRST STREET SUITE 70 ANN ARBOR, MI 48104 734.662.2200 734.662.1935 FAX

A - Public Notices

B - Rec. Plan Committee Recommendation

C - Minutes of Public Hearing

D - Township Board Resolution

E - Letters of Transmittal

F - Public Input Summary

G - Concept Plans

January 3, 2024

Tyler Klifman
Regional Review Office
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
1001 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1400
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Mr. Klifman:

The Unadilla Board of Trustees adopted the attached Parks & Recreation Master Plan at a meeting held on October 12, 2023. The plan has been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval. The plan will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any comments regarding this plan.

Thank you for your consideration,

CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.

Chris Nordstrom, PLA, ASLA

Landscape Architect

cc. Linda Walker, Supervisor
Linda Topping, Clerk
Lori Cowan, Trustee

Richard K. Carlisle, *President* Douglas J. Lewan, *Executive Vice President* John L. Enos, *Vice President*
David Scurto, *Principal* Benjamin R. Carlisle, *Principal* Sally M. Elmiger, *Principal* Craig Strong, *Principal* R. Donald Wortman, *Principal*
Laura K. Kreps, *Senior Associate* Paul Montagno, *Principal* Megan Masson-Minock, *Principal*

Appendix F - Public Input

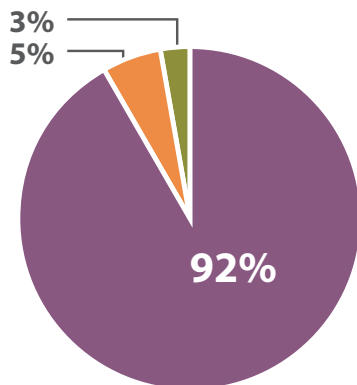
Unadilla Township Recreation Plan Community Survey Results

A community survey was offered online and in hard copy format from July 9 through August 27, 2021. The survey was advertised on the Township website, through a newspaper advertisement, via flyers, and on the Township's social media accounts (see Appendix A). A total of 33 individuals participated in the survey.

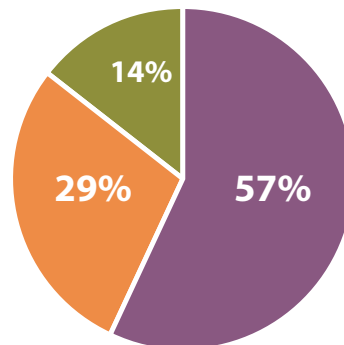
The following pages provides the verbatim responses received. For an analysis of the results, see the Public Participation chapter beginning on page 15.

Question 1: How important are the following items to you and your family?

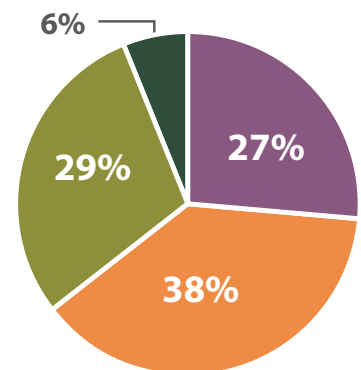
1a: Maintaining existing parks and recreation facilities



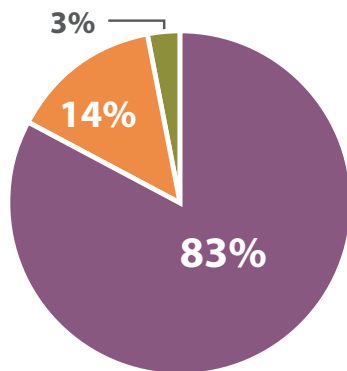
1b: Acquiring and developing new parks and recreation facilities



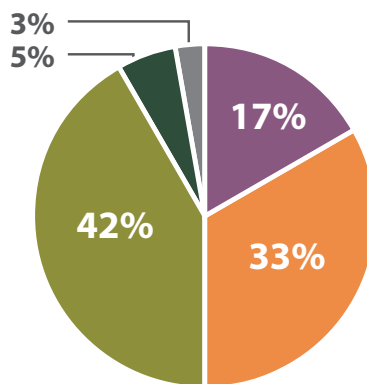
1c: Access to active use facilities (e.g. soccer, football, baseball, tennis, etc.)



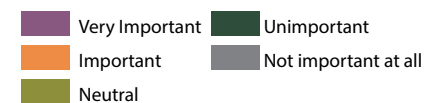
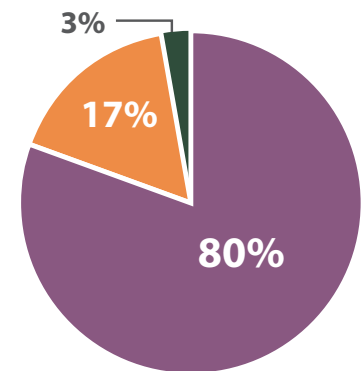
1d: Protecting natural resources



1e: Access to picnic facilities

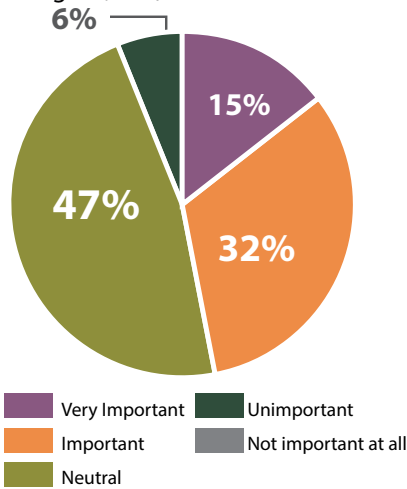


1f: Access to paths and trails

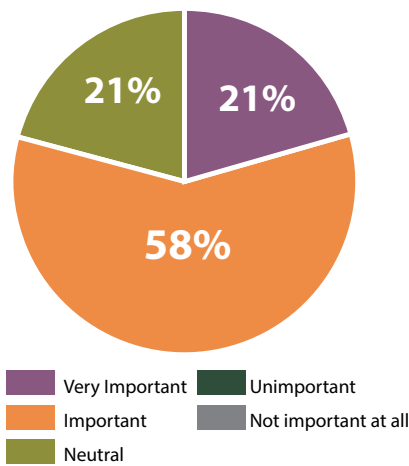


Question 1 (continued)

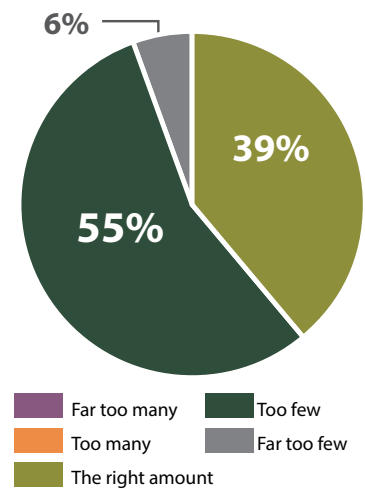
1g: Access to recreation programming (e.g. special events, classes, sports leagues, etc.)



1h: Access to passive use facilities (playgrounds, sitting areas, pavilions, etc.)

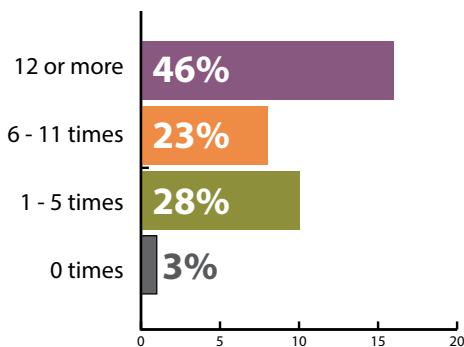


Question 2: Does Unadilla Township have too many, too few, or about the right number of parks?

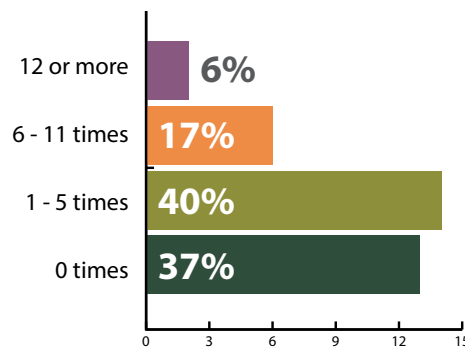


Question 3: In the past 12 months, how many times have you visited Unadilla Township's recreation facilities?

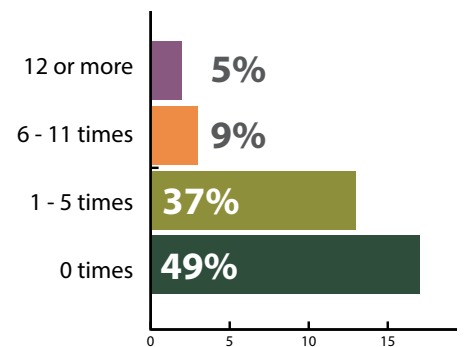
3a: Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail



3b: Unadilla Township Community Park

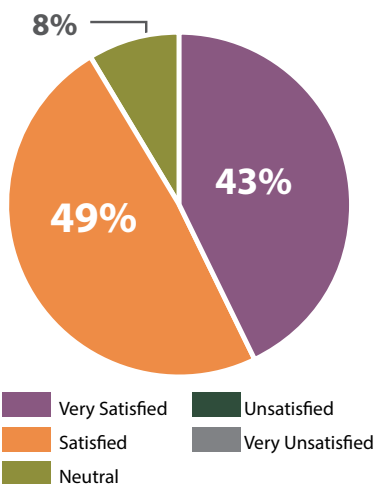


3c: Unadilla Township Hall Playground

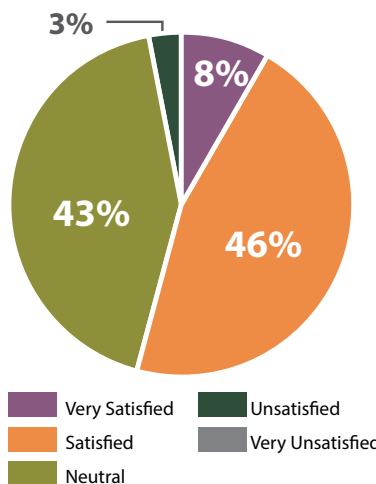


Question 4: How satisfied are you with...

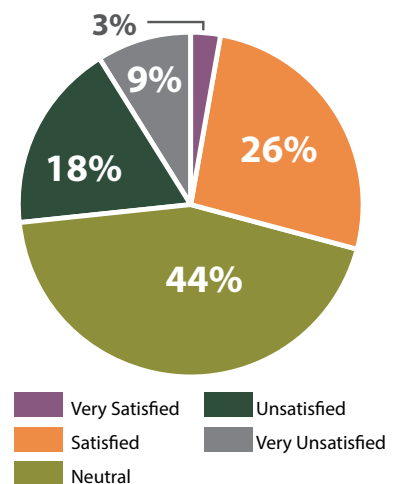
4a: Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail



4b: Unadilla Township Community Park



4c: Unadilla Township Hall Playground



Question 5: What can the Township do to make your experience better at...

5a: Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail

- Continue to improve the Lakeland trail. We love to use it.

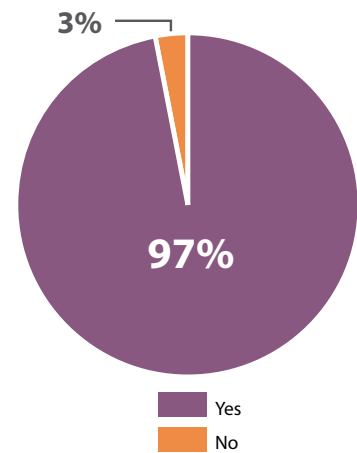
5b: Unadilla Township Community Park

- Add real parking lot, better lighting, more trash bins, more seating, more thing to do , WiFi add.

5c: Unadilla Township Hall Playground

- Upgrade all of it , add more things, trash bins, baseball court fix up, WiFi add
- Update the equipment
- Upgrade the equipment
- Needs an improvement with better playground equipment.
- Add tennis courts and update equipment.
- Improve equipment
- It's pretty outdated. New equipment would be nice.

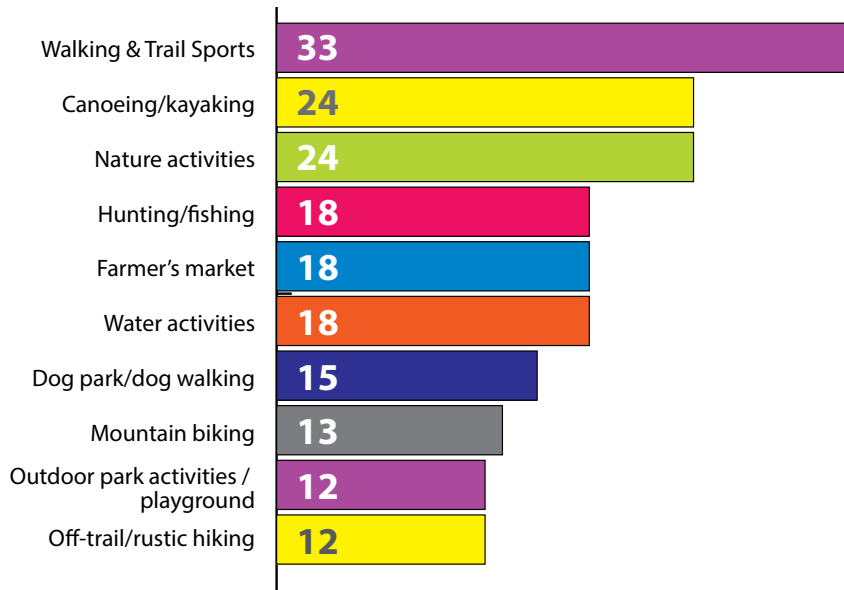
Question 6: Do you or your family visit neighboring community, county, state, or other regional recreation facilities?



Question 6a: If yes, which facilities do you visit?

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pinckney, Howell, metro parks • Trails, playgrounds • Local public hunting grounds • Pinckney, Chelsea park, Bruin Lake Campground • Island Lake, Pinckney Rec Area & Kensington • Metro Parks • State and metro parks • Brighton Rec Area, other state parks • Metro parks, Pickerel Lake, half moon, silver lake, Pinckney Recreation area trails • Dexter, Chelsea, Stockbridge • Blue heron splash bay, Kensington, Pinckney playground, Stockbridge playground | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lakeland trail in Pinckney because it is paved. • Mike Levine Trail Stockbridge, Waterloo Recreation Area, • pinckney waterloo; green lake; m52 trail; b to b trails. • Pinckney rec. Brighton rec Pinckney school facilities. Potawatomi trail, DTE trails • Sports and playground areas • Pinckney Recreation Area • Falls of Neuse Raleigh NC • Bike trails • Splash pads • state parks, metroparks, Pinckney Town Square park • Waterloo Rec Area, Pinckney Rec Area, Gregory State Game Area | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to Covid we went all over the state • Waterloo, beckwith, state land trails, half moon lake, south lake • State Parks, Biking trails • Pinckney State Rec, ILRA, Brighton Rec, Metroparks, PLRA, Proud Lake Rec • Potawatomi, Lakeland Trail. • Pinckney park, Pinckney schools tennis courts, Pinckney rec area. Bruin lake, half moon state park. • Silver/Crooked Lake (hiking trails), other parts of Waterloo/Pinckney rec areas, path along M-52, soccer field and track at Stockbridge HS, Huron River and assoc. parks • Pinckney recreational areas • Pinckney Recreation Area, Huron Metropark |
|---|---|--|

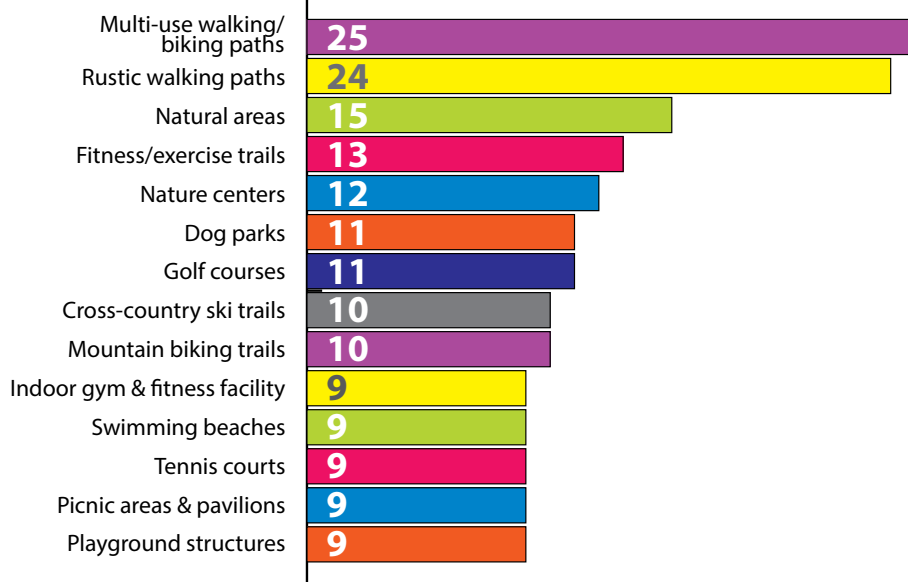
Question 7: What types of activities do you or your family regularly participate in? Choose all that apply



Additional Responses:

- 9 - Picnicking
- 9 - Golf
- 8 - Movie nights/Concerts in the Park
- 7 - Cross country or downhill skiing
- 7 - Court sports (tennis, pickleball, etc.)
- 7 - Field sports (football, soccer, etc.)
- 5 - Sledding
- 5 - Figure skating / hockey
- 4 - Painting or photography
- 3 - Horseback riding
- 3 - Educational programming
- 3 - Kite flying
- 3 - Community gardening
- 3 - Skateboarding
- 3 - Snowmobiling
- 2 - Geocaching
- 2 - Senior programs
- 1 - Paint ball
- 1 - Other - "Trail running on Mike L trail daily"

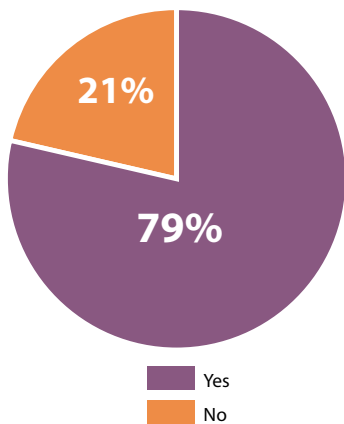
Question 8: Which of the following park amenities would you like to see more of? Choose all that apply



Additional Responses:

- 8 - Swimming beaches
- 8 - Picnic areas & pavilions
- 8 - Playground structures
- 7 - Ice skating rink (outdoor)
- 7 - Fishing docks
- 7 - Outdoor swimming pool
- 6 - Driving range
- 6 - Boat ramps
- 6 - Splash pad
- 6 - Basketball courts
- 5 - Horse trails
- 4 - Sports training center
- 4 - Indoor theater
- 4 - Skate park
- 4 - Disc golf
- 3 - Workout rooms
- 3 - Sand volleyball courts
- 3 - Sled hills
- 1 - Field house/sports dome
- 1 - Amphitheater / stage
- 1 - Pickleball courts
- 1 - Baseball fields
- 1 - Soccer fields
- 1 - Other - "Rifle range/shooting range"

Question 9: Should the Township acquire the historic schoolhouse adjacent to Unadilla Township Community Park for recreation uses?



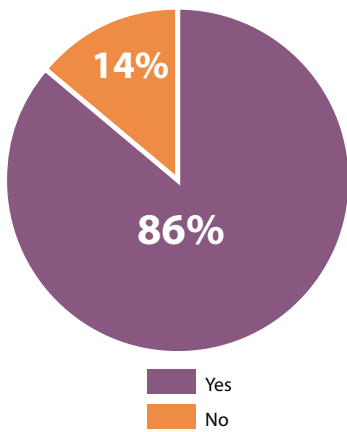
Question 9a: If yes, what kind of uses do you envision for the schoolhouse and its surrounding property?

- Historic, we need to fix it up, save it and protect history, work out geology society, education program, this should be our park
- Nature talks, foraging talks, music jams,
- Running track, gym
- Historical site
- Weddings, arts/crafts programming, fitness classes
- Museum
- Sandwich shop
- Game nights, quilting retreats, book author/lectures, yoga, book club meetings,
- Community History classes
- classes? geocaching? bike maintenance? birding?
- Adult basketball, community center, art classes for families or other family activities, work out facility with weights, treadmills, etc , programs for seniors which include exercise classes
- Educational facilities on history and nature. Paths and wildflower gardens
- Educational and picnicking
- Live music/theater performances, public meetings, family gatherings
- Educational programs
- Is there enough property for hiking or x-country ski trails? Building... something sparking social connections - senior activities? rent the space for events? I really have no idea, but I'm sure others do!
- Historic info, events

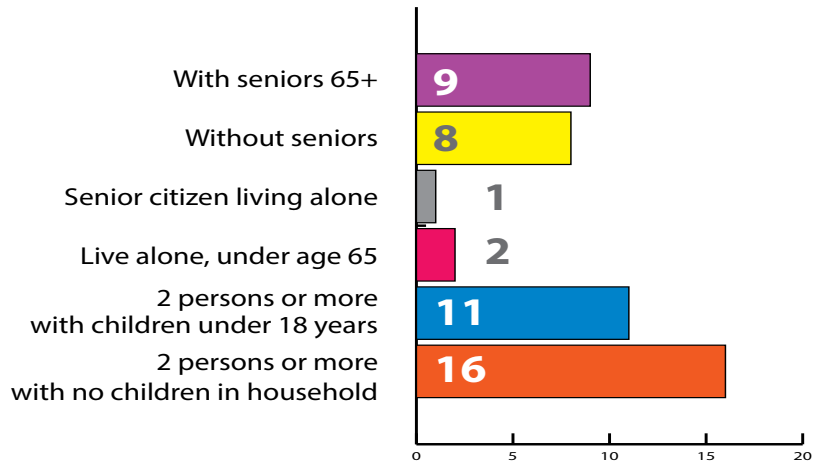
Question 10: Are there any other recreation-related issues you would like to bring to our attention?

- More trail more, add more trash bins, spray for bugs, add WiFi, more Police patrol on trails, more lighting, better maintenance, need a public contact person for trail and parks issues, fix light also at trail head,
- We noticed the pavilion at the park might need some structural repairs. I would like to see some adult softball leagues, sand volleyball leagues, etc.
- Indoor playground like 242 Brighton
- Christmas decorations with skating at the beginning of trail, get some culture and memories going for families
- It would be nice to have a community pool in the area instead of driving to Chelsea or Pinckney.
- I really love how nice the trail is, and how well used.
- I'd like to see the Lakeland trail edges mowed more often. Possibly even some weed control applied.
- Please continue to maintain and mow the Lakelands Trail
- Rental, art/nature talk, field trips, yoga, meet ups
- Unclear and lack info on this
- gijy with golf cart been using lakeland trail. is that allowed?
- Love the upgrades to the lakelands trail and use it daily. It's so much better for walking and biking now. I would love to see tennis courts in Gregory
- absolutely LOVE the trail!

Question 11: Are you a Unadilla Township resident?



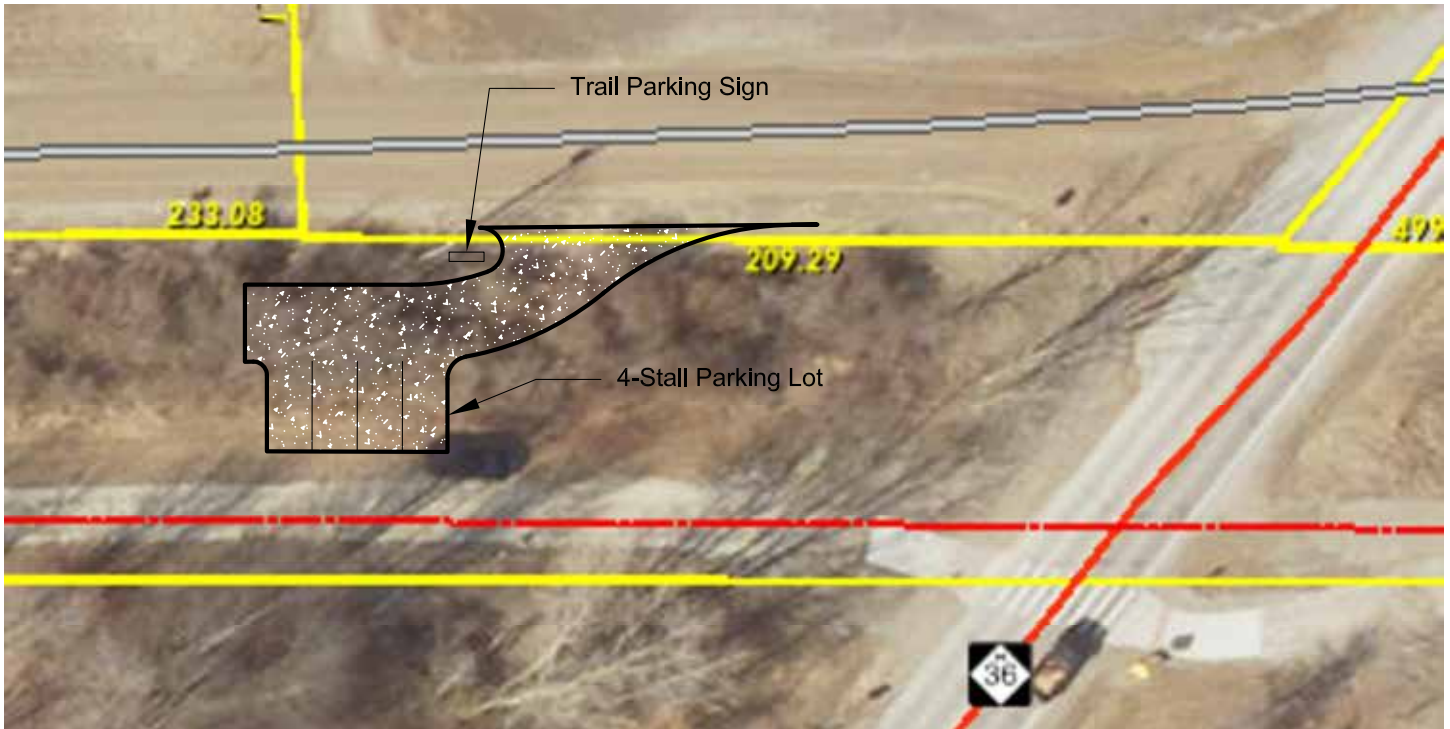
Question 12: Which of the following categories best describe your household?



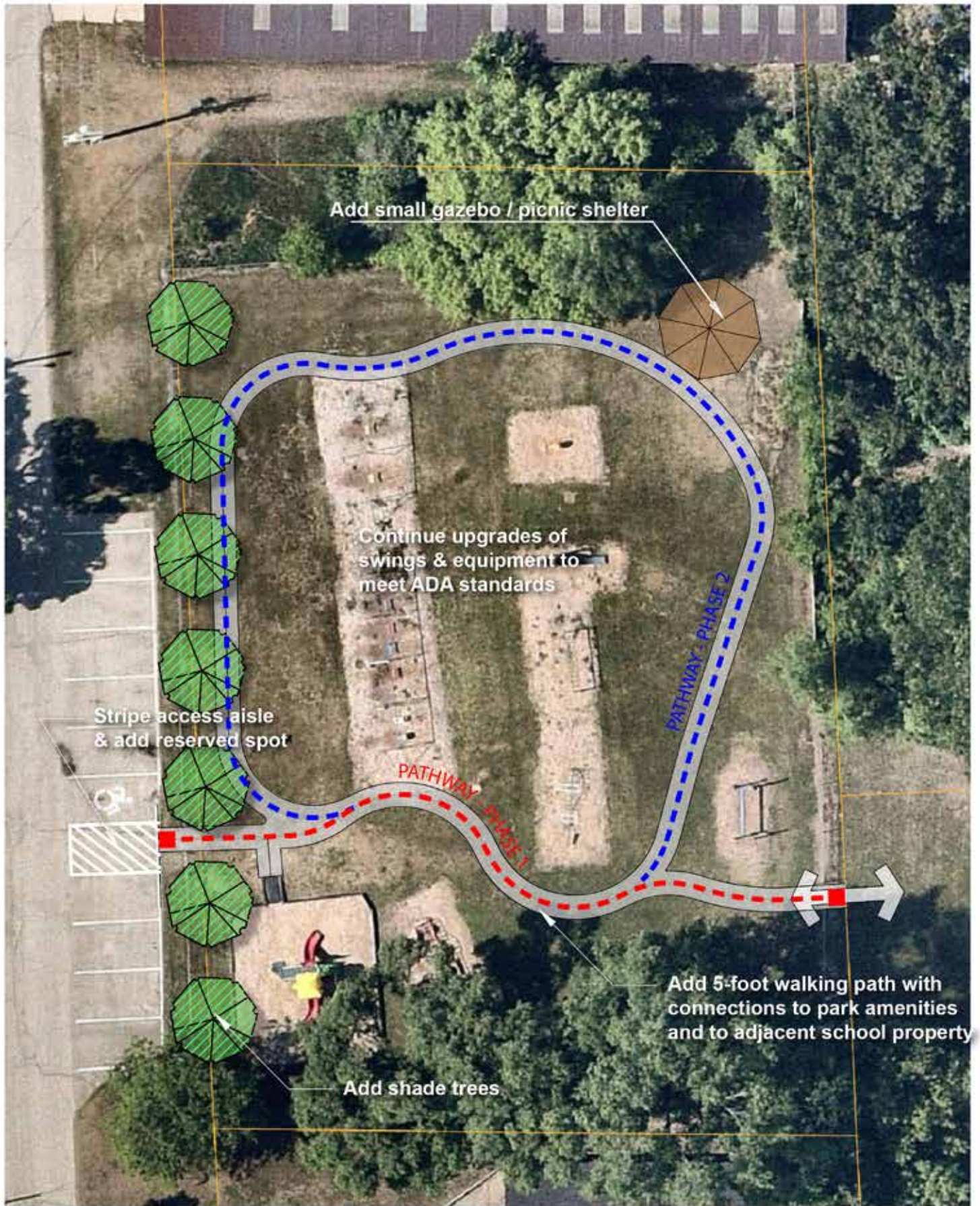
Appendix G - Concept Plans



Unadilla Community Park Concept Plan



Barton & M-36 Parking Lot Concept Plan



Add small gazebo / picnic shelter

Continue upgrades of swings & equipment to meet ADA standards

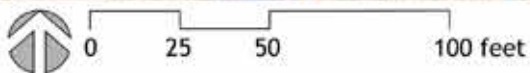
Stripe access aisle & add reserved spot

PATHWAY - PHASE 1

PATHWAY - PHASE 2

Add 5-foot walking path with connections to park amenities and to adjacent school property

Add shade trees



Township Hall Park Concept Plan