

INVEST IN PARKS & RECREATION FOR MICHIGAN'S FUTURE



Michigan's parks and recreation spaces are vital to public health, economic growth, and environmental sustainability. mParks advocates for policies that enhance access, safety, and funding to ensure all communities can benefit from safe outdoor spaces and community recreation.



MODERNIZE THE RECREATION PASSPORT

Updating Michigan's Recreation Passport program to increase accessibility and funding for park maintenance, improvements, and programming, ensuring long-term sustainability and enhanced visitor experiences.

INCREASE FUNDING FOR LOCAL AND STATE PARKS

Advocating for increased state funding to support local parks, ensuring the maintenance, development, and expansion of recreational spaces for community well-being.

EXPEDITE MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND APPROPRIATIONS


Streamlining the funding process for conservation and outdoor recreation projects, to avoid increased costs, allowing quicker distribution of resources for land acquisitions, park improvements, and environmental initiatives.


STANDARDIZE AND IMPROVE CAMP LICENSING

Ensuring commonsense standardized licensing requirements for day camps to enhance safety, improve program quality, and provide consistency across Michigan's recreational facilities for all Michigan families.

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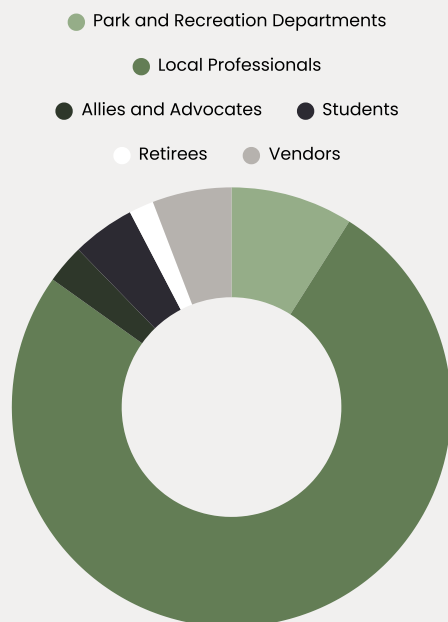
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WE ADVOCATE. WE TEACH. WE INSPIRE. WE UNITE.

THE VOICE OF MICHIGAN'S PARK AND RECREATION COMMUNITY FOR 90 YEARS

mParks is committed to proving parks and recreation matter; showcasing their impact on enhancing quality of life, and making substantial contributions to the economy. mParks provides advocacy, resources, and professional development opportunities to a devoted and diverse membership.



CHAMPIONING PARKS. ENRICHING COMMUNITIES.

Founded in 1935, mParks – Michigan Recreation and Park Association is a non-profit statewide association. mParks is comprised of more than 2,400 dedicated park and recreation professionals, agencies, vendors, students, and community allies.

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE: A VOICE FOR CHANGE

mParks' advocacy efforts and legislative priorities are driven by its members. The Public Policy Committee, composed of representatives from each of the six regional groups across the state, ensures that local park and recreation professionals at all levels have a voice in shaping policy.



Parks and recreation drives economic impact.

In 2023, outdoor recreation contributed \$13.9 billion to Michigan's economic activity. Supporting more than 118,000 jobs with \$6.4 billion wages earned.

Home values near a park, greenway, or recreational area can be 8 to 20% higher than otherwise comparable properties. Even multifamily communities within view of a forested open space can show a 4.9% increase in property value (proximity premium.)



Parks and recreation are hubs of community engagement.

47% percent of agencies provide nutrition education opportunities to their communities. More than 80% of agencies offer out-of-school time (OST) programs that serve millions of children throughout the United States.



Parks improve physical and mental health.

Children with access to parks and facilities have shown decreased prevalence of obesity compared to children without access.

Those living more than 1/2 mile away from a green space have nearly 50% higher odds of experiencing stress than those living closer.