

WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

FROM: David Waligora, AICP, Senior Planner

DATE: June 10, 2026

RE: Parks & Recreation Department Update

Upcoming Meeting

The next Parks & Recreation Committee meeting is proposed to be held at the Hawley Park Pavilion, weather permitting, and conclude with a site visit to Stanley Park. Staff is also exploring the possibility of a Township Hall tour.

Park Maintenance and Improvements

Seasonal maintenance activities have continued throughout the Township park system. At Hawley Park, new engineered wood fiber was installed in the playground area, and additional sand was added to the sandbox. Several hazardous trees were removed at Bloomer Park and on Township Hall property to address safety concerns.

Seasonal fertilization and weed control treatments have been completed at all developed Township parks. Bloomer Park was excluded due to its natural park character. Irrigation repairs are also scheduled at Vetter Park, including the replacement of approximately fifteen sprinkler heads.

Stanley Park

Phase 1 improvements at Stanley Park are expected to be completed by the end of June. Staff has also initiated a pilot deer fly mitigation program utilizing a "Horse Pal" device recommended by Michigan State University Extension.

The Township recently received a \$75,000 donation from Kroger to assist with the installation of a playground at Stanley Park. The Parks & Recreation Committee is scheduled to review playground concepts at its June meeting and provide feedback regarding a preferred design.

An opening date has not yet been decided upon.

Avalon Development Dog Park

Staff continues to coordinate with the Avalon development team regarding the proposed dog park and play area improvements, including review of playground concepts and park amenities to ensure consistency with Township standards.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund 50th Anniversary

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), which assisted with the acquisition of Stanley Park and development of Bloomer Park. Staff plans to show a brief commemorative video produced by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources highlighting the Trust Fund's statewide impact and contributions to local recreation opportunities.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCiiPsjoc2w>