

MDNR Wind Turbine Bench Project

Artist: Sgt. Megan Paul

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: September 10, 2025 – 3:30 p.m.



The Wind Turbine Bench Project was completed in August 2025 and was made possible by a grant program through the MDNR and Noblewins, who manufactures functional public art benches through recycling wind turbine blades.

We would like to thank Sgt. Megan Paul for the beautiful artwork on our Bench and to say we love what she ended up with! We posed a few questions about this unique project, and wanted to share her responses.

Q - What was the main inspiration for your design?

A - My main inspiration for the design was what we, Hamburg Township, have an abundance of. What draws people in to visit and live here includes: our 30+ lakes, Huron River, and streams which can be seen from the Mike Levine Lakelands Trail where the bench is placed.

Q - Which fish are pictured and why?

A - I tried to incorporate some local fish species found in our local waterways. I chose to showcase a bass being caught by a fisherman as it is a very popular sport on our lakes. The other fish depicted are commonly found here; a catfish, bluegill and perch.

Q - How long did it take you to complete it from start to finish?

A - Total hours from start to finish was close to 35 hours. I was contending with extreme heat which caused the paint to dry very quickly. There definitely was a learning curve with that aspect!

Q – What type of paint/supplies were used?

A - I used Benjamin Moore Element Guard Exterior Acrylic Paint in many different colors from our local paint store, Northeastern Wolverine Paint Supply. It was sealed with Zinsser Okon Graffiti Barrier Coating. I used some of the paint as is and also mixed some to come up with the perfect colors I envisioned. I used what I had on hand; paper plates, disposable cups, plastic wrap, No. 2 pencils, paint brushes of varying sizes, and some foam pieces to blend colors.

We would like to thank Northeastern Wolverine Paint Supply and Benjamin Moore Paint for their generous donation of the paint for this project!

Q - Anything you would like to say about this experience or any advice you would give other artists who are doing something similar?

A - This was such a fun project to work on! It was definitely the largest canvas I have attempted. The only advice I will offer is not to paint in 90°+ weather! It was tough working with the paint and it was tough physically.

Those were some pretty roasty days you worked on it so that is some pretty solid advice! Thank you so much for this extremely meaningful piece of community art, Sgt. Paul, we really appreciate it!

We would like to thank the MDNR and Noblewins for the opportunity to provide this feature to our residents and visitors at the Pettysville Trailhead in Hamburg Township, MI! What a fun way to welcome visitors to the portion of the Mike Levine Lakelands Trail system within our community!

To see more public art, be sure to head down to our Village Trailhead in the Village of Hamburg, MI and check out our StoryWalk, made possible by a generous donation by our partners at Great Start Livingston and some very creative students and art teachers at Kensington Woods Schools!

*For more information about our community projects, please head to Hamburg Parks & Recreation on our website at:
https://www.hamburg.mi.us/departments/parks_and_recreation/index.php,
or by scanning our QR code which will lead you to our project page.*

