

# Manistee County-Wide Park & Recreation Plan Update

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Worksheet for Local Stakeholders

## Instructions

Thank you for helping in this important effort to update the Manistee County-Wide Park & Recreation Plan. This worksheet and the subsequent discussion with Networks Northwest regarding the responses to each section will help to ensure that the county-wide plan accurately describes the direction the community is seeking to go.

Please read each section's directions, review the information provided and detail updates that will go into the 2022-2026 plan. This worksheet should be completed by either an individual or group that is very knowledgeable about parks and recreation in your municipality.

## Onekema Township

### Item 1 - DNR-Funded Projects

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires all parks and recreation plans to list projects that it has funded. Please provide any and all updates or additional projects that have taken place since 2016.

Project #	Applicant	Title	Year	Amount	Status	Description

### Item 2 - Community Description

This community description was provided by a local official from your municipality during the previous park and recreation planning process. Please look over this description and make sure that it accurately answers the following questions:

- What is your community known for, both internally (to residents) and externally (to visitors)?
- What in your community are residents most proud of?
- What recreation opportunities are present in your community? (please mention parks, trails, water access, camping, etc.) – you do not need to note every recreation site in your municipality. A table will note each site in the final plan. Please provide a narrative that describes recreation generally in your community.

**Description from previous plan:**

The Portage Lake Community, for the purposes of the Five-Year Plan for Parks and Recreation, consists of Onekama Township, the Village of Onekama, and the Onekama Consolidated Schools. Onekama Township is in the western part of Manistee County.

The Village of Onekama, formerly a lumbering town, is on the northeast shore of Portage Lake. The Village had a population of 411 people in 2010 while Onekama Township had a population of 1,329.

The Onekama School of the Onekama Consolidated Schools, with around 400 students, is within the Village. The School is included in the Plan because of the extensive recreational facilities provided for the public. A \$14.1 million building project was dedicated in 2010.

Portage Lake, the central feature of the Township, covers 2,116 acres. The Channel connecting Portage Lake to Lake Michigan, and Lake Michigan itself provide fishing, boating, swimming, and other activities. Its shores are around 10 miles in length; the dune-lined Lake Michigan shores extend more than 16 miles. The Lake Michigan shores sweep northward to Pierport, a former Lake Michigan port and lumbering town, which also has shoreline recreational facilities that are included in the Five-Year Plan.

In the late 1800's near the end of the lumbering era, Portage Lake developed into a significant resort community. Orchards and fruit farming also became prevalent. There are five churches within the Village. Many residents of long standing and seasonal residents who have come here for many years have deep feelings regarding Onekama as home.

Portage Lake is the centerpiece of Onekama Township's recreation assets, and for good reason. The lake offers an array of opportunities for fishing, boating, water-skiing among a other activities. Access to Portage Lake is available at road ends scattered along the shores of the lake as well as through two boat launches. One boat launch is located within the Township on North Point. This facility is owned by the DNR, but may be managed in the near future by the Township through a cooperative agreement. Similar agreements are in place in communities such as Eastlake Village and Stronach Twp.

Lake Michigan acts as a backdrop to Portage Lake, and can be accessed via boat from the channel or by foot from the various road ends which terminate into the "Big Lake". Captain John Langland Park acts as the primary Lake Michigan beach access with improvements and available assets. The north pier head is readily reachable from this park.

The Manistee County Fairgrounds located within Onekama Township is one of the few actual County-owned recreation facilities. The grounds serve as the annual location for the fair, but also are available for other community events.

**Item 3 - Primary, Secondary & Tertiary Sites**

In the 2016 park and recreation plan, local stakeholders worked with the planning team to categorize their recreation assets in terms of their importance to the community. These sites were designated primary, secondary or tertiary. Please review the list of sites shown below and confirm that these designations are correct or if one or more of these sites should be changed.

## Primary

- Manistee County Fairgrounds
- Captain John Langland Park
- North Point Park
- Eagles View Wetlands
- Ninth St Access-PL
- Ninth St Access-MI
- Portage Lake Boat Launch
- Outlet Ave Access-PL
- Ardmore Dr Access-PL
- Clark Rd Access-PL
- Hilltop Rd Access-PL
- Sunset House/Lakeisle Ave Access-MI
- Portage Wetlands Park
- Thirteen Mile Rd Access-MI
- Willow Way Access-PL

## Secondary

- Portage Street Walkway
- First St North Pier Access
- Third St Access-PL
- Fourth St Access-PL
- Fifth St Access-PL
- Fifth St Access-MI
- Sixth St Access-PL
- Seventh St Access-MI
- Twelfth St Access-PL
- Arborvitae Dr Access-PL
- Avenue C Access-MI
- Burnham St Access-MI

## Tertiary

- Almlof Ave Access-PL
- Secor Ave Access-PL
- Campbell St Access-PL
- Cedar Grove Access-PL
- Carden Park
- Eagle St Access-PL
- Feldhak Park
- Second St Access-PL

- West Fairway St Access-PL
- Midway Dr Access-PL
- Sixth St Access-MI
- Eight St Access-MI
- Juniper Way Access-PL
- Beachward Ave Access-PL
- Lakeview Rd Access-PL
- Avenue B Access-MI
- Avenue E Access-MI
- Avenue F Access-MI
- Lakeside Ave Access-MI
- Cron Ave Access-PL
- William Forth Ave Access-PL
- Morey St Access-PL
- C. G. Davis Ave Access-PL
- Rosewood St Access-PL
- Third St Access-MI
- Artesian Well
- Ivanhoe Rd Access-MI
- Alley G Access-MI
- Alley H Access-MI
- Golfmore Way Access-PL
- Batesmore Way Access-PL
- Sylvan Way Access-PL
- Merlin Way Access-PL

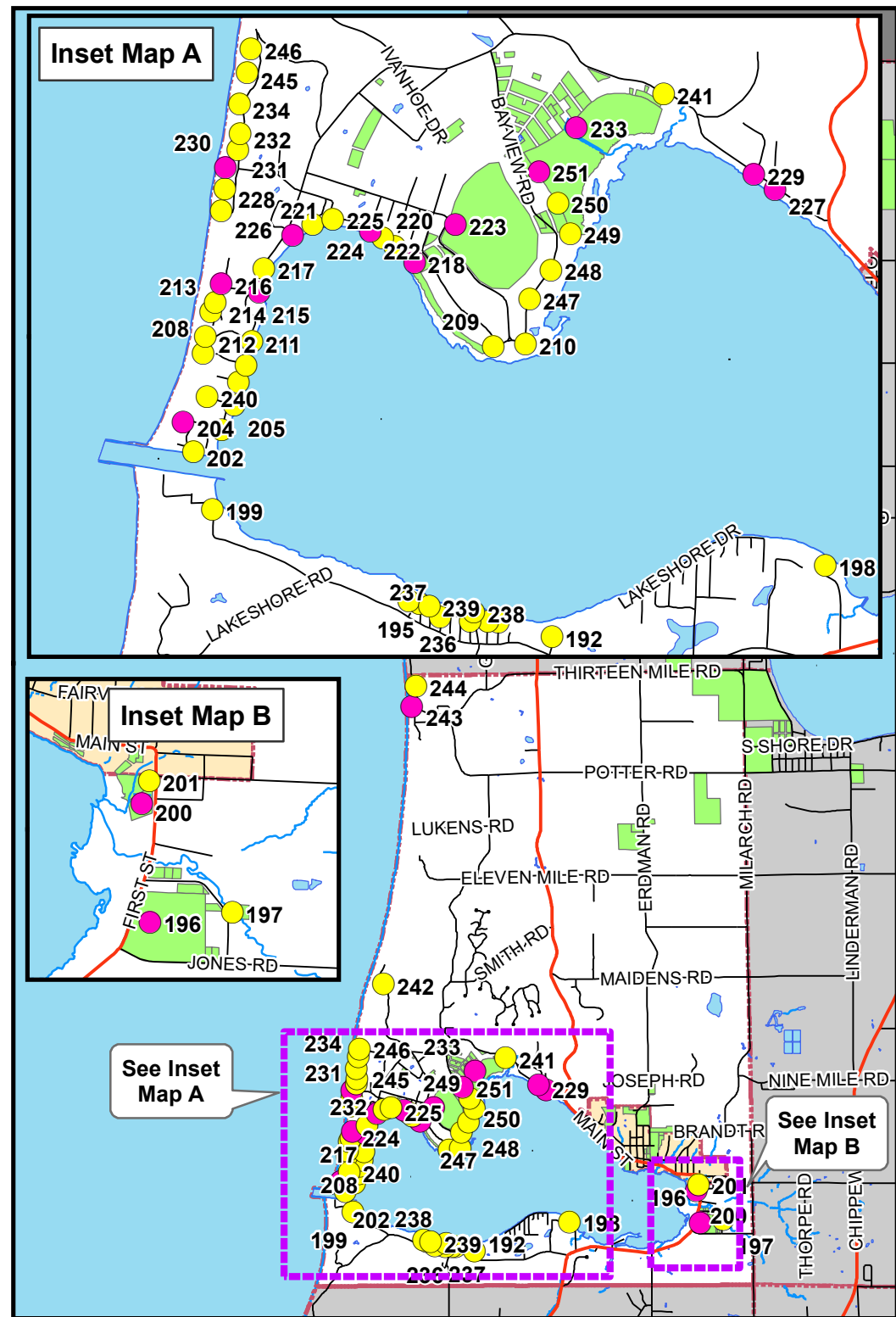
#### **Item 4 - Recreation Site Amenities**

Please review the attached table of recreation sites in your municipality. This table displays all of the amenities at each site. If amenities have been added or taken away at a particular site, please note this change for the eventual discussion your stakeholder group will have with Networks Northwest.

Recreation Site Map ID #	Site Name	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	County-wide Primary	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access (Low, Mod., High)	Explore the Shore Nominee	Lighting	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Portable Toilet	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Water Access	Beach	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Boat Parking	Pet Waste Disposal Station	Trailhead (Water, Land )	Trails (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment
196	Manistee County Fairgrounds	M.C.	1	•	SU	•	L	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
204	Captain John Langland Park	ONE	1	•	CP		L	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	W	•	•
223	North Point Park	ONE	1	•	NRA		H				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	W		
200	Eagles View Wetlands	ONE	1		NRA		L				•																				
215	Ninth St Access-PL	MCRC	1		RDSU		L				0											•			•						
216	Ninth St Access-MI	MCRC	1		RDSU		L				0											•	•		•						
218	Portage Lake Boat Launch	State	1		RP		L	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•					•	•			•	•	•		W	•	
221	Outlet Ave Access-PL	ONE	1		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
222	Ardmore Dr Access-PL	ONE	1		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
227	Clark Rd Access-PL	ONE	1		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
229	Hilltop Rd Access-PL	ONE	1		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
230	Sunset House/Lakeisle Ave Access-MI	MCRC	1		RDSU		L				0											•	•			•					
233	Portage Wetlands Park	ONE	1		NRA		L				0																			•	
243	Thirteen Mile Rd Access-MI	MCRC	1		RDSU		L	•			0											•	•								
251	Willow Way Access-PL	MCRC	1		RDSU		L				0											•									
199	Portage Street Walkway	ONE	2		SU		M				•		•									•		•	•						
202	First St North Pier Access	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											•	•		•						
205	Third St Access-PL	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
206	Fourth St Access-PL	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
207	Fifth St Access-PL	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
208	Fifth St Access-MI	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0											•	•			•					
211	Sixth St Access-PL	MCRC	2		RDSU		L	•			0											•				•					
213	Seventh St Access-MI	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											•	•			•					
217	Twelfth St Access-PL	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
220	Arborvitae Dr Access-PL	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
228	Avenue C Access-MI	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											•	•			•					
244	Burnham St Access-MI	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0																				
192	Almlof Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
193	Secor Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
194	Campbell St Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
195	Cedar Grove Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
197	Carden Park	ONE	3		NRA		L				0											•									
198	Eagle St Access-PL	ONE	3		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
201	Feldhak Park	ONE	3		NRA		L				•											•									
203	Second St Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
209	West Fairway St Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
210	Midway Dr Access-PL	ONE	3		RDSU		L				0											•				•					
212	Sixth St Access-MI	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•	•			•					

Recreation Site Map ID #	Site Name	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access (Low, Mod., High)	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Potable Water	Water Access	Beach	Canoe/Kayak Access
214	Eight St Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
219	Juniper Way Access-PL	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
224	Beachward Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
225	Lakeview Rd Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
226	Avenue B Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
231	Avenue E Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
232	Avenue F Access-MI	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
234	Lakeside Ave Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
235	Cron Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
236	William Forth Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
237	Morey St Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
238	C. G. Davis Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
239	Rosewood St Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
240	Third St Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
241	Artesian Well	ONE	3	SU		L		0	•			

242	Ivanhoe Rd Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU	L	0	•	
245	Alley G Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU	L	0	•	
246	Alley H Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU	L	0	•	
247	Golfmore Way Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU	L	0	•	
248	Batesmore Way Access-PL	ONE	3	RDSU	L	0	•	
249	Sylvan Way Access-PL	ONE	3	RDSU	L	0	•	
250	Merlin Way Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU	L	0	•	



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## Instructions

Thank you for helping in this important effort to update the Manistee County-Wide Park & Recreation Plan.

## Onekema Township

### Goals & Objectives

Prior to your community's discussion with Networks Northwest, please review the goals and projects from the previous plan. Please note any projects that have been completed or are no longer sought by the municipality. Also make note of any projects that members of the public are seeking to implement in the next 5-10 years (please note that any goals and projects listed in the draft plan will be reviewed during a public hearing at the end of the planning process).

**1. Goal: Highlight, enhance, and preserve the natural beauty of the flora and fauna, the wetlands, and the water quality of the lakes and streams in Onekema Village and Township for residents, seasonal residents, and visitors to enjoy**

#### PROJECTS:

##### Water:

- Continue to support the monitoring of the lake waters by the Watershed, Township, and School
- Support the enforcement of the County-wide program of the monitoring of septic systems
- Support the extension of the sewer system into areas where septic system contamination of the lakes exist

##### Land:

- Acquire State-owned and private lands that are critical to the protection and preservation of the Portage Lake Watershed and that contain natural beauty and wetlands that would be offered to governmental units and then the public, if governmental units do not want them
- Support subcommittee of the Portage Lake Watershed Forever to obtain and study updated wetland maps to determine critical wetlands that should be purchased

##### Plant Life:

- Support the education of the public of need to control invasives and prescribe proper methods of control



- Involve community organizations in efforts to identify and control invasive species in and around Portage Lake
- Support the Portage Lake Management Plan and the financing of it for the control of invasives both in and around Portage Lake

Habitat Protection:

- Plant trees near North Point Park perimeter as wildlife habitat and create arboretum
- Continue the annual survey and treatment of invasive plants and shrubs in this Park as well as others

**2. Goal: Provide opportunities for enjoying lake views, utilizing beaches, and accessing waters of Portage Lake and Lake Michigan in Onekama Township and Village**

PROJECTS:

Views:

- Upgrade the gazebo complex so that viewing of Lake Michigan and its sunsets may continue despite encroaching sand dune in Langland Park (Channel Turnaround)
- Build permanent restrooms for people using Langland Park for viewing Lake Michigan and for other recreational purposes
- Build boardwalk through wetlands in Portage Wetlands Park for access to Portage Lake and to provide a connecting trail to North Point Park as per conceptual plan of Beckett & Raeder

Project: Continue the annual survey and treatment of invasive plants and shrubs in this Park as well as others

Land Acquisition:

- Build boardwalk through wetlands of Eagles View Wetlands—A Community Preserve
- To increase opportunities for the public to enjoy, use, and view Portage Lake within the Village of Onekama—acquire shoreline property with wetlands east and west of Farr Center for wetland preservation, and for educational and recreational areas. Obtain grants to purchase land; finalize plans for development of handicap accessible area as appropriate for activities such as birding, fishing, education, etc.; and enlist community to help develop area
- Acquire property north of Thirteen Mile Road End at Pierport for passive park, which would include the beach at Thirteen Mile Road End

Road Ends:

- Work with County and State officials in adding other purposes beyond just ingress to and egress from the water for road ends, and post rules and regulations at each road end

Youth Fishing:

- Explore the possibilities of further dredging and plan dock extension to improve shore fishing for youth in the Onekama Village Park

**3. Goal: Administer and publicize Onekama Village and Township parks and recreation to the best advantage of all**

PROJECTS:

Community Partnerships:

- Hold regularly scheduled committee parks and recreation meetings having representatives from each entity committed to the idea of one community system of parks and recreation

Community Parks Map:

- Install large map of Onekama Recreation Sites at the Village Park

Funding Capacity:

- Create an annual budget for Parks and Recreation
- Project: Inform donors and potential donors of improvements in, and current status of, parks and recreation, particularly in instances where donated funds have been used
- Improve promotion of Parks and Recreation fund-raising events and activities
- Hire a part-time employee for maintenance of parks in Onekama Township
- Continue annual Parks Appreciation Day during the Onekama Days summer celebration, inviting donors as well as the general public, and providing refreshments and nature walks; hold similar days or tours at other parks. Publicize North Point Park event early enough to appear in Onekama Days publicity
- Participate in the Onekama Days Parade

Community Input and Communication:

- Place monthly meeting minutes of Parks and Recreation Committee on Onekama's web site and in newspaper
- Publish a monthly Parks and Recreation newsletter for donors and local taxpayers June-September
- Enhance public relations and explore different ways of keeping the public informed and receiving feedback from it that can be used to determine the best way to implement plans

Parks Awareness:

- Continue to publish a brochure of parks and recreation for residents, seasonal residents, and visitors to be placed in Library, Township Hall, Bank, restaurants, real estate offices, motels, etc.
- Establish a center for welcoming and providing information for visitors
- Maintain parks and recreation photographs and information on Onekama's web site

Intergovernmental Collaboration:

- When Manistee County advertises for members of parks and recreation bodies, seek appointment(s) immediately through the Onekama Village Council and Township Board

**4. Goal: Improve and enhance Onekama Village and Township marine facilities to attract Great Lakes, resident, and seasonal recreational boaters and fishermen**

PROJECTS:

Dredging:

- Support campaign for legislation to provide Federal funding for dredging of Channel and for completion of renovation of the Channel piers

Public Marina:

- Apply for State funding to hire an engineering firm to study the feasibility of establishing a small public municipal marina with sensitivity towards costs of future maintenance and upkeep.

- Study other public marinas located in villages similar to Onekama (Pentwater, Arcadia, etc.)

MDNR Boat Launch:

- Notify the M-DNR annually of improvements needed at the Launch Site
- Post signs at the Onekama Village Park indicating availability and location of the M-DNR Access Site
- Explore feasibility and funding for a handicap accessible kayak launch.

Village Boat Launch:

- Explore a pay-as-you-launch fee program. This would help pay for upgrading and maintenance of marine facilities

**5. Goal: Improve and enhance facilities for Onekama Village and Township parks and recreation for optimal use by residents, seasonal residents, and visitors**

PROJECTS:

Collaboration:

- Cut and replace trees as needed
- Maintain picnic tables and cooking grills
- Reconfigure parking; provide additional parking for boat ramp and general Park use
- Renovate or replace bathhouse
- Re-landscape Park, including leveling ground and planting grass
- Plan for future needs and upgrades in the Onekama Village Park by using public input; determine best ways to implement plans
- Continue to mechanically groom beaches

Farr Center:

- Support the maintenance of the Butterfly, and other, gardens around Farr Center

Road Ends:

- Survey sites to determine picnic tables needed; plan for winter storage

North Point Park:

- Install picnic tables
- Remove and control remaining unwanted brush and vines
- Plant dogwood, hawthorn, pine, and spruce

Langland Park:

- Mechanically groom beach
- Maintain fire rings for beach cleanliness and safety
- Maintain facilities such as mobi-mats, restrooms, beach, fire rings and other amenities.

**6. Goal: To promote healthful living for adult and youngster residents and seasonal residents—provide new facilities and enhance existing facilities for walking, hiking, exercising, biking, sports, roller skating/blading, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and ice skating**

PROJECTS:

Sidewalks:

- Clean debris from and repair or replace existing sidewalk where needed on west edge of Portage Point Road south of the Portage Point Inn; extend sidewalk along Second Street to Langland Park
- Replace sidewalk on Lakeview Avenue from Outlet Avenue to Portage Lake Avenue in Portage Park buried during seawall construction along Portage Lake

Programming:

- Continue to advertise the programs through publications and newsletters
- Encourage offering fitness and recreation classes after school, during evenings, and during summer through community education program

Multi-Use Trails:

- Purchase and develop appropriate private land (abandoned railroad right-of-way) that could be used for a variety of trails, including those for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling
- Through an easement, purchase of land, or rerouting of trail at the north boundary of Glen Park remedy the situation existing at present where the trail is illegally on the adjoining property to the north

Exercise Trail:

- Establish a fitness circuit in Rotary Park and/or North Point Park

Ice Skating:

- Create an area for winter ice skating with a fire ring for daytime and evening use by adults and youngsters that would also promote fellowship among the participants

Way-finding and Information Signs:

- Post signs showing map of Trail at two entrances of North Point Park
- Post signs showing map of trail at two entrances of Glen Park

Pickleball Court:

- Provide a pickleball court and acquaint the public with pickleball

**7. Goal: Provide recreation programs for resident and seasonal youth, including challenged youth, of the Community in parks and school facilities in association with the Manistee Recreation Association, the Onekama Consolidated Schools, and other organizations**

Recreation Lessons and Instruction:

- Promote and continue to use the Manistee Recreation Association program for participants in Onekama Township and Village

**8. Goal: Highlight, enhance, and preserve the historical resources of Onekama Village and Township**

Historical Way-Finding:

- Publicize and encourage use of Glen Park through historical brochure with map of trails, and identification of flora and fauna (brochure similar to Walking with Nature published for North Point Park)
- Establish a museum in a building that would accommodate exhibits recalling the history of the Village and Township and their lakes

**9. Goal: Highlight and enhance the cultural resources of Onekama Village and Township**

Use of School Auditorium:

- Support presentation of concerts year-around by local and regional artists for enjoyment of residents, seasonal residents, and visitors

# Manistee County-Wide Park & Recreation Plan Update

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## Administrative Structure – Onekama Township

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires park and recreation plans to describe the administrative structure of the jurisdiction submitting a plan to be on file with the state. The following language is directly from the DNR’s Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans:

“Planning for and providing park and recreation services and open space for a community requires staff (or volunteers) and funds to purchase recreation land and open spaces and to develop, operate, and maintain them. In this section, describe how the park and recreation functions are carried out in your community, and include descriptions of the following as they apply to your community:

- The park and recreation commission, committee, board of directors, or advisory board. Include the enabling act under which it was established (see Appendix A). For multi-jurisdictional plans, the working relationship among the participating communities and school districts.
- Your parks and recreation department, staff, or authority. Define who has the authority to commit funds for parks and recreation, accept grants and purchase land on behalf of the community.
- The current year and projected annual budgets for parks operation and maintenance, recreation programming, and capital improvements.
- The sources of funding for the park and recreation budget.
- The volunteers involved in park and recreation programs and what they do. Describe any partnerships you have formed with private organizations to maintain or operate any of your park or recreation programs.
- Relationships with school districts and other public agencies involved in recreation.
- For regional authorities, describe the relationship between the authority and the recreation departments of the participating communities. Provide the Articles of Incorporation for the authority.”

**On the next page is a table with two rows of information. The first row shows the information for your jurisdiction as it appeared in the 2016-2020 county-wide plan. The second row is for you to fill in.**

[illegible]