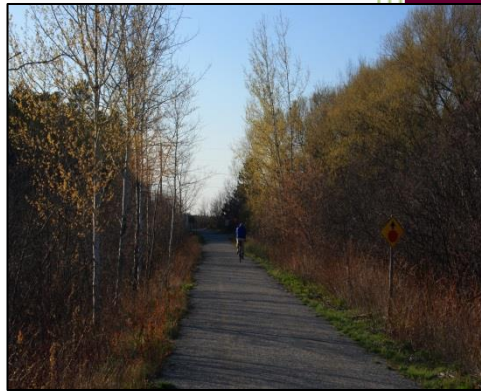


2014 - 2018

RECREATION & NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION PLAN

Outdoor Living ... Simply



Charter Township of Chocolay

5010 US 41 South
Marquette, MI 49855

906.249.1448

www.chocolay.org

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SUMMARY

This plan is constructed in various sections, each directed at different aspects of recreation within Chocolay Township. Sections within this plan are:

- Purpose of the Plan
This section gives a brief description of the purpose and intent for the plan.
- Community Description
This section describes the Township community, civic features, natural features, population data, and contains a description of the Township character areas.
- Recreation History
This section establishes a timeline for the recreation pursuits in the Township beginning in 1920.
- Administrative Structure
This section describes the administrative reporting structure, budgets and budget projections, funding sources, and the roles and responsibilities of those involved in promoting, maintaining, and funding Township recreation.
- Recreation Inventory
This section presents a detailed look at the recreation locations in the Township and what is available at those locations. The inventory is separated into four sections:
 1. Township properties
Properties owned and maintained by the Township
Example Beaver Grove Recreation Area
 2. Cooperative facilities
Owned by another entity, and the Township supports or maintains the facility
Example Kawbawgam Ski Trail
 3. Other public properties
Owned by other public agencies
Examples NMU golf course and the three MDOT turnouts
 4. Private facilities
Owned and operated by private enterprises
Examples Lakenenland and Homestead Golf CourseIncluded in this section is an accessibility assessment for each recreation location, and a status report of grants that the Township has received for recreation.

Summary

- **Description of the Planning and Public Input Process**
This section describes the planning methods that went into the development of the recreation plan, and the process that provided for input from the public.
- **Goals and Objectives**
This section outlines the goals and objectives for each of the Township properties. Included in this section are the general recreation goals, and the methods to interact with other government agencies, private organizations, and the public.
- **Action Program**
This section details the policies, implementation strategies, responsibilities, and costs associated with implementing the projects and processes identified in the plan.
- **Plan Adoption**
This section contains the government approval documentation for the plan.
- **Appendices**
These sections contain supplemental information (such as maps) that was used in the development of the plan.

A draft of this plan was released for public review on January 10, 2014. Notices were posted on the Township web site (www.chocolay.org) and sent to each municipality in Marquette County indicating the plan was available for review and comment.

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The primary purpose of the Chocoley Township *2014 – 2018 Recreation Plan* is to set the direction for Chocoley Township for the next five years in the acquisition, development, renovation, and provision of outdoor recreation opportunities for Township residents. This plan is written based upon the recommendations in the Township *2004 Recreation Plan*, the Township *2005 Comprehensive Plan*, the draft version of the *2010 Comprehensive Plan*, the draft version of the *2014 Master Plan*, and input from citizens in order to have recreation opportunities available and usable for all, regardless of age and ability to participate.

Because the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires an updated recreation plan to be submitted for approval every five years to be eligible for Michigan DNR park and recreation grants (such as those from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and the Land and Water Conservation Fund), this plan serves an additional purpose of maintaining eligibility for DNR funding sources.

The layout of this plan follows the recommended format found in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans*¹ publication, and the plan addresses the requirements found in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Intent



Kayaking on the Chocoley River

When recreational opportunities are properly planned, they have a positive impact on the local economy as well as provide creative outlets for people of all ages. The intent of this plan is to define the recreational needs of Chocoley Township and to foster a diverse set of recreational opportunities for all to enjoy.

This plan was written to provide a long term program that establishes, maintains, and improves recreational opportunities within the Township. The plan analyzes the historic, current, and future demand and use patterns for recreation, encourages citizen involvement in the planning, and provides for public input.

Plan Review

The plan will be reviewed annually or as conditions in the Township change, and will serve as an annual monitoring tool to use in recreation decisions and budgeting.

¹ Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grant Management, rev. 01/13/12.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

This plan is prepared for Chocolay Charter Township with consideration of compatibility and opportunities for collaboration with the plans of adjacent jurisdictions (as shown in [Figure 1](#)). Although there are several other public and private organizations that provide recreation opportunities for the residents of the Township, the primary focus of this plan is Township-owned and Township-operated recreation facilities and programs.

This plan includes all aspects of recreation planning in the Township. Included are cooperative efforts with other entities (such as the DNR). Recreation opportunities from other public and private sectors are detailed in the *Recreation Inventory* section and *Appendix B*.

Figure 1 Chocolay Township Region



Township Features

Chocolay Township, established as a charter township in 1972, encompasses approximately sixty-one square miles of land and water area². With a 2010 population of 5,903³, Chocolay is the second most populous township in Marquette County. The Village of Harvey serves as a center of commerce, the interconnection of the Marquette County (MARQ-TRAN) and Alger County (ALTRAN) public transit networks, and provides for most everyday needs of residents. With an urban village, busy highway corridor, waterfront residential development, two schools, many civic organizations, multi-use trails, and rolling landscapes of farms and forests, Chocolay Township provides a transition between the

² Data obtained from www.city-data.com/township/Chocolay-Marquette-MI.html

³ 2010 State of Michigan Census – www.michigan.gov/documents/cgi/cgi_census_cousub10_347512_7.xls

adjacent rural townships and the City of Marquette. Neighboring townships include Sands, West Branch, and Skandia in Marquette County and Onota in Alger County. Chocolay Township is in the Marquette Micropolitan Statistical Area as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Two highways, US 41 and M-28, provide primary road transportation through the Township. The gateway location for the Township is the intersection of US 41, M-28, and Cherry Creek Road. The Township offices are located on US 41, approximately 1/4 mile north of the gateway location.

Recreation and master plan surveys of the community conducted in 2002⁴, 2010⁵, and 2013⁶ indicate that rural character is a primary reason for residence in the Township and also the most positive aspect of living in the Township. This input reveals that rural character is experienced as mostly natural places that offer a feeling of peace and privacy and a quality of life that invites participation. Survey results also indicate that the natural environment creates an enduring attachment among residents. The Township's recreational opportunities are strongly related to the natural environment, but also accommodate organized sports and neighborhood orientations.

Civic Features

Population Characteristics

Although Chocolay Township's population has increased by almost 80 percent since 1970 (according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics), population levels have virtually leveled off since 1990 (see [Figure 2](#)). This is in contrast with Marquette County trends in which population peaked in 1980, declined precipitously until 2000, and then rebounded a bit for an overall downward trend (see [Figure 3](#)). This plan is based on projections for a stable population base in Chocolay Township.

Figure 2 Chocolay Charter Township Population

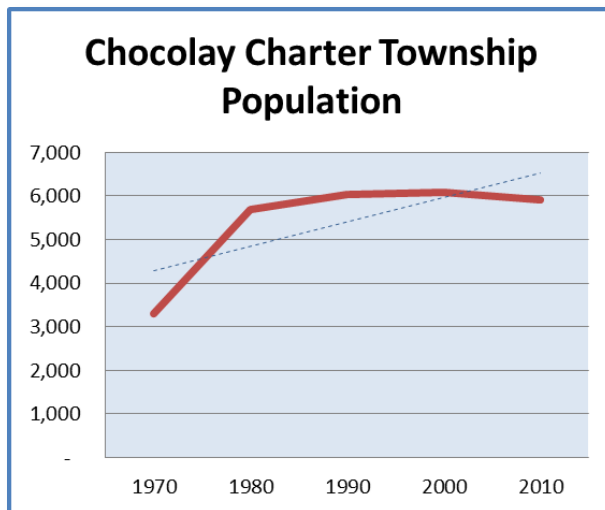
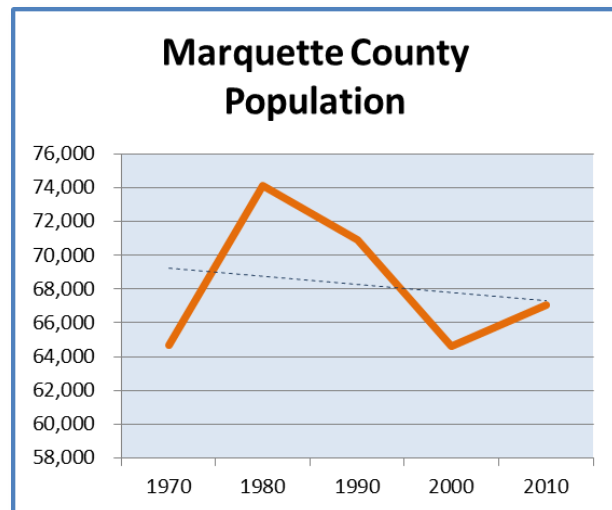


Figure 3 Marquette County Population



4 Survey results can be found at www.chocolay.org/documents/surveysummary042002.pdf

5 Survey results can be found at www.chocolay.org/documents/surveysummary092010.pdf

6 Survey results can be found at www.chocolay.org/documents/surveysummary102013.pdf

The median age of the populations of Chocolay Charter Township, Marquette County, the State of Michigan, and the United States have continued to rise since 1990, although the median age in the City of Marquette declined between 2000 and 2010 (see [Figure 4](#)).

The median age in Chocolay Township in 2010 was 45 years, compared to 39 years in Michigan. This trend results from the aging of the baby boomer generation, a decline in births, and a rise in average life span. This trend is likely to continue for many years, and results in a need to modify recreation offerings to accommodate an aging population.

In 2010, 17 percent of Chocolay Township’s population was under age 15, compared to 19 percent in Michigan. The percent of population age 65 and older in Chocolay Township was 14 percent, which is equivalent to 14 percent in Michigan.⁷ It is difficult to compare trends to earlier years because of a U.S. Census Bureau correction in the year 2000 that deleted the Marquette Branch prison population from Chocolay Township census figures but did not recalculate age groupings.

The older population may be healthier and stay active longer than previous generations, but may also be limited by disabilities. Healthy retired people have more time for recreation. However, conditions such as dementia, diabetes, obesity, and osteoporosis threaten the ability of older people to participate in sports and fitness, and also impact time available for caretakers to participate. The economy also impacts recreation in that people working multiple jobs to make ends meet lack the leisure time to participate. In such times, low cost options that accommodate flexible schedules are more accommodating and also more personal budget-appropriate.

For purposes of this plan, age was separated into three categories, as each group has its own particular recreation needs:

- 0 to 19 – 23 percent of the total Township population
- 20 to 59 – 54 percent of the total Township population
- 60 and over – 23 percent of the total Township population

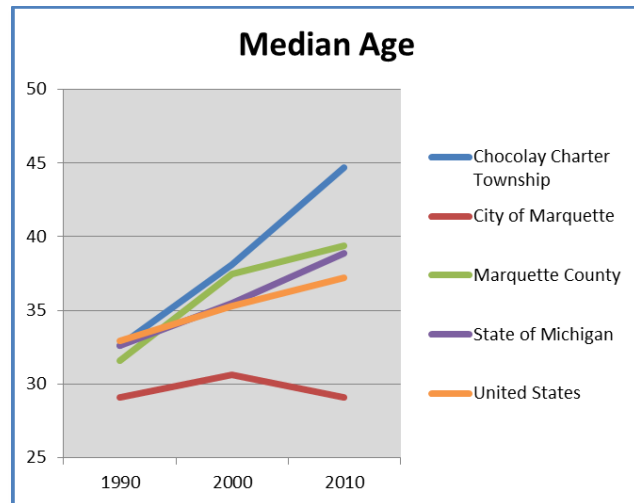
Income Characteristics

According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2011 American Community Survey estimates, median household income in Chocolay Township is \$60,784. Per capita income is estimated at \$29,250. Annual household income and benefits are estimated as follows⁸:

- 38 percent less than \$50,000
- 37 percent between \$50,000 and \$99,999
- 25 percent \$100,000 and over

Almost four percent of all *families* in Chocolay Township have income below the poverty level (five percent of families with children under 18 years, and seven percent of families with children under five

Figure 4 Median Age



⁷ U.S. Census Bureau Summary File 1 data, 2010.

⁸ American Community Survey 5-Year estimates, 2007-2011.

years). However, 35 percent of all *families with female householders with no husband present* are estimated to be below the poverty level. Overall, 5.6 percent of all *people* in Chocoday Township are estimated to live below the poverty level.⁹

There is a significant divide in economic circumstance among Township residents. For people with limited financial resources, public recreation areas are invaluable as free sources of entertainment. Without affordable options, these people could be deprived of recreation opportunities.

A significant and rapidly growing portion of the population is living on some type of fixed income as evidenced by the growing number of retired citizens. According to American Community Survey Estimates, the percent of population depending on retirement and social security income is rising significantly, as shown in **Table 1**.

Table 1 Retirement Income

Census Year	Retirement Income	Social Security Income
1990	5.0%	6.0%
2000	20.6%	21.2%
2010	30.2%	34.6%

Natural Features (Resource Inventory)

Natural features facilitate some of the most valued recreation experiences in the Township, including biking and walking trails, hiking and nature trails, cross-country ski trails, fishing opportunities, hunting, and open space. Natural features also provide an incomparable environment for the enjoyment of disc golf and other organized “walks through the woods”. Natural features, to a large extent, are also what draw recreation enthusiasts to live in Chocoday Township. Residents enjoy being close to their outdoor “playground”, watching birds, picking wild berries, gardening, sledding, snowshoeing, and relaxing on the beach.

Featuring 12 miles of beaches along the Lake Superior shoreline and a multitude of lakes, streams, and reservoirs throughout the Chocoday River and Sand River watersheds, Chocoday Township provides ample opportunity to enjoy nature-based recreation opportunities.

The natural vegetation includes dune grasses, hardwood and conifer forests, wetlands, shrub areas and grasslands. Many different species of animals (such as black bear, white-tailed deer, coyotes, beaver, red squirrel, bobcat, and grey wolf) and birds (such as bald eagle, hawks, owls, herons, pileated woodpeckers, and songbirds) can be observed in these habitats. Resources meriting special protection include dunes, wetlands, steep slopes, floodplains, and waterways.

In the 2013 Master Plan Survey¹⁰, respondents indicated the importance of preserving various natural resources, based on a rating scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating the most support (scores included are average scores based on all ratings – results are shown in **Table 2**).

Because citizens recognize the enduring value of these natural features, the Township’s goals and policies support the conservation of natural systems and resources while integrating them with context sensitive development and climate-responsive design to enhance recreation opportunities. The

⁹ American Community Survey 5-Year estimates, 2007-2011.

¹⁰ www.tinyurl.com/townshipmasterplansurvey

Township will strive to expand public access to natural resources without adversely impacting those resources. The sustainable utilization of land based resources will be promoted through public education and through implementation of appropriate ordinances.

Table 2 Environmental Direction

Environmental Direction	Importance Value
Protect water resources	4.58
Preserve public access to water resources	4.43
Protect environmentally sensitive areas	4.22
Preserve wildlife habitat	4.18

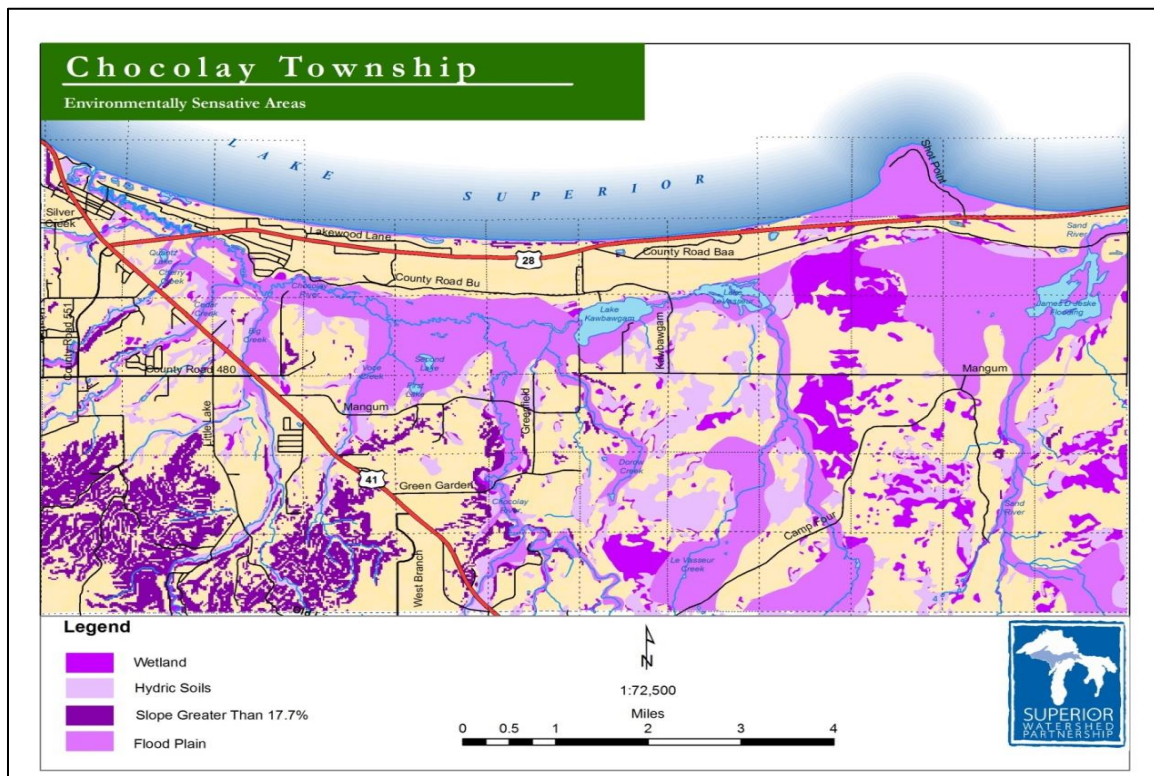
Climate responsive design ensures greater levels of comfort and access to natural resources throughout the year. This includes the importance of addressing pedestrian conditions, facilitating year-round use of the public realm, and designing and programming for all season use.

Sensitive Natural Areas

Sensitive natural areas merit protection because of their benefits to ecosystem function and as valuable wildlife habitat. These areas also need extra protection because of risk associated with erosion, wildfire, and flooding. Balanced conservation and preservation strategies should be pursued in these areas.

Figure 5 illustrates a combination of wetlands, floodplains, areas of hydric soils, slopes greater than 17.7 percent, and waterways.

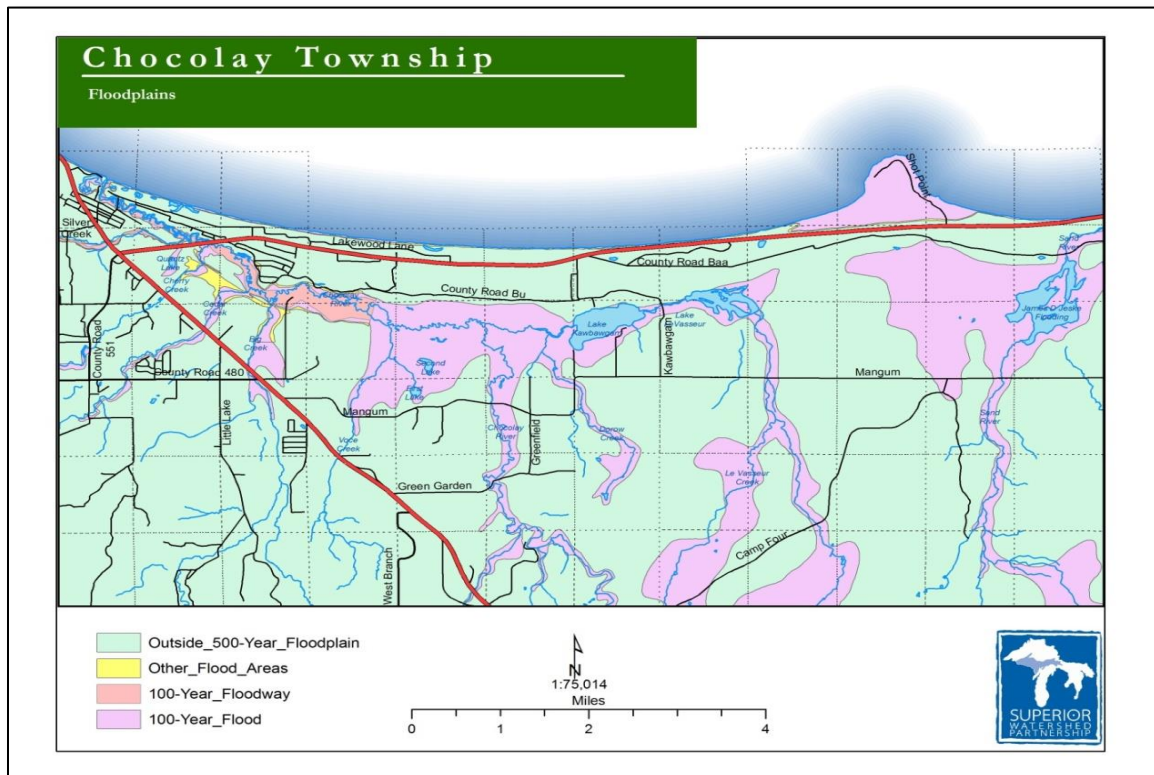
Figure 5 Sensitive Natural Areas of Chocolay Township



Floodplains

Chocolay Township floodplains are located along Lake Superior and various watercourses (See [Figure 6](#) for Township floodplains). The Township participates in the Federal Flood Insurance Program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This program provides for insurance of structures against losses incurred as a result of flooding. Revised floodplain maps are expected to be adopted in 2014, and will result in fewer floodplain restrictions in some areas and more in others.

Figure 6 Floodplains of Chocolay Township



Wetlands

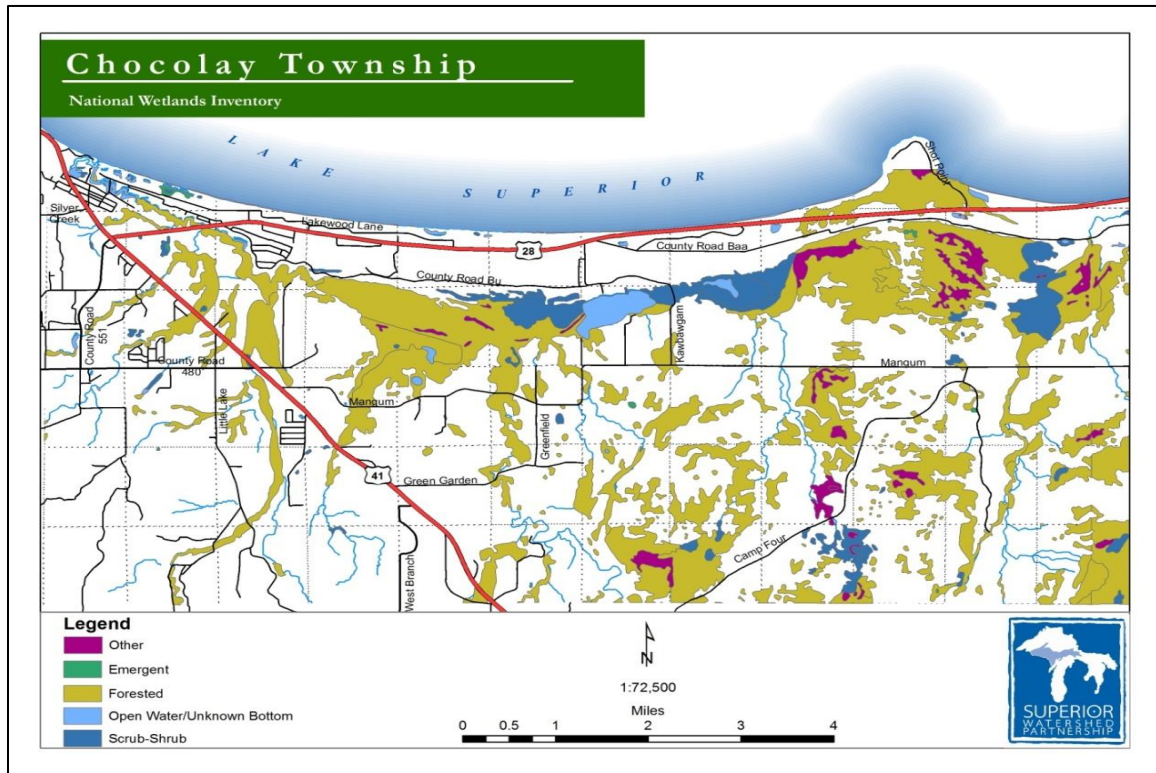
A wetland is defined in Michigan’s wetland statute as “land characterized by the presence of water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, wetland vegetation or aquatic life, and is commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh.”¹¹ Open water such as lakes and ponds are also classified as wetlands, but, unlike terrestrial wetlands, are not usually difficult to identify.

According to the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) data, Chocolay Township has 10,200 acres of wetlands, and the vast majority of wetlands in Chocolay Township are forested wetlands¹². Shrub-scrub wetlands and emergent wetlands are situated primarily along the impoundments, in wide areas of the floodplain, or in small areas adjacent to other water bodies or forested wetlands. Wetlands in the Township are shown in [Figure 7](#).

¹¹ Part 303, Wetlands Protection, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

¹² www.fws.gov/wetlands/Wetlands-Mapper.html

Figure 7 Wetlands of Chocolay Township



In addition to floodplain regulations, many areas adjacent to floodplains are protected areas under state and federal legislation for wetlands and waterways. County soil erosion restrictions apply in some areas. In addition, Chocolay Township has a Lake Superior Shoreline / Dune Protection Overlay District in its zoning ordinance that limits development activities on the dunes.

Water Features

Lake Superior

Approximately 12 miles of Lake Superior shoreline forms the northern border of the Township. Much of the shoreline has been privately developed with year-round homes and summer camps along M-28 and in the Lakewood Lane area.

The Township does not own any property on Lake Superior; however, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has three scenic turnout rest areas in the eastern portion of the Township that provide Lake Superior beach access to residents and visitors. The beach can also be accessed at the Welcome Center located at the northwest corner of the Township.

Watersheds

The Township includes two major watersheds (Chocolay River and Sand River) with the northern coastline crisscrossed by small drainages directly to Lake Superior. There are 86 miles of rivers and streams in the Township. These waters are used for boating and fishing recreation and their riparian areas are valued for home sites, sometimes resulting in planning and management challenges.



Chocolay River

The entire Chocolay River watershed encompasses 159 square miles, of which 41 square miles lie within the Township. Major tributaries in the Township include Big Creek, Cedar Creek, Cherry Creek, Dorow Creek, LeVasseur Creek, and Voce Creek. Other tributaries that partially flow through the southwestern and western portions of the Township are Foster Creek, O'Neil Creek, and Silver Creek.

The Chocolay River watershed provides many recreational opportunities such as canoeing, kayaking, swimming, and fishing. Cold-water sport fishing species include Brook Trout, Brown Trout, Chinook Salmon, Pink Salmon, and Steelhead. Warm-water sport fishing species include Bluegill, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, and Yellow Perch.

The Sand River watershed occupies roughly the eastern quarter of the Township (13 square miles) and flows north through blocks of the Gwinn Forest Management Unit. It is impounded just south of M-28 to create the James D. Jeske wildlife flooding, which provides both warm-water fishing and waterfowl hunting opportunities. The river then crosses into Alger County, flowing through Sand Lake and entering Lake Superior just east of Chocolay Township.

The map location for these watersheds is found in *Lakes, Reservoirs, and Waterways* in *Appendix A*.

Watercourses

Portions of the Chocolay River and Sand River are designated trout streams by the State of Michigan.¹³

The map location for these watercourses is found in *Lakes, Reservoirs, and Waterways* in *Appendix A*, and detailed map coordinates are found in *Appendix B*.

Lakes and Impoundments

The Township has about 561 acres of lakes and impoundments. In the Chocolay River watershed, Lake LeVasseur and Lake Kawbawgam are two water bodies impounded on LeVasseur Creek. In the Sand River watershed, the James D. Jeske wildlife flooding area provides an open water and marsh habitat.

There are only three named lakes – Lake Kawbawgam, First Lake, and Second Lake – that are not impoundments within the Township. None of these lakes provide for public access.

The map location for these lakes and reservoirs are found in *Lakes, Reservoirs, and Waterways* in *Appendix A*, and detailed map coordinates are found in *Appendix B*.

¹³ November 2007, under the authority of Section 48701(o), as amended, being Sections 324.48701(o) of the Michigan Compiled Laws

Character Area

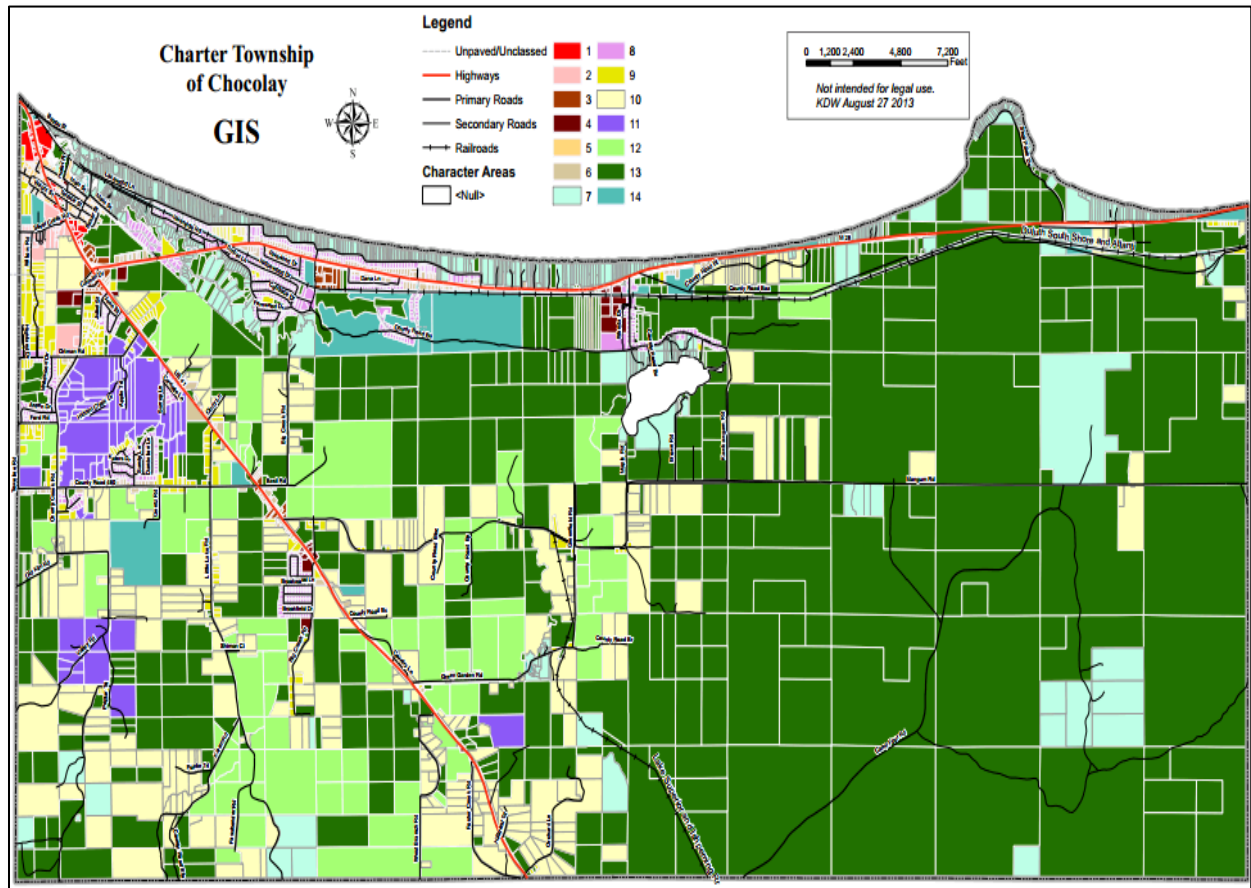
Existing land patterns are identified within 14 character areas in the Township 2014 Master Plan. The character areas include:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Corridor Strip Commercial & Mixed-Use | 8. Sub-Urban Residential |
| 2. Village Mixed-Use | 9. Sub-Rural Residential |
| 3. Corridor Cluster Mixed-Use | 10. Rural Residential |
| 4. Isolated Commercial | 11. Country Estate |
| 5. Village Residential | 12. Primary Working Lands |
| 6. Transportation-Oriented Residential | 13. Natural Preserve |
| 7. Water-Oriented and Recreational Residential | 14. Recreational Preserve |

Character Area Map

The character areas are shown on the map in **Figure 8**. (For a larger version of this map, go to www.chocolay.org/documents/surveycharactermap.pdf).

Figure 8 Chocolay Township Character Areas



Character Area Descriptions

Corridor Strip Commercial & Mixed-Use

This area generally fronts both the east and west sides of US 41 in Harvey. Uses tend to be automobile-oriented, with access directly onto US 41, but properties front the alternate urban business route for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. Land uses consist of mostly small retail, restaurants, and service businesses oriented primarily to local and pass-through customers rather than being a destination or regional attraction.

Village Mixed-Use

This area generally consists of a cluster or strip of mixed-uses within a small village context oriented along secondary corridors in Harvey. Uses tend to be automobile- and pedestrian-oriented, with access directly onto the roadway. There are sidewalks adjacent to some parcels in the vicinity of the intersection of Silver Creek Road and US 41 and adjacent to Cherry Creek School. Silver Creek winds through a portion of the area south of Silver Creek Road. The Silver Creek Recreation Area, St. Louis the King Catholic Church, Silver Creek Church and School, and Township Hall properties contain mature wooded stands of pines and deciduous trees. There is a prominent sand hill behind the Silver Creek Church. Current land uses include single-family residential, mobile home parks, small apartment buildings, government offices, recreation facilities, churches, schools, child care centers, and small retail businesses. A small plot community garden is located on the Harvey Baptist Church property on Silver Creek Road and another is underway at St. Louis the King Catholic Church.

Corridor Cluster Mixed-Use

This area has a primary pattern of development that is clustered along both sides of the intersection of two prominent highways. Uses tend to be automobile-oriented, but there is a pedestrian / bike path along US 41 and continuing east along M-28 and west along Cherry Creek Road. Portions of this path have been designated as an alternate urban business route for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail and are utilized for a snowmobile trail in the winter. There is a carpool lot which connects users of the Marquette County (MARQ-TRAN) and Alger County (ALTRAN) transit services. As part of an MDOT grant, trees and shrubs were planted in the right-of-way along US 41 and many are receiving care through the citizen volunteer “Adopt-a-Tree” program¹⁴. There are no prominent geologic or water features except that Silver Creek runs along the northern border of this character area. Land uses consist of mostly small to medium size retail, restaurants, lodging, gas station / convenience and financial services businesses oriented primarily to travelers and local customers rather than being a destination or regional attraction. The cluster also includes a senior housing development.

Isolated Commercial

This area is characterized by separation from other similar uses. Land uses are commercial retail, restaurant, and light manufacturing.

Village Residential

This area generally consists of small parcels within a village context oriented along a grid pattern of streets in Harvey. The east and west portions are connected by a non-motorized path passing through a pedestrian tunnel under US 41 in the area of Fairbanks Street. The dominant land use is single-family residential with some multi-family development.

¹⁴ See <http://www.chocolay.org/communityprojects/adoptatree.php> for additional information on the Adopt-a-Tree program.

Transportation-Oriented Residential

This area contains primarily narrow or shallow residential lots along major highway corridors with buildings generally located near the front of the lot. Each parcel has access directly to the highway corridor or through an easement across another property. Lawns are mostly mowed with typical rural residential landscaping, specimen trees, and gardens. The terrain is level upland with a few river or stream crossings. Land uses are single-family residential with some home occupations.

Water-Oriented and Recreational Residential

This area is primarily located on or near the Lake Superior shore, Chocolay River, or other inland waterway. Lots are typically narrow and long along Lake Superior. These parcels are accessed by individual residential driveways (or driveway easements) off both highway corridors and connecting roads. Some are also accessible from the Iron Ore Heritage Trail pedestrian / bike path and snowmobile trail. Natural features are the defining characteristic of this character area. Important features include woodlands, dunes, lakes, rivers, streams, rock formations, and scenic views. Land uses include a variety of single-family residential ranging from modest seasonal camps to large permanent homes.

Sub-Urban Residential

This area includes residential subdivisions characterized by small lots with homes closely set to each other and to the road. Fences often provide privacy and containment for pets and children. Access is typically from one main road which curves around with access to internal streets. There are usually no sidewalks in these developments, so the main transportation option is the automobile. Natural features typically include well-maintained lawns, landscaping, trees, and gardens. There may be areas of surrounding woodlands. The single-family residential use predominates.

Sub-Rural Residential

This area has lots which are generally one to five acres in size within a rural setting. These developments have direct access to secondary roadways with no pedestrian / bicycle facilities nearby and are characterized by lots with remaining natural areas and woodlands. The predominant land use is single-family residential with some home occupations.

Rural Residential

This area generally contains larger parcels dedicated primarily to residential development in a natural, quiet, rural setting. These developments have direct access to secondary or primary roadways with no pedestrian / bicycle facilities nearby. This is a predominantly natural rural setting with woodlands and open space. These are some of the most scenic areas of the Township with scattered farms. Land uses are residential, small scale agriculture, and home occupations.

Country Estate

This area contains gems of the rural environment, including large homes with well-maintained, expansive lawns and landscaping and surrounding woodlands. This character area offers unparalleled privacy in a luxury setting. Residents enjoy access along lightly traveled secondary roadways. There are no alternative transportation options. The natural setting is mostly fields and woodlands. Land use is single-family residential with some swimming pools.

Primary Working Lands

This area includes large farms, pastures and managed forests. This area is accessed by primary and mostly secondary roadways with no alternative transportation options. Open fields, woodlands and rolling terrain with a variety of natural vegetation along roadways define this setting. Primary land use is

the preservation of agriculture and forestry production, with accompanying single-family residential.

Natural Preserve

This area is characterized by no development and a rural setting. A variety of access options exist along primary or secondary roads. The landscape is dominated by natural features, which are typically continuous woodlands. There are no land uses except recreational residential.

Recreational Preserve

This area is a diverse environment with little formal development. Access is by primary and secondary roadways, some with access to pedestrian / bicycle paths or waterways. A variety of woodlands, natural areas, waterways, and open spaces predominate. Land use is public recreation.

RECREATION HISTORY

Throughout the Township's history, recreation opportunities were enhanced to meet the needs and requests of the public. Prior to 1966, the Township population was slightly less than 2,200 residents, and recreation development was minimal. In the decade between 1966 and 1976 the population in the Township more than doubled, and it was during this rapid growth period that Township officials and residents recognized the need for additional recreational facilities within the jurisdiction.

Through generous private donations and public property acquisitions, Township-owned recreation properties now encompass 160 acres.

Recreation Timeline

1920 - 1959

- 1920** The Marquette State Fish Hatchery was established (now known as the Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery).
- 1949** Philip and Elizabeth Spear donated 1.08 acres on both sides of the Chocolay River on Green Garden Road. This property was deeded to the Township to be "used by the Grantee exclusively for purposes of providing a park, swimming and other recreational facilities for children and other members of the public in and about the Township of Chocolay".¹⁵
- 1958** The Township purchased 17.1 acres along Silver Creek Road, with the intent of developing the property into a major recreational facility.
- 1958** Adelene Jones Pomeroy provided a 66' easement for access to the Silver Creek Recreation Area south of the soccer field.

1960 - 1969

- 1960** The Chocolay Township School District (now known as Marquette Area Public Schools) transferred property to the Township that was used to establish the location for the Township hall and grounds.
- 1967** The Chocolay Township School District (now known as Marquette Area Public Schools) added a gymnasium to Silver Creek School. Before this addition the Township did not have any other public recreation facilities available for its residents.

1970 - 1979

- 1973** The Township received a DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund grant (26-00373) for the development of two tennis courts, a ball field, and other recreation improvements at the Chocolay Township Recreation Area (now known as the Silver Creek Recreation Area).

¹⁵ Warranty Deed, June 6, 1949

- 1975** The Township executed a land contract on a privately-owned marina in the Village of Harvey on the Chocolay River.
- 1977** The Township received a DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund grant (26-01006) for development of two additional tennis courts at the Chocolay Township Recreation Area (now known as the Silver Creek Recreation Area).
- 1979** Using a DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund grant (26-01060 F), the Township purchased 12.33 acres of open-space land located adjacent to US 41 south of the intersection of US 41 S and CR 480. This area was named the Voce Creek Recreation Area.

1980 - 1989

- 1980s** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) completed major improvements on the three scenic turnouts on M-28. The turnoffs provide the only direct public access to Lake Superior within the Township.
- 1982** MDOT constructed a 14-acre fishing access site on the Chocolay River near M-28.
- 1983** The Township completed the terms on the land contract on the privately-owned marina started in 1975, and the property was deeded to the Township.
- 1984** The Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad Company (LS&I) donated a 78.5 ft. by 150 ft. right-of-way on Main Street to furnish improved access to the marina property.
- 1985** The Township received a DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund grant (26-01357) for the addition of playground equipment and other recreation improvements at the Chocolay Township Recreation Area (now known as the Silver Creek Recreation Area).
- 1987** Using a DNR Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant (MNRTF TF86-301), the Township purchased 16.29 acres on the northwest corner of US 41 and CR 480 in the Beaver Grove location. This area was named the Beaver Grove Recreation Area.
- Note** The acreage listed in the application erroneously indicates the purchase size as 14 acres, not 16.29.
- 1987** First National Bank and Trust Company of Marquette transferred 1.49 acres located on Kawbawgam Road to the Township. This property was later named the Kawbawgam Pocket Park.
- 1988** Elizabeth Heufelder donated right-of-way access on Main Street to provide additional street access to the Township marina.
- 1989** The Township received a DNR Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant (TF88-103) for development of a tot lot, picnic area, trails, soccer field, and related recreation equipment at the Beaver Grove Recreation Area.

1990 - 1999

- 1990** The Township purchased 14 acres adjoining the west line of the original Beaver Grove parcel.
- 1990** The Township acquired a DNR Recreation Bond Fund grant (BF89-192) for development of the soccer field, ball field, and additional recreation improvements at the Beaver Grove Recreation Area.
- 1991** An amendment was added to the DNR Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant (MNRTF TF88-103) to include the restrooms at the Beaver Grove Recreation Area.

- 1991** The DNR sold a three-acre parcel of undeveloped lowland to the Township. This area, known as the Beaver Grove Wetland, is located by US 41 and is a few hundred feet north of the Beaver Grove Recreation Area.
- 1994** The Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery was completely renovated, becoming the primary brood stock and rearing facility for Brook and Lake Trout that are used in both inland and Great Lakes waters.
- 1994** The Township expanded the Silver Creek Recreation Area by purchasing 6.6 acres from the Rudolf K. Heikkala estate west of the original 17.1 acre parcel. Two access lots to the facility, one purchased from Lorraine Mielke (.56 acres) and another totaling .89 acres, were also acquired that same year. These purchases increased the Silver Creek Recreation Area acreage to 24.59 acres.
- 1994** The Marquette County Road Commission provided a quit claim deed to the Township on the 66' easement for access to the Silver Creek Recreation Area south of the soccer field.
- 1995** Through a transfer of properties, the DNR acquired ownership of the 14-acre fishing access site from MDOT on the Chocolay River near M-28 along with an adjacent 5.7 acres.
- 1995** The Township established an agreement with the Marquette County Soil and Water Conservation District (MCCD) to permit the MCCD to use the blown out area of the Voce Creek Recreation Area to grow and harvest beach grass.
- 1997** The Township leased 14 acres adjoining the west line of the original Beaver Grove parcel to the Michigan Department of Corrections with an automatic annual lease renewal if the lease was not cancelled. The property was used for farming activities.
- 1999** The Township obtained easements from John and Karen Smith and Michigan Bell Telephone Company to access the Kawbawgam cross country ski trails.
- 1999** The Township, with the help of volunteers, developed more than five miles of the Kawbawgam cross country ski trails on DNR property adjacent to Lake LeVasseur. To access the trails a small parking lot was constructed at the trailhead.
- 1999** Kawbawgam Pocket Park was constructed on the site transferred to the Township in 1987. Facilities established at the pocket park included a pit toilet, a basketball court, and swing set.
- 1999** Carl and Emily Nelson sold additional acreage to the Township at the marina location for \$500.00. This acreage opened possibilities for additional recreational development, and set the stage for the Department of Natural Resource Trust Fund grant obtained in 2005.
- 1999** The Township signed a lease with Marquette Area Schools for the Lion's Field Complex.
- 1999** Don Brower, a former Township resident, donated 48 acres of forestland to the Township. This parcel, located at the intersection of Mangum Road and Kawbawgam Road, has become known as the Brower Recreation Area. A condition of this donation stipulated that the land would be used "for education or recreation purposes".¹⁶
- 1999** Administered by the Marquette Soil Conservation District, the Chocolay River Watershed Council released the Chocolay River Watershed Restoration and Adaptive Management Plan. This plan covers the entire Chocolay watershed that encompasses acreage in four townships.¹⁷

¹⁶ Warranty Deed, December 14, 1999

¹⁷ http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/nps-chocolay-plan_315271_7.pdf

2000 - Present

- 2000** The Township purchased Lion’s Club Park from the Marquette Public Schools. As a condition of the purchase, the name of the complex “shall continue to be designated as ‘Chocolay Township Lions Recreation Area’.”¹⁸
- 2001** Chocolay Township received a DNR Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Recreation Bond Fund grant (CM00-043) to develop the Beaver Grove Recreation Area. Improvements included the construction of a basketball court, pavilion, fencing, irrigation for the ball field, spectator seating for the soccer field, entrance signs, scoreboard, soccer field parking, and covered dugouts on the ball field.
- 2001** Sigward and Phyliss Olson donated property at the corner of Green Bay Street and Lakewood Lane to the Township that borders the Chocolay River. A conditional use permit to designate the parcel as a park was assigned to the property.
- 2001** A paved non-motorized trail that connects the Cherry Creek Elementary School with the Silver Creek Elementary School (now known as the Silver Creek Church) was constructed with MDOT funds.
- 2002** Chocolay Township received a Forest Stewardship – Outreach and Education grant from the DNR for the preparation of a forest stewardship management plan and development of educational opportunities for the Brower Recreation Area. The Township worked with the Boy Scouts of America and Michigan State 4-H Extension to implement portions of the management plan.
- 2003** Chocolay Township, in collaboration with Superior Watershed Partnership and MDOT, received a Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) grant to restore one of the highly eroded MDOT turnoffs.
- 2004** A recreation survey of the community, started in 2002, was completed.¹⁹
- 2004** The Township donated the three-acre parcel known as the Beaver Grove Wetland (see the 1991 acquisition) to the Marquette County Habitat for Humanity.
- 2004** The Township received a Department of Natural Resource Trust Fund grant (MNRTF TF04-102) to develop a Chocolay River Water Trail Access Site at the Township marina. The project included signage, kayak locker storage, two tent platforms, ADA picnic tables, a boardwalk, and a fishing platform.
- 2005** The Township entered into an agreement with MDOT to complete a dune restoration project at the three turnouts.
- 2007** The Township added additional office space to the Township Hall, which now houses Township staff.
- 2007** Candace Varvil donated a parcel on the northeastern corner of the Lion’s Field property to the Township.
- 2007** Silver Creek Church entered into a recreational agreement with the Township so that the church could build a Frisbee golf course.

18 AGREEMENT FOR ASSIGNMENT OF LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, June 7, 2000

19 <http://www.chocolay.org/documents/surveysummary042002.pdf>

- 2009** Governor Jennifer Granholm, by executive order, merged the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), forming the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE).
- 2009** A maintenance contract for the MDOT turnouts was awarded to a private enterprise, ending the contract with the Township.
- 2010** A recreation survey for the City of Marquette was conducted, which included questions for Chocolay Township residents.²⁰
- 2010** The Township received an MDOT Enhancement Grant of \$1.6 million, and a DNRE Recreation Trail Fund Grant of \$307,875. The monies were applied to the construction of 1.9 miles of multi-use paved pathway between the M-28 overpass for the DNRE trail near Timber Lane and a new pedestrian tunnel under US 41 at Fairbanks Street.
- The tunnel replaced the pedestrian bridge formerly located at the Silver Creek Road intersection and provides a safe highway crossing for all non-motorized traffic that is completely separated from the high volume of vehicles using the highway. The project also included construction of a new bridge to carry the trail over the Chocolay River and the planting of 200 trees and shrubs along US 41.
- 2010** The DNRE graded and resurfaced 6.2 miles of its trail along the former Soo Line Railroad grade using compacted crushed limestone. The resurfacing began at the Michigan Welcome Center on US 41 and extended south and east to Kawbawgam Road.
- 2010** Ronald and Cathy Wick donated 19 acres west of Kawbawgam Lake to the Township.
- 2010** The Michigan Department of Corrections cancelled the lease with the Township on the 14 acres of property adjoining the north line of the original Beaver Grove parcel.
- 2010** Governor Rick Snyder announced a split of the DNRE into two separate agencies: the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).
- 2010** A millage passed to extend the Iron Ore Heritage Trail through Chocolay Township to the Township's eastern border.
- 2011** The 14 acres adjoining the west line of the original Beaver Grove parcel was leased to Bergdahl, Inc. for farming purposes with a lease period of three years.
- 2012** Future Eagle Scouts Ethan Park and Mathew Collins led a project to build a community garden. In conjunction with Tina Hall (garden organizer), Township staff, Boy Scout Troop 360, and community volunteers, a 24-bed garden was built on a site leased from the Harvey Baptist Church.
- 2012** Future Eagle Scout Mike Edwards led a project to get Township businesses and residents to adopt trees planted as part of the MDOT US 41 corridor project in 2010. The adoption project – involving Boy Scout Troop 360, residents, local businesses, and the Township staff – set up an adoption program for the trees that included donated memorial bricks installed at each of the adopted sites.
- 2013** The Township entered into a land use agreement with the U.P. Disc Golf Association to redesign and expand the Frisbee golf course that was established in 2007 by the Silver Creek Church.

²⁰ <http://www.chocolay.org/documents/surveysummary092010.pdf>

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)

Planning Commission

Established as a result of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, P. A. 33 of 2008,²¹ the Chocolay Township Planning Commission plays a significant role in the administration of recreational opportunities within the Township by forming, evaluating, and recommending plans in accordance with the goals and objectives of the Chocolay Township master plan. They also review and approve all conditional use permits for public and private parcels.

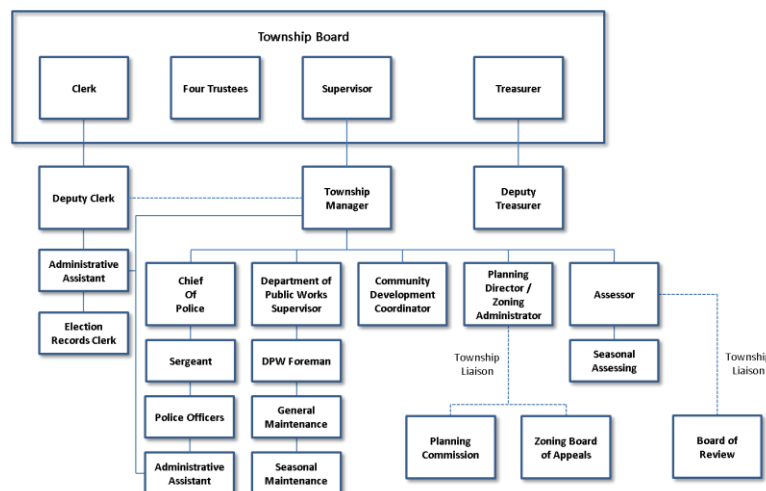
Township Board

The Township Board adopts the recreation plan after public hearing and recommendations from the Planning Commission. The Board also approves all funding for Township budgets.

Staff Description and Organization Chart

Township staff, elected officials, and appointed officials administer the recreation goals and direction for Township recreation. Specifically, the Planning Commission, the Township Board, the Township Manager, the Department of Public Works, the Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, and the Community Development Coordinator all play a role in recreation administration within the Township. The organization chart, shown in **Figure 9**, provides a visual representation of the Township administrative structure.

Figure 9 Administrative Structure



21 See [http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(xj3g1jal1er4tq45ve4x5vuz\)\)/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-act-33-of-2008.pdf](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(xj3g1jal1er4tq45ve4x5vuz))/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-act-33-of-2008.pdf) for the complete act.

Planning Director / Zoning Administrator

In Chocolay Township, the positions of Planning Director and Zoning Administrator are combined into one full-time position.

Planning Director Responsibilities

The Planning Director plays a multi-faceted role in supporting beneficial development of the Township that is consistent with community goals. Tasks include:

- Responding to information requests from various boards and commissions as well as local citizens
- Facilitating citizen engagement and community outreach to support planning efforts
- Providing research and technical assistance to support policies and decision-making
- Helping to plan, fund, and implement special projects
- Collaborating with other jurisdictions
- Staying informed about legislative changes and judicial decisions that impact Township regulations

The Planning Director also serves as the technical assistant to the Chocolay Township Planning Commission.

Zoning Administrator Responsibilities

The Zoning Administrator is the principal person charged with the responsibility for administering and enforcing Township ordinances.²²

The Zoning Administrator assists citizens in interpretation of zoning regulations and assists with the completion of related zoning applications. The Zoning Administrator performs inspections, issues permits, issues violation notices, and evaluates and establishes guidelines for improving department procedures.

The Zoning Administrator also serves as the technical assistant to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Community Development Coordinator

The part-time (24 hours per week) Community Development Coordinator is responsible for risk management of Township assets (including all recreation-related areas). The Community Development Coordinator is also responsible for Township technology support and the Township web site.

Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works (DPW) has the responsibility for maintenance of park and recreation facilities in the Township. This is accomplished with assigned hours for three full-time employees and a summer part-time employee.

Township Manager

In addition to supervising Township employees, the Township Manager is responsible for establishing budgets and providing technical assistance to staff when necessary.

²² See www.chocolay.org/ordinances/ordinances.php for a listing of Township ordinances.

Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements, and Recreation

DPW has a budget of \$93,300 in 2014 (including department salaries) for recreation maintenance activities, and the majority of that budget is dedicated to field preparation, field maintenance, facility repair, lawn cutting, and general maintenance on all Township-owned properties. The budget is generally between \$90,000 and \$100,000 annually. There is no programming budget because all recreational programs are run by volunteer organizations (such as Chocoday Community Garden Group). The 2014 Capital Improvement budget is \$50,000. Additionally, in 2013, the Board approved \$20,000 for a paved connector trail along US 41 / M28 for expenditure in 2014. DPW obtains revenues through a wide variety of means, including tax funding, recreation fees, grants, and the capital improvement fund.

Current Funding Sources

Currently, recreation funding is established through the Township budget process. Each year, the accounts are reviewed and adjusted based on projected resources and maintenance for the following year.

Additional sources of funds include:

- Grants
- KBIC 2% funding requests
- Local individual and organization donations (both financial and in-kind)

Role of Volunteers

The public has the opportunity to offer input and assistance in nearly every phase of recreation administration. More specifically, the public can make suggestions to the Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, the Department of Public Works, the Community Development Coordinator, the Planning Commission, the Township Manager, and the Township Board. People can also serve on committees and volunteer for groups and organizations that help with the upkeep of recreation areas within the Township. Below are some of the groups and organizations within Chocoday Township that have assisted with recreation administration.

- Boy Scouts
Boy Scout Troop 360 and Boy Scout Troop 370 are involved in Eagle Scout projects in cooperation with the Township and other local entities. The Scouts led the building of the first Township community garden, and are responsible for the Adopt-A-Tree program.
- Citizens in the Adopt-a-Tree Program
Local citizens have adopted trees lining the US 41 corridor. This adoption includes mulching the tree beds, weeding, and general care for the site.
- Chocoday Community Gardens Group (CCGG)
The CCGG is responsible for the development and upkeep of the community gardens located within the Township.

Besides providing garden space, the purpose of the CCGG is to provide gardening education, encourage the participation of children, donate some locally produced food, and to provide

gardening opportunities to those with special needs.

- **Chocolay Township Lion's Club**

This internationally-sponsored organization provides funding and volunteer labor for Township projects. In particular, this organization funded and developed the Lion's Field complex and assists with upkeep and maintenance.

- **Girl Scouts**

Troop 5011 (Seniors), Troop 5055 (Daisies and Brownies), Troop 5070 (Brownies and Juniors), and Troop 5101 (Cadets, Seniors, and Ambassadors) have taken on the beautification of the Township at the gateway corners (US 41 and M-28). The Scouts maintain the locations throughout the spring, summer, and fall, and will also lead the building of the proposed community garden at St. Louis the King Catholic Church.

- **Marquette Rotary organizations**

These internationally-sponsored organizations provide grants and volunteer labor for Township projects. These organizations funded and helped build the first community garden project.

Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations

The Township works well with local organizations to establish both passive and active recreation in the Township. Those organizations include:

- **Boy Scouts**

This organization is internationally known for volunteer projects within local communities.

- **Chocolay Area Business Association (CABA)**

This is an organization of Township and area business owners who share a concern for the development and character of the Township.

- **Cherry Creek Elementary School**

This school is part of the Marquette Area Public Schools (MAPS) system. It is a K-5 school with a current enrollment of 378 students.

- **Chocolay Township Co-Ed Softball League (CCSL)**

The CCSL organizes the co-ed softball leagues that utilize the fields at the Beaver Grove Recreation Area and Lion's Field.

- **Girl Scouts**

This organization is internationally known for volunteer projects within local communities.

- **Harvey Baptist Church**

This church is the host site for the first Chocolay Township Community Garden.

- **Iron Ore Heritage Trail Recreation Authority (IOHTRA)**

The IOHTRA is responsible for the development and maintenance of a 48 mile trail extending from Republic, Michigan through Chocolay Township. This trail celebrates the mining heritage of the region.

- **Lion's Club**

This internationally-sponsored organization provides grants and volunteer labor for Township

projects. This organization funded and developed the Lion's Field complex.

- Little Lake Co-Ed Softball League (LLSL)
The LLSL organizes the co-ed softball leagues that utilize the field at the Beaver Grove Recreation Area.
- Marquette Rotary organizations
These internationally-sponsored organizations provide grants and volunteer labor for Township projects. These organizations funded and helped build the first community garden project.
- Silver Creek Church
Part of the disc golf course is on church property in conjunction with the remaining holes on Township property. The church also hosts many local community activities (such as the Silver Creek Block Party and the Mom-to-Mom sales).
- St. Louis the King Catholic Church
The church will be the location of the proposed Choccolay Township community garden.
- Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP)
The SWP provides insights and solutions for area watersheds. The SWP led dune restoration projects located at the MDOT turnouts.
- Superiorland Soccer Association
This association organizes the soccer recreation programs at the Beaver Grove Recreation Area and the Silver Creek Recreation Area.
- The Nature Conservancy
The Nature Conservancy is an international organization focused on environmental issues and land conservation.
- U.P. Disc Golf Association
This non-profit association is responsible for the development and maintenance of the disc golf course located on the properties of the Silver Creek Recreation Area and Silver Creek Church.
- U. P. Land Conservancy
This regional non-profit organization works to conserve land by acquiring land or conservation easements and arranging for stewardship of such land or easements.

RECREATION INVENTORY

Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory

Three primary methods were used to complete the recreation inventory for the Township.

Method one involved reviewing existing Township documents to:

- Validate the historical references for the properties
- Identify and validate grants acquired for the properties
- Identify equipment that was purchased or installed on the properties

Method two involved a tour of the Township properties with the Township insurance carrier to assess each property for risk mitigation. This method was accomplished in June, 2012 (see *Appendix E* for further details on this assessment).

Method three involved visiting each site and documenting the physical characteristics and equipment found at each site. This method was accomplished in the fall of 2012, with a follow-up evaluation in the summer and fall of 2013.

Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities

Recreation opportunities in Chocolay Township are classified into one of four categories:

- **Chocolay Township properties**
These are properties with Chocolay Township as the designated owner on the Township assessment roles. Township staff is directly responsible for the maintenance of these properties.
- **Cooperative facilities**
These are properties either privately-owned (such as Harvey Baptist Church) or publicly-owned (such as the Kawbawgam Ski Trail on DNR property) that are either supported by or maintained by Township funds or staff.
- **Other public facilities**
These facilities are either owned or managed by public entities (such as Northern Michigan University and the DNR) within the Township. The Township has no role in the responsibility for the maintenance of each of these properties.
- **Private facilities**
These properties are privately-owned and operated within the Township. The owners of these properties provide all maintenance for these properties.

Chocolay Township Properties

Table 3 shows the recreational opportunities, facilities, and equipment on Township-owned properties.

Table 3 Chocolay Township Properties

Recreation Facility / Opportunity	Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	Brower Recreation Area	Green Bay Street Park	Green Garden Site	Kawbawgam Pocket Park	Lion's Field	Silver Creek Recreation Area	Township Municipal Complex	Township Marina	Voce Creek	Wick Site
Baseball / softball field		1					1	1				
Basketball court		1 A				1 A	1 B	1 B				
Bird / wildlife observation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Boat / canoe / kayak launch				C	C					C, D		
Covered pavilion		X										
Cross-country skiing						E		E			E	
Fishing / ice fishing		F		F	F					F		F
Hiking / nature trail		G	I	H		H	H	I		G	I	
Hunting												J
Ice skating / hockey							X					
Open space	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X
Other	K	L				R, S		M	N	O, P, Q		
Paved multi-use path								T	T			
Picnic location		X				X		X		X		
Playground		X				X		X				
Primitive camping										2		
Restroom facilities		U				U	U	V	V	U		
Soccer field		X						X				
Snowshoeing			X			X		X			X	
Swimming					W					W		
Tennis court								4				

Table 3 Legend

Basketball court	A – full court / 2 nets	B – half court / 1 net
Boat / canoe /kayak launch	C – canoe / kayak	D – boat with motor
Cross-country skiing	E – not groomed	
Fishing / ice fishing	F – open water only	
Hiking / nature trails	G – developed	H – nearby
Hunting	I – undeveloped	
Other	J – deer / small game / upland birds	
	K – Agriculture area	L – horseshoe court
	M – disc golf	
	N – meeting room	O – handicap access fishing pier
	P – kayak / canoe storage locker	Q – boardwalk
	R – ATV / ORV trail access nearby	S – snowmobile access nearby
Paved multi-use path	T – nearby	
Restroom facilities	U – pit	V – running water
Swimming	W – no lifeguard	

Cooperative Facilities

Table 4 shows the recreational opportunities, facilities, and equipment that are either supported or maintained by Township funds or staff.

Table 4 Cooperative Facilities

Recreation Facility / Opportunity	Harvey Baptist Church	Kawbawgam Ski Trail	US-41/M 28 Paved Trail	St. Louis the King Catholic Church (proposed)
Bird / wildlife observation		X		
Cross-country skiing		A	B	
Hiking / nature trail		X	X	
Other	C		D, E	C
Snowshoeing		X	X	

Table 4 Legend

Cross-country skiing A – groomed B – not groomed
 Other C – community garden D – US 41 tree sites E – snowmobile access

Other Public Facilities

Table 5 shows the recreational opportunities, facilities, and equipment on other public properties located in the Township that are not owned by the Township.

Table 5 Other Public Properties

Recreation Facility / Opportunity	Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery	Cherry Creek School	DNR Chocoday River Access – M-28 E	DNR Chocoday River Access – Mangum Road	Gwinn Forest Management Unit	Jeske Flooding – Dam	Jeske Flooding -- Launch	Lake LeVasseur	MDOT Turnout # 1	MDOT Turnout # 2	MDOT Turnout # 3	MDOT Welcome Center	Northern Michigan University Golf Course
Basketball court		1 A											
Bird / wildlife observation			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Boat / canoe / kayak launch				B	B		B, C	B, C					
Cross-country skiing					D								
Fishing / ice fishing			E	E	E		E, F	E, F					
Hiking / nature trail		G	G	I	I	H	H	G				G	
Hunting					J		K	K					
Open space		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Other	L, M	N	O		P, Q				R	R	R	P, T	S
Picnic location									X	X	X	X	
Playground		X											
Restroom facilities	V	V	U						U			V	V

Recreation Facility / Opportunity	Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery	Cherry Creek School	DNR Chocolatey River Access – M-28 E	DNR Chocolatey River Access – Mangum Road	Gwinn Forest Management Unit	Jeske Flooding – Dam	Jeske Flooding -- Launch	Lake LeVasseur	MDOT Turnout # 1	MDOT Turnout # 2	MDOT Turnout # 3	MDOT Welcome Center	Northern Michigan University Golf Course
Soccer field		X											
Snowshoeing		X			X			X					
Swimming									W	W	W	W	

Table 5 Legend

- Basketball court **A** – full court / 2 nets
- Boat / canoe /kayak launch **B** – canoe / kayak **C** – boat with motor
- Cross-country skiing **D** – groomed
- Fishing / ice fishing **E** – fishing **F** – ice fishing
- Hiking / nature trails **G** – developed **H** – nearby **I** – undeveloped
- Hunting
- Other **L** – Interpretive site **M** – self-guided tours **N** – gym
- Restroom facilities
- Swimming **O** – handicap-accessible fishing pier **P** – snowmobile access
- Q** – ATV / ORV access **R** – Lake Superior beach access
- S** – golf **T** – tourist information
- U** – pit **V** – running water
- W** – no lifeguard

Private Facilities

Table 6 shows the recreational opportunities, facilities, and equipment on privately-owned properties located in the Township.

Table 6 Private Facilities

Recreation Facility / Opportunity	Gitche Gumees RV Park	Homestead Golf	Lakeland
Hiking / nature trails	A		B
Open space	X		X
Other	C, D, E	F	G
Picnic location	X		X
Primitive camping	X		
Restroom facilities	H	I	H

Table 6 Legend

- Hiking / nature trails **A** – nearby **B** – developed
- Other **C** – RV camping **D** – Internet **E** – ATV / ORV trail access
- Restroom facilities **F** – golf **G** – sculptures / artwork
- H** – pit **I** – running water

Location Maps

Location maps for the recreation areas within the Township can be found in *Appendix A*.

Property Description – Chocolay Township Properties

Beaver Grove Agriculture Area



Description

Beaver Grove Agriculture Area is a 14 acre natural resource area located to the west of the Beaver Grove Recreation Area. The area is designated as an agriculture site, with 13.5 acres of farmable land. It may someday be a community park.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township.

Accessibility

The area is accessible by vehicle from County Road 480. There is no designated parking area at the site at this time.

Although ADA accessibility is not designated for this area, the area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Agriculture area
- Bird / wildlife observation
- Open space



Beaver Grove Recreation Area

Description

Beaver Grove Recreation Area is a 16.29 acre sports complex and community park. The property is located west of US 41 and north of County Road 480.

The site has considerable frontage on Big Creek that flows along its eastern border. Direct access to the creek from a developed hiking trail provides fishing opportunities as well as unique passive recreational outlets.



Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township, especially to play soccer or softball.

Accessibility

The recreation area is accessible by vehicle from two entrance points. One is on US 41, and the other is on County Road 480. Both parking lots are packed gravel.

Some portions of the site are ADA-accessible, and the area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility.



Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Baseball / softball field
- Basketball court (full court)
- Bird / wildlife observation
- Covered pavilion
- Fishing
- Hiking / nature trail
- Horseshoe court
- Open space
- Picnic location
- Playground
- Restroom facilities (pit toilet)
- Soccer field

Brower Recreation Area



Description

The Brower property is a 48 acre natural resource area located at the northwest corner of Mangum and Kawbawgam Roads, approximately 8 miles southeast of Harvey. It is predominately lowland with a mix of trees dominated by spruce, cedar, hemlock, birch and maple. There is a small stream that bisects the property. In 2002, the Township received a DNR grant to develop the property as a demonstration area that promotes forest stewardship while providing passive recreational opportunities.

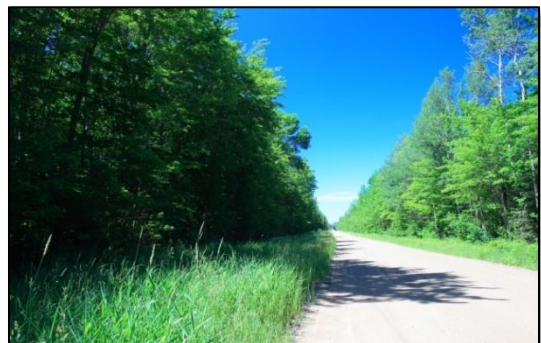
Primary Service Area

The primary service area is local. Participants travel from areas within the Township to access this area.

Accessibility

Parking is limited for vehicular access to this property. There are no road signs indicating the location of the property.

Although ADA accessibility is not designated for this area, the area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility, and will be addressed as part of the development plans for this area.



Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Hiking / nature trail (undeveloped)
- Open space
- Snowshoeing

Green Bay Street Park



Description

Green Bay Street Park is located on the corner of Green Bay Street and Lakewood Lane, and runs along the east side of the Chocolay River. This almost 3/4 acre natural resource area was donated to the Township in 2001, and in 2002 the Township requested and received a conditional use permit for a park designation for this site. The site has served as a fishing site for residents and visitors for many years.

A grant was obtained through the Marquette County Conservation District and the Superior Watershed Partnership to address critical erosion problems. Funds were used to stabilize the stream bank, install stairways and fencing, improve parking, and to establish plants to help control erosion.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to fish at this location.

Accessibility

Parking areas for access to this property have not been designated.

The incline from the road to the river bank is steep, and ADA accessibility has not been established for access. However, the area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility.



Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Boat / canoe / kayak launch (carry-down only)
- Fishing
- Hiking / nature trail (nearby – Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- Open space

Green Garden Site



Description

The Green Garden property, consisting of two parcels totaling about 3 acres fronting the Chocolay River, is located on Green Garden Road approximately 1.5 miles from US 41 in the south central part of the Township. This natural resource area is currently undeveloped, but is used as a local swimming and fishing spot.

The site offers a primitive carry-down boat launch to the river. The deed giving title to Chocolay Township requires that the property be used exclusively to

provide a park and other recreational facilities for the members of the public in and around the Township.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to fish at this location.

Accessibility

Although ADA accessibility is not designated for this area, the area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Boat / canoe / kayak launch (carry-down only)
- Fishing
- Open space
- Swimming (no lifeguard)



Kawbawgam Pocket Park

Description

Donated to the Township in 1987, this 1.5 acre site is partially developed as a children's mini park. The park is located on Kawbawgam Road. Volunteers installed swings, a basketball court, a restroom, and picnic table in the park.

The park also serves as a trailhead with parking for the North Country Trail and the Iron Ore Heritage Trail, and in the past served as a trailhead for the Kawbawgam Ski Trail.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is both local and regional. Local residents use the pocket park facilities, while participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to access the North Country Trail.





Accessibility

The parking lot provides a hard surface area during the non-winter months. Additional ADA accessibility is not designated for this area, but the area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- ATV / ORV trail access (nearby)
- Basketball (full court)
- Bird / wildlife observation
- Cross-country skiing (not groomed)
- Hiking / nature trail (nearby)
- Picnic location
- Playground
- Restroom facilities (pit toilet)
- Snowmobile access (nearby)
- Snowshoeing

Lion's Field



Description

This 11 acre sports complex and community park is located on M-28, approximately 2.5 miles east of the US 41 / M-28 intersection. In 2000, this property was purchased from the Marquette Area Public Schools.

The area is minimally improved with a concrete block storage and pump house. Approximately five acres at the south end of the property remain undeveloped and provide access to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township, especially to play softball during the summer months and to use the hockey rink during the winter months.

Accessibility

The parking lot provides a packed gravel surface area during the non-winter months. Additional ADA accessibility is not designated for this area, but the area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility.



Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Baseball / softball field
- Basketball court (half court)
- Bird / wildlife observation
- Hiking / nature trail (nearby)
- Ice skating / hockey
- Open space
- Restroom facilities (pit toilet)

Silver Creek Recreation Area



Description

The Silver Creek Recreation Area encompasses 26.6 acres in the northwest corner of the Township. The size and location of this site make it especially suited for community recreation. It is classified as a sports complex and community park.

The southeast portion of the site is developed, while an undeveloped trail system and a disc golf course (built in 2012) is interspersed throughout the forested western and northern portion.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township, especially to play soccer and disc golf.

Accessibility

The east parking lot provides a paved surface area during the non-winter months. There is a paved driveway that leads to the western parking lot near the soccer field. The western parking lot is a packed gravel lot that is available during the non-winter months.

The recreation area is divided into two levels. The disc golf course and trail systems utilize both levels, and there is an ADA-accessible path that connects both areas. The area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility.



Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Baseball / softball field
- Basketball (half court inside the tennis courts)
- Bird / wildlife observation
- Cross-country skiing (not groomed)
- Disc golf course (eighteen holes)
- Hiking / nature trail (undeveloped)
- Open space
- Paved multi-use path (nearby)
- Picnic location
- Playground
- Restroom facilities (with running water and changing area)
- Soccer field
- Snowshoeing
- Tennis courts (four courts)

Township Municipal Complex



Description

Donated to the Township in 1960, the Chocolay Township Municipal Complex is located on a 3.14 acre parcel with frontage on the west side of US 41 in the Village of Harvey. The complex houses the governmental operations for the Township as well as the Township volunteer fire hall.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. The Township Hall serves both Township residents and visitors. The

Township fire hall serves both Township residents and surrounding jurisdictions when called.

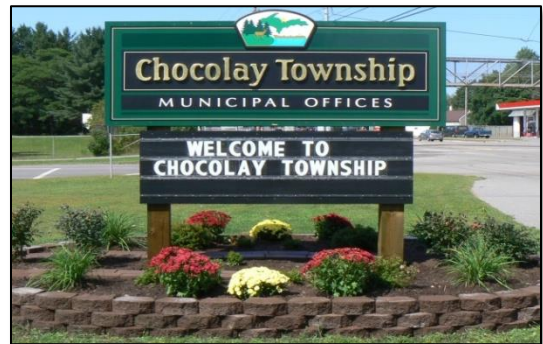
Accessibility

The Township complex provides parking for 51 vehicles, of which three are reserved for handicap parking. The Township Hall is ADA-accessible. Additional ADA accessibility is under consideration for this area.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Meeting room
- Paved multi-use path (nearby)
- Restroom facilities (with running water)



Township Marina



Description

Sold to the Township in 1975, the site is located along West Main Street in Harvey. After additional donations, the site increased to 3.6 acres, including land across the lagoon of about 1.9 acres. The marina is situated on the Chocolay River approximately 1,500 feet from Lake Superior, and is located in a residential neighborhood.

The marina provides kayak, canoe, and motorized boat access to the Chocolay River and to Lake Superior. However, the river mouth is often too shallow to permit

easy access to Lake Superior, resulting in limited public use for motorized craft. A Hiawatha Water Trail Access Site was established at this location during the summer of 2006. It is a community park, natural resource area, and serves water trail users and boating enthusiasts.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. The marina serves both Township residents and visitors to the area, especially those with boats, canoes, and kayaks. The marina also serves as a regional location for fishing.

Accessibility

The parking lot, accessible by vehicle from Main Street, provides a packed gravel lot during the non-winter months. The parking area is large enough for four vehicles with boat trailers. A concrete launch ramp is available at the site with a skid pier launch.

Access to the raised tent sites, the ADA-available picnic tables, and the boardwalk are ADA-accessible, but requires a short distance of travel over grassy areas to each. The restroom at the site is currently not ADA-accessible. The area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility.



Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Boardwalk
- Boat / canoe / kayak launch (concrete ramp with skid pier – deep enough for motorized boats)
- Fishing
- Fishing pier
- Hiking / nature trail (developed boardwalk)
- Kayak / canoe storage locker (for four kayaks or canoes)
- Open space
- Picnic location
- Primitive camping (two raised wooden platforms)
- Restroom facilities (pit toilet)
- Swimming (no lifeguard)

Voce Creek



Description

The Voce Creek Recreation area is 12.4 acres of undeveloped natural resource land, located east of US 41, approximately one mile south of the Beaver Grove location. Its soils, topography, and location limit its use for active recreational opportunities. The Marquette County Soil and Water Conservation District (MCCD), in cooperation with the Township, has used a portion of the property as an experimental beach grass planting and sand dune stabilization project.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is local, as local residents are the primary users of this site.

Accessibility

Parking is limited to the shoulder of US 41 for vehicle access to this property. There is no road signage indicating the location of the property.

Although ADA accessibility is not designated for this area, the area is under consideration for future ADA accessibility, and will be addressed as part of the development plans for this area.



Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Cross-country skiing (not groomed)
- Hiking / nature trail (undeveloped)
- Open space
- Snowshoeing

Wick Site

Description

Donated to the Township in 2010, this 19 acre natural resource area lies west of Lake Kawbawgam and east of a parcel owned by the DNR. LeVasseur Creek is the southern border of the property, which flows from Lake Kawbawgam.



Primary Service Area

The primary service area is local, as local residents are the primary users of this site.

Accessibility

Currently, easement access to the property is under evaluation. Current access is from LeVasseur Creek.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Fishing
- Hunting (deer / small game / upland birds)
- Open space

Property Description – Cooperative Facilities

Harvey Baptist Church – Chocoley Community Garden



Description

The Chocoley Community Garden is located behind the Harvey Baptist Church at 224 Silver Creek Road in Harvey. Chocoley Township staff initiated the garden through a unique partnership with Harvey Baptist Church, Rotary District 6220, and Boy Scout Troop 370. The garden was funded with a District Grant from Rotary District 6220. Work days to create the garden were organized as partial fulfillment for obtaining the Eagle Scout rank for Boy Scouts Ethan Park and Mathew

Collins. Garden plots are available for residents of the Township and adjoining jurisdictions to grow annual flowers and vegetables.

The Chocoley Community Garden Group (CCGG) leases and manages the garden site. The community garden follows organic gardening practices; no artificial pesticides or herbicides are allowed. One bed is used to grow food for local food pantries.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is local, as local residents are the primary users of the garden beds; however,

regional members are accepted.

Accessibility

The garden area is ADA-accessible from the church’s paved parking lot, and includes a garden bed specifically designed for wheel-chair access.

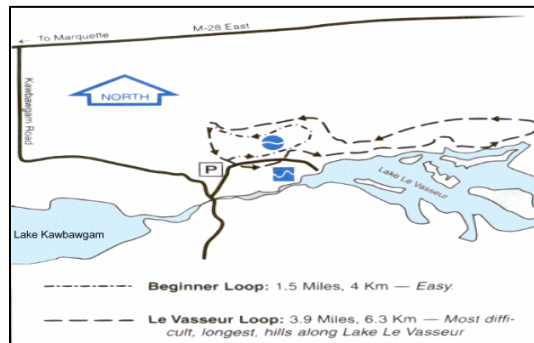
Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Community garden



Kawbawgam Cross Country Ski Trail



The Kawbawgam Cross Country Ski Trail is located on state land, approximately 2 miles south of M-28 off Kawbawgam Road. The parking area is located on the Lake LeVasseur public access road.

This trail has two loops. The beginning loop is 1.5 miles long and rated easy. The LeVasseur loop is 3.9 miles long and rated difficult. The trail is groomed and offers views of forested hills overlooking Lake LeVasseur.

The ski area is also intersected with a portion of the North Country Trail.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. The ski trail serves both Township residents and visitors to the area for winter skiing and hiking during the non-winter months.

Accessibility

The ski area is accessible from a dirt road off of Kawbawgam Road. A small parking area is available at the entrance to the ski trail.

During the non-winter months, the trail is available for hiking.

The parking area provides for ADA-accessible access to the trail system. However, other than the parking lot, ADA access is not available in the area.

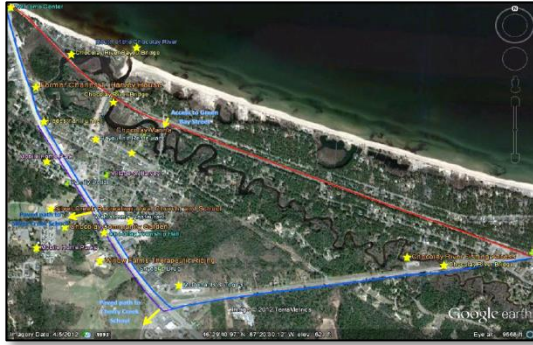


Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Cross-country skiing (groomed)
- Hiking / nature trail
- Snowshoeing

US-41 / M-28 Paved Trail



Description

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) assisted in funding two paved multi-use paths in the Township, both of which are located along the US 41 / M-28 corridor. Both paths are primarily used for hiking and biking in the summer. Portions are opened for snowmobile traffic in the winter months. Adopted tree sites are located along the US 41 portion of the trails.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. The paths serve both Township residents and visitors to the area for winter snowmobiling and hiking and biking during the non-winter months.

Accessibility

The paths are paved and are ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Cross-country skiing (not groomed)
- Hiking / nature trail
- Snowmobiling
- Snowshoeing
- US 41 tree sites



St. Louis the King – Chocloy Community Garden (proposed)



Description

The second Chocloy Community Garden will be located off the parking lot of St. Louis the King Catholic Church located at the Harvey Baptist Church at 264 Silver Creek Road in Harvey. The local Girl Scouts will be heading the project to build the garden in the spring of 2014. The CCGG will maintain the garden after it is built.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area will be local, as local residents will be the primary users of the garden beds.

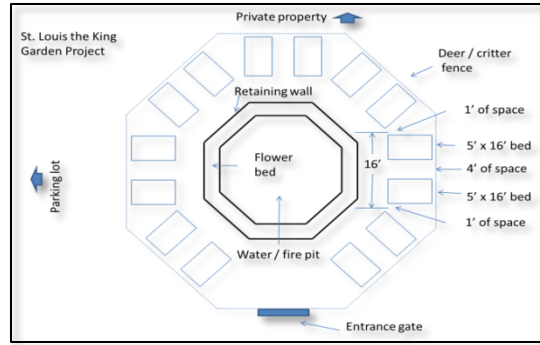
Accessibility

The garden area is ADA-accessible from the church’s paved parking lot, and will include a pathway and garden bed specifically designed for wheel-chair access.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Community garden



Property Description – Other Public Facilities

Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery



Description

Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery has both indoor and outdoor rearing ponds, and is the primary brood stock and rearing facility for Brook and Lake Trout that are found in both inland and Great Lakes waters. This hatchery also rears splake (a brook trout - lake trout hybrid) for both Great Lakes and inland waters. The facility has interpretative material to provide information on the importance of small tributaries to the Great Lakes, Brook and Lake Trout rehabilitation, fisheries research, how watersheds work, and how a

hatchery operates.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. The hatchery provides educational opportunities for both Township residents and visitors to the area.

Accessibility

The hatchery is accessed by vehicle from Cherry Creek Road. Much of the property is ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Interpretive site
- Self-guided tours
- Restroom facilities (with running water)

Cherry Creek Elementary School



Description

The Cherry Creek Elementary School is located near the intersection of Cherry Creek Road and Ortman Road one mile west from the US 41 / M-28 intersection. There is a playground at the rear of the school that has a variety of recreation equipment for children. The facility also has a soccer field and large open space area for general recreation activities, a portion of which has been developed as an interpretative nature trail supported by classroom projects.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is local, as local residents are the primary users of the facilities.

Accessibility

The playground, soccer field, and trail are accessed by vehicle from Ortman Road. The parking area at the rear of the building is paved, and much of the property is ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Basketball court (full court)
- Gym (indoor)
- Hiking / nature trail
- Open space
- Playground
- Restroom facilities (with running water – indoor only)
- Soccer field
- Snowshoeing

DNR River Access – M-28 E



Description

After receiving the site from MDOT in 1995, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources completed additional development at this 5.7 acre site, located on M-28 approximately one mile east of the US 41 / M-28 intersection. Although there is no designated location, canoes or kayaks can be launched on the river at this site.

A trail beginning at the parking lot and a trail beginning at the restroom lead to an additional fishing area

further downstream on the river. The upper trail reaches the water via a wooden stairway; the lower trail meanders along the river bank.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to fish at this location, especially during salmon and steelhead runs.

Accessibility

The parking area is paved, and accessible by vehicle from M-28. The pier is accessible from the parking lot, and has a ramp to the pier. The rest room is located up the grade from the parking lot, with its own

parking area, and is ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Boat / canoe / kayak launch (carry down only)
- Fishing
- Handicap-accessible fishing pier
- Hiking / nature trail
- Open space
- Restroom facilities (pit toilet)

DNR River Access – Mangum Road



Description

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources owns this property that serves as fishing access to the Chocolay River. This site is located about two miles from the intersection of US 41 and Mangum Road, is not developed, and no signage exists to indicate the location of the site. Although there is no designated location, canoes or kayaks can be launched on the river at this site.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to fish at this location, especially for trout fishing.

Accessibility

The parking area is a grass parking area, and is accessible during the non-winter months. A trail exists along the river, but hiking is limited due to sometimes difficult terrain.

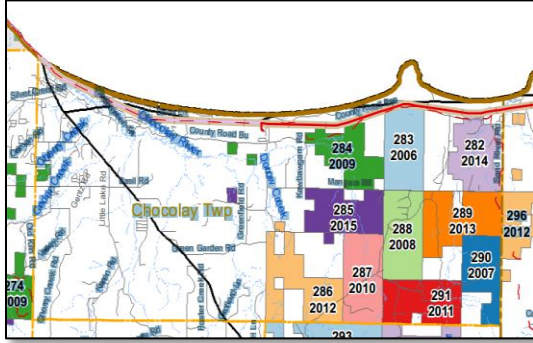
There is walk-up access to the river, and several locations for fishermen with waders to enter the water. The area is currently not ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Boat / canoe / kayak launch (carry down only)
- Fishing
- Hiking / nature trail
- Open space

Gwinn Forest Management Unit



Description

The Gwinn Forest Management Unit (formerly known as a portion of the Escanaba River State Forest) is made up of clear cut parcels of forest land that were seen by their owners as worthless after the old-growth timber had been cut. The parcels reverted to the State of Michigan in lieu of unpaid property taxes, and the State reorganized these parcels of property as the Escanaba River State Forest. The forest is now managed from the Gwinn office for active recreational purposes such as hiking, canoeing, fishing, hunting, and the cutting of

second-growth wood for paper pulp.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to use this location, especially for ATV / ORV trails and hunting.

Accessibility

Most of this unit is reached via two-track dirt roads or via ATV / ORV trails.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- ATV / ORV trail access
- Bird / wildlife observation
- Boat / canoe / kayak (carry-down only)
- Cross country skiing (not groomed)
- Fishing
- Hiking / nature trail
- Hunting
- Open space
- Snowmobile trail access
- Snowshoeing

James Jeske Flooding – Dam



Description

The Michigan DNR built this wildlife flooding area on the Sand River approximately 11 miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection. The dam can be seen from Railroad Lane, and the road crosses the North Country Trail at the dam site.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to use this location, especially for wildlife viewing and access to the North Country Trail.

Accessibility

The dam is viewable from the bridge on Railroad Lane. There is no parking available to access the North Country Trail crossing at this location.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Hiking / nature trail (nearby)
- Snowshoeing (nearby)

James Jeske Flooding – Launch



Description

The Michigan DNR built this wildlife flooding area on the Sand River approximately 11 miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection. Located just south of the mouth of the Sand River and Lake Superior, it covers more than 700 acres of land. It has become a popular fishing and hunting location as well as a passive scenic site.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to use this location, especially for fishing and hunting.

Accessibility

The launch ramp can be accessed from a two-track road off of Sand River Road. The parking area is a grassy area that is accessible during non-winter months. The launch ramp is a concrete ramp, and parking is provided for five vehicles with trailers. The North Country Trail can be accessed in both directions from the parking area.

The parking area is a hard surface, and could be considered ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| ■ Bird / wildlife observation | ■ Fishing | ■ Open space |
| ■ Boat / canoe / kayak launch
(concrete ramp with no pier) | ■ Hiking / nature trail (nearby) | ■ Snowshoeing (nearby) |
| | ■ Hunting (waterfowl) | |
| | ■ Ice fishing | |

Lake LeVasseur



Description

The Michigan DNR constructed this public access site to Lake LeVasseur off Kawbawgam Road. It is approximately eight miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection. The DNR also rebuilt the dam on the west end of the lake to provide improved hunting and fishing opportunities for the public, and the lake was drawn down in 2012 for habitat management purposes. Both shoreline and on-water fishing opportunities exist at the lake.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside of the Township to use this location, especially for fishing and hunting.

Accessibility

The boat ramp and parking area are accessible from a dirt road off of Kawbawgam Road (the road passes the Kawbawgam Ski Trail parking area). The parking area is packed gravel, and is ADA-accessible. However, trails to the dam and around the lake are not ADA-accessible. A concrete boat ramp, reconstructed in 2012, is located at the end of the parking area.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Boat / canoe / kayak launch (concrete ramp with no pier)
- Fishing
- Hiking / nature trail
- Ice fishing
- Hunting (waterfowl)
- Open space
- Snowshoeing

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Scenic Turnouts



Description

MDOT owns three roadside scenic turnouts by the M-28 corridor along the Lake Superior shoreline.

The first turnout is approximately 5.6 miles east of the US 41 / M-28 intersection near Kawbawgam Road and across from the Gitche Gumee RV Park. The turnout has restrooms, a map display case, picnic area, water well, and two stairways for beach access.

The second turnout is located approximately 6.6 miles east of the US 41 / M-28 intersection. It has two

stairways for beach access. Together, the first and second turnouts have approximately 1.5 miles of continuous beach access.

The third turnout is located approximately 10.4 miles east of the US 41 / M-28 intersection just past Shot Point and Lakenenland. It has approximately 1/2 miles of beach access with two stairways for beach access.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. These turnouts are very popular with Township residents and tourists alike as they provide the only eastern Township public access to Lake Superior. The sites also offer scenic rest stops for tourists.

Accessibility

All three turnouts are accessible directly from M-28 from either the east end or the west end of the turnout. All three turnouts have paved parking areas, with ADA-accessible picnic tables and grill located at the first turnout. The restroom at the first turnout is ADA-accessible. The viewing area of the lake at all three sites is ADA accessible; however, the stairways to the beach and the water are not.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Lake Superior beach access
- Bird / wildlife observation
- Open space
- Picnic location
- Restroom facilities (pit toilet – first turnout only)
- Swimming (no lifeguard)

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Welcome Center



Description

The Welcome Center located at the northern border of the Township is maintained and operated by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The Welcome Center provides Pure Michigan travel and tourism information, both for the state and the local area.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. This welcome center is very popular with Township residents and tourists alike as it provides access to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. Lake Superior beach access is available from this site.

Accessibility

The Welcome Center is accessible by vehicle from US 41. There are parking areas on both sides of the main building, and the building is ADA-accessible. A picnic area with a grill is also ADA-accessible.

The trail located at this site is paved, and used for hiking and biking in the non-winter months. In the winter months, this trail is a designated snowmobile trail. Lake Superior can also be accessed to walk the beach and to swim.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Bird / wildlife observation
- Hiking / nature trail
- Open space
- Picnic location
- Restroom facilities (with running water)
- Snowmobile trail access
- Swimming (no life guard)
- Tourist information

Northern Michigan University Golf Course



Description

This 18 hole golf course is located on M-28 about three miles east of the US 41 / M-28 intersection. Northern Michigan University owns and operates the course.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. This golf course is very popular with Township residents and visitors.

Accessibility

The golf course is accessible by vehicle from M-28 on Chocolay Downs Golf Drive. The parking area is located below the course clubhouse, and is ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Golf
- Restroom facilities (with running water)

Property Description – Private Facilities

Gitche Gumee RV Park



Description

This privately owned campground is located 5.6 miles east of the US 41 / M-28 intersection. Constructed in 1980, it consists of a restroom / shower / laundry complex, an office, and 100 campsites. Nearly half of the sites support water, sewer, and electrical service, while the remaining sites are considered primitive. It is the only private campground in the Township.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. This campground is popular with Township residents and visitors.

Accessibility

The campground is accessible from M-28. Access to Lake Superior is directly across the highway through the first MDOT turnout parking lot.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- ATV / ORV trail access (nearby)
- Hiking / nature trail (nearby)
- Internet access
- Open space
- Picnic location
- Primitive camping
- Restroom facilities (pit toilet)
- RV camping

Homestead Golf Course



Description

This privately owned 9 hole golf course is located on County Road 480 approximately one mile west of the US 41 / CR-480 intersection.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. This golf course is very popular with Township residents and visitors.

Accessibility

The golf course is accessible by vehicle from County Road 480 on Gentz Road. The parking area is located near the course clubhouse, and is ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

Recreation opportunities include:

- Golf
- Restroom facilities (with running water)

Lakenenland



Description

Lakenenland is truly one of the most unique locations in the region. The park features over sixty brightly painted metal sculptures, which are open for public viewing. This park is open year-round, and is free to the public.

Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. This art park is extremely popular with Township residents and visitors.

Accessibility

The park is directly accessible from M-28, and sculptures can be viewed by foot or from a vehicle. The

site is family-friendly and ADA-accessible.

Recreation Opportunities

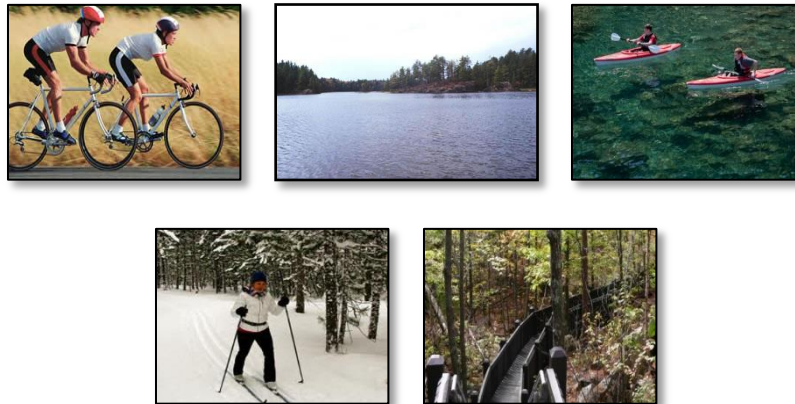
Recreation opportunities include:

- Hiking / nature trails
- Open space
- Picnic location
- Restroom facilities (pit toilet)
- Sculptures / artwork

Property Description – Regional Recreation Facilities

Marquette County and its municipalities each have their own recreation facilities that our residents utilize along with several nearby state parks.

For access to other district recreation plans and locations of area recreation within Marquette County, see *Appendix D*.



Trails



MDOT bike path

A paved, non-motorized, trail that connects the Silver Creek Recreation Area with Cherry Creek Elementary School was constructed with MDOT funds in 2001.

In 2010 the Township received an MDOT Enhancement Grant of \$1.6 million and a MDNRE Recreation Trail Fund Grant of \$307,875. The project constructed 1.9 miles of multi-use paved pathway between the M-28 overpass for the MDNRE trail near Timber Lane and a new pedestrian tunnel under US 41 at Fairbanks Street. The tunnel replaces the pedestrian bridge formerly located at the Silver Creek Road intersection and

provides a safe highway crossing for all non-motorized traffic, completely separated from the high volume of vehicles using the highway. The project also included construction of a new bridge to carry the trail over the Chocolate River and the planting of 200 trees and shrubs along US 41.

Another significant development in 2010 was the MDNRE grading and resurfacing of 6.2 miles of its trail along the former Soo Line Railroad grade using compacted crushed limestone. The resurfacing began at the Michigan Welcome Center on US 41 and extended east to Kawbawgam Road. The new surface

provides a pleasant riding experience for bicyclists and even those in strollers or wheel chairs. Linked to the US 41 / M-28 pathway at the Welcome Center and Timber Lane, the trails provide a 4.26 mile exercise loop with minimal street crossings for the health and enjoyment of Township residents.



DNR bike and snowmobile trail

Extension of the Iron Ore Heritage Trail through Chocolay Township was approved with a millage vote in 2010. The trail extends from the eastern to western boundaries of the Township, and includes an alternative paved business route along US 41 / M-28 in the Village of Harvey.

Township Community Wide Events

There are numerous special events and activities that are sponsored by civic organizations, local churches, and the Township. The events include:

- Bike registration day
- Mom-to-Mom Sales
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Silver Creek Block Party
- Halloween Party
- Visit with Santa

Grant-Assisted Facilities

Below is a detailed outline of DNR grants that the Township has received. These grants were used for the acquisition and development of recreation facilities on Township properties.

1988 Recreation Bond Fund

Table 7 describes the Recreation Bond Fund grants the DNR awarded to the Township.

Table 7 Chocolay Township Recreation Bond Fund grants

Year	Project Number	Project Type	Project Status	DNR Grant Amount	Project Title	Project Scope
1989	BF89-192	Development	Closed	\$30,800.00	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	Soccer field and parking; ball field, parking, and drive; electric and security lights; irrigation system; ice rink area; horseshoe court

Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Recreation Bond Fund

Table 8 describes Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) grants the DNR awarded to the Township.

Table 8 Chocolay Township Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) grants

Year	Project Number	Project Type	Project Status	DNR Grant Amount	Project Title	Project Scope
2000	CM00-043	Development	Closed	\$85,066.00	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	Basketball court; pavilion; fencing; irrigation for ball field infield; spectator seating for soccer field; entrance signs (2); scoreboard; display cases (2); soccer parking; covered dugouts

Land and Water Conservation Fund

Table 9 describes Land and Water Conservation Fund grants the DNR awarded to the Township.

Table 9 Chocolay Township Land and Water Conservation Fund grants

Year	Project Number	Project Type	Project Status	DNR Grant Amount	Project Title	Project Scope
1972	26-00373	Development	Closed	\$27,800.44	Chocolay Township Recreation Area (now known as Silver Creek Recreation Area)	Picnic area; lighted tennis courts (2); bleachers; fencing; playground; road parking; toilet and warming complex; well bleachers; ball field; lighting ice rink; stairway
1977	26-01006	Development	Closed	\$6,547.54	Chocolay Township Tennis Courts (now located in Silver Creek Recreation Area)	Fenced tennis courts (2); LWCF sign; graveling entrance road; site map
1978	26-01060 F	Acquisition	Closed	\$7,000	Recreation Area II (now known as Voce Recreation Area)	Acquire 12 acres
1985	26-01357	Development	Closed	\$5,774.22	Chocolay Township Recreation Area (now known as Silver Creek Recreation Area)	Roads; parking; playground equipment; tables; grills; benches; LWCF sign

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

Table 10 describes Land and Water Conservation Fund grants the DNR awarded to the Township.

Table 10 Chocolay Township Michigan Natural Resources Trust grants

Year	Project Number	Project Type	Project Status	DNR Grant Amount	Project Title	Project Scope
1986	TF86-301	Acquisition	Closed	\$12,300.00	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	Acquire 14 acres
1988	TF88-103	Development	Closed	\$29,175.00	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	Tot lot, picnic area, trails, soccer field, park equipment
1998	TF98-041	Acquisition	Withdrawn	\$34,846.00	Chocolay Multi-Use Trails	Acquire 40.5 acres for planned trail head development and multi-use trail system providing access to Cherry Creek, Cedar Creek, and Big Creek
2004	TF04-102	Development	Closed	\$18,300.00	Chocolay River Water Trail Access Site	Equipment storage unit; tent platforms; sign / information board; dock / boardwalk; accessible picnic table; plaque

Recreation Passport Grant Program

None

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AND PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Planning Methods

System Approach to Planning

In evaluating Chocolay Township's role in providing appropriate recreation opportunities, the following priority decision criteria were considered as consistent with the Master Plan:

- The extent to which the opportunity supports the goals and strategies of other project or planning entities within the region, and how it will increase opportunities for partnership, collaboration, and inclusiveness
- The diversity of user groups served by the opportunity
- The diversity of uses served by the opportunity
- The extent to which the opportunity supports four-season use
- The ability of the opportunity to be adapted to meet changing needs and contexts
- Relationship of the opportunity to critical systems and public health
- The extent to which the opportunity is supported by non-governmental groups, other agencies or organizations, or volunteers
- The sustainability of the opportunity based on enduring support for the life of the project
- The extent to which the opportunity prevents or mitigates risks
- The extent to which the opportunity can serve as a model project for other jurisdictions
- The extent to which the opportunity utilizes renewable resources
- The economic, social, or environmental catalytic impact associated with the recreation opportunity

In evaluating recreation opportunities, data was collected on the following:

- Capabilities of Township staff to maintain the facilities or programs
- Citizen preferences as expressed through public opinion surveys
- Existing land use and character
- Existing recreation parks and facilities with accessibility, use, condition, and potential use
- Existing Township-owned undeveloped parcels in relation to potential use
- Natural site characteristics
- Other lands open to public use
- Resources available to support facilities and programs
- Review of existing policies and resources
- Review of regional public and private recreational opportunities
- Transportation system
- User preferences through focus group meetings and opinion surveys

Analysis also includes:

- Neighborhood needs
- Township resident needs
- Visitor needs

Criteria for Open Space/Natural Area Acquisition

The following criteria (in addition to the priority decision criteria above) shall be used to evaluate future opportunities for open space/natural area acquisition as consistent with the Master Plan:

- The opportunity to maintain ecosystem function
- The opportunity to preserve areas of essential habitat to support plant and animal biodiversity
- The opportunity to protect water quality or sensitive natural areas
- The presence of special scenic resources
- To provide beneficial connections through wildlife corridors
- To provide public access to interactive nature experiences

Public Input Process

Chocolay Township has assessed the park, recreation, and open space needs of the community through citizen surveys, user surveys, focus groups and detailed recreation inventories to determine need. The following data collection opportunities occurred in the years following the adoption of the 2004 Recreation Plan.

- Planning Commission meetings where recreation was discussed

○ 12.8.08	○ 11.2.09	○ 11.5.12	○ 8.26.13
○ 2.9.09	○ 5.2.11	○ 12.3.12	○ 9.9.13
○ 3.9.09	○ 6.6.11	○ 3.4.13	○ 10.7.13
○ 6.8.09	○ 8.22.12	○ 5.6.13	○ 12.3.13
○ 10.12.09	○ 9.10.12	○ 6.3.13	○ 1.6.14

Note Planning Commission meeting minutes from 8.22.12 to present can be found online at www.chocolay.org/agendasandminutes/planningcommission.php.
- Township Board meetings where recreation was discussed

○ 6.20.05	○ 4.16.07	○ 8.22.12	○ 5.20.13
○ 8.15.05	○ 12.15.08	○ 2.18.13	○ 8.19.13
○ 6.19.06	○ 2.20.12	○ 3.13.13	
○ 11.13.06	○ 4.16.12	○ 4.15.13	

Note Township Board meeting minutes from 2.12.12 to present can be found online at www.chocolay.org/agendasandminutes/townshipboard.php.
- Public meeting – April 12, 2012
- 2006 City of Marquette / Chocolay Township Community Attitude and Interest Survey (see *Methods* and *Significant Results* below)
- 2010 Public Opinion Survey of Township residents (see *Methods* and *Significant Results* below)
- 2013 Public Opinion Survey of Township residents (see *Methods* and *Significant Results* below and Appendix F)
- 2013 Beaver Grove Softball Survey (see *Methods* and *Significant Results* below and Appendix F)

- 2013 Lions Field Softball Survey (See Methods and Significant Results below and Appendix F)
- Meeting with DPW and Community Development Coordinator with user groups – June, 2013
- Public Hearing – February 10, 2014 Planning Commission meeting

2006 City of Marquette/Chocolay Township Community Attitude and Interest Survey

Methods

This statistically significant survey was administered by mail and phone to households within the City of Marquette and Chocolay Township. Surveys were mailed to a random sample of 2,000 households in the City of Marquette, and 1,000 households in Chocolay Township. The mailing was followed by an electronic voice message that encouraged respondents to take the survey. Two weeks after the mailing, Leisure Vision contacted households by phone, either to encourage participation by completing the mailed survey or to administer the survey by phone. 1,047 surveys were completed, with 392 coming from Chocolay Township residents, yielding a 95 percent confidence level with a precision of at least +/- 3 percent.

Significant results

Only 25 percent of respondents had visited parks in Chocolay Township in the previous 12 months. Of these, 77 percent rated Chocolay Township facilities as either excellent or good. A majority of all respondents indicated that they had a need for six facilities, including paved walking and biking trails (81 percent), natural areas / hiking and biking trails (75 percent), picnic shelters / park pavilions (65 percent), historic sites and museums (64 percent), small neighborhood parks (62 percent), and large community parks (62 percent). Less than 50 percent indicated a need for more specialized opportunities such as playgrounds, sledding hills, outdoor ice-skating / hockey, fishing areas, community recreation centers, off leash dog parks, outdoor swimming pools, and other traditional sports facilities such as outdoor basketball, tennis, soccer, baseball, and softball areas.

The majority of respondents indicated a need for running or walking (77 percent), visiting nature areas / spending time outdoors (74 percent), attending community special events (62 percent), and attending live theater / concert performances (60 percent). Programs or facilities that were more specialized to particular age groups (whether youth or seniors) received much less support, as did facilities or programs for one specialized activity (such as skiing, swimming, and traditional sports). The activities with the highest numbers of respondents indicating they would participate in more if it was available include attending live theater / concert performances, visiting nature areas / spending time outdoors, running or walking, and attending community special events.

The three actions to improve and expand facilities that were most supported are

1. Develop multipurpose trails providing linkages throughout the area
2. Purchase land and develop for passive activities
3. Develop new winter recreation facilities.

The most supported actions for increasing revenues to support park facilities include

- Increase user fees for non-residents
- Increase user fees for all participants

2010 Chocolay Township Public Opinion Survey

Methods

The survey was distributed by mail along with tax bills. Records indicate the number of tax bills mailed was 3,416. Respondents were asked to fill out “this copy of the survey and return with your taxes by mail”. They were also encouraged to ask friends and neighbors to complete a web version of the survey on Survey Monkey, or to make additional photocopies for other respondents. Multiple responses were allowed per household. Hard copy survey results were manually entered into Survey Monkey for analysis. Questions were a mixture of multiple choice and open comment.

491 respondents were identified per the Survey Monkey raw results. Not all questions were answered by all respondents. Considering 491 respondents and 3,416 mailed, response rate is 14 percent. Considering 491 respondents and number of households per the 2010 census (2,453), response rate is 20 percent. Considering 491 respondents and total Township population (5,903), response rate is 8 percent. Of course, this accounts for all age groups, including young children. Considering 491 respondents and population 20 and over (4,549), response rate is 11 percent.

Significant results

Question #4 asked “What are the 3 most significant reasons you reside in Chocolay / Beaver Grove / Harvey”? 53 people responded that “access to parks and recreation” was a significant reason.

Question #5 stated, “If you had \$100 to split between the following categories, how would you split your money?” Most respondents chose to allocate the highest percentage of dollars to “improvements / maintenance of existing roads”. Mid-level support was given to “improvements / maintenance of existing parks and open space”. The lowest percentages were allocated to “expansion of sewer system and / or creating a township water supply” and “acquisition of new parks or open space”.

Question #7 asked “What are the 3 most POSITIVE aspects of living in Chocolay / Beaver Grove / Harvey? 124 people responded with “parks and recreation opportunities”.

Question #8 asked “What are the 3 most NEGATIVE aspects of living in Chocolay / Beaver Grove / Harvey? 52 people responded with “lack of parks and recreation opportunities”. Other missing opportunities mentioned include “lack of cultural opportunities” (88 responses), “lack of non-motorized transportation” (74 responses), and a few open responses for lack of bicycle / walking paths, community center, ATV trails, swimming facility, and activities for kids.

In Question #10, respondents indicated the strongest level of support for “Protect natural resources and open space that contribute to the health of natural systems and the Township’s character and quality of life”. (218 strongly agree and 166 agree)

Questions #11 asked respondents to indicate the level of importance of various actions. Highest rated actions include (in this order), “Provide incentives to preserve natural features” (1st), “Install or repair pedestrian and bicycle paths” (2nd), “Improve accessibility to open space” (6th), “Develop more parks and improve recreation equipment” (9th).

2013 Chocolay Township Public Opinion Survey

Methods

Residents were notified and reminded of the survey by several means, including a postcard mailing, article in the *Mining Journal*, notification on the sign at Township Hall, and notification on the Township website. The postcard was mailed to every address in the Township (not to every owner / tax bill recipient), and was addressed to the resident / property owner. 3,167 postcards were mailed. In

addition, 170 postcards were hand delivered to the Tribal housing and the mobile home park residents (who do not have individual addresses in Township records). This is a total of 3,337 postcard notices that were mailed or delivered. This was a sample of self-selecting engaged citizens.

Multimodal data collection methods were used. Respondents were given a choice of responding via online or paper version of the survey. They were instructed that multiple people in the household could take the survey. Questions were a mixture of multiple choice, rating scale, and open comment.

Postcards were mailed on September 4 and responses were collected through September 30.

There were 600 presumed distinct respondents to the 2013 Master Plan survey (some exact duplicates were not included). 81 percent were submitted online and 19 percent by hard copy. Not all questions were answered by all respondents. Considering 600 respondents to 3,337 mailings, response rate is 18 percent. Considering 600 respondents and 2,453 households (per the 2010 U.S. Census), response rate is 25 percent. Considering 600 respondents and 5,903 total population per the 2010 U.S. Census, response rate is 10 percent (includes even very young children). Considering 600 respondents and 4,549 people age 20 and above (per the 2010 U.S. Census), response rate is 13 percent. This survey produced the highest number of responses of any citizen opinion survey in Chocolay Township.

Significant results

Question #10 related to existing recreation facilities, and whether 1) respondents use the facility, 2) whether respondents are satisfied with the facility, and 3) whether respondents support funding facility improvements.

The highest used existing facilities by resident respondents are biking / walking trails (75 percent) and hiking / nature trails (60 percent). Keep in mind this does not include regional users of the sports facilities or younger users who did not respond to the survey. 41 percent use the cross-country ski trails and open space. 40 percent use restrooms and 39 percent use the non-motorized boat launch. There were no strong indications of lack of satisfaction with existing facilities.

65 percent were “very satisfied” with biking / walking trails (221 of 340), and 31 percent (104) were moderately satisfied. 47 percent were “very satisfied” with hiking / nature trails (125 of 266) and equally 47 percent (124) were moderately satisfied. 43 percent were “very satisfied” with the cross-country ski trails (109 of 253) and 47 percent (118) were moderately satisfied. 45 percent were “very satisfied” with the non-motorized boat launch (113 of 250) and 49 percent (122) were moderately satisfied.

Funding was supported by a majority of respondents for many existing facilities, including:

- Biking / walking trails (78 percent)
- Playgrounds (77 percent)
- Restroom facilities (76 percent)
- Baseball / softball fields (71 percent)
- Soccer fields (71 percent)
- Hiking / nature trails (68 percent)
- Cross-country ski trails (67 percent)
- Non-motorized boat launch (66 percent)
- Basketball courts (65 percent)
- Picnic locations (64 percent)
- Motorized boat launch (61 percent)

Other majority-supported items include:

- Ice skating / hockey (58 percent)
- Covered pavilion (58 percent)
- Fishing piers (58 percent)
- Open space (57 percent)
- Tennis courts (57 percent)
- Swimming areas (57 percent)
- Snowshoe trails (56 percent)
- Small bed community gardens (55 percent)
- Meeting room (54 percent).

The common voice throughout the open comments indicates two general themes. One is that there is a lack of communication from the Township to the citizens about the recreational opportunities in the Township. This message indicates that the Township has the recreation opportunities available, but the residents do not know about those opportunities.

The second general theme indicates that Township respondents are willing to support the current recreation opportunities with funding, but they do not want to see a tax increase for maintenance or improvements on those facilities to accomplish that funding.

Question #11 related to potential recreation facilities, and whether respondents or anyone in their household anticipates a use of the potential facility, or supports funding the facility.

The majority of respondents indicated they would use community events (53 percent) and additional non-motorized trail connections (52 percent). Between 40 and 50 percent said they would use a community recreation center, indoor public spaces for community / private gatherings, small neighborhood parks, and historic sites and museums.

A majority supported funding for:

- Senior citizen recreation programs (61 percent)
- Community recreation center (58 percent)
- Community events (58 percent)
- Use of school facilities (57 percent)
- Additional non-motorized trail connections (56 percent)
- Youth programs (53 percent)
- Pre-school or early childhood recreation programs (51 percent)
- Indoor spaces for community/private gatherings (51 percent)

Again, a common theme for additional or new recreational opportunities is the willingness to see the Township fund additional recreation on Township property, but the residents want to accomplish this without increasing taxes. Several respondents suggested fee-based solutions for the funding of additional activities.

Another strong message was to provide more activities for seniors in a community-based environment (either in a community center or community events). There is thread throughout the comments that indicates more could be accomplished in this area to provide those opportunities. Passive recreation (such as non-motorized trails and community events) was supported as well. Again a reminder that most survey respondents are in the upper age groups.

Question #12 asked respondents to compare the importance of funding improvements for recreation

facilities with other Township priorities such as police, fire streets. The majority of respondents (50.8 percent) think funding improvements for recreation facilities and opportunities is “somewhat important” in relation to other priorities such as police, fire, and streets. 28.7 percent think it is “very important”, 18.1 percent think it is “not important”.

Additional input can be found in *Appendix F*.

2013 Beaver Grove Softball Survey

Methods

This online survey was conducted at the field in September of 2013 during a weekend league tournament and online via the Chocoday Township web site through November of 2013.

Significant results

Most respondents were not residents, and were players. Participation was highest for Thursday, Monday, Wednesday, and Tuesday nights, in that order. 53 percent of respondents said the field condition is “good”, and 31 percent said “excellent”. Only 15 percent said field condition is “fair” or “poor”.

The top ranked improvements needed were:

- Restrooms (68 percent)
- Food vendors (43 percent)
- Field (32 percent)
- Bleachers (26 percent)
- Safety (23 percent)
- Playground (19 percent)
- Parking (15 percent)
- Dugouts (13 percent)

Additional input can be found in *Appendix F*.

2013 Lions Field Softball Survey

Methods

This online survey was conducted at the field in September of 2013 during a weekend league tournament and online via the Chocoday Township web site through November of 2013.

Significant results

The survey was almost evenly balanced between resident and non-resident respondents. Most respondents were players. Participation was highest for Wednesday (81 percent) and Thursday (38 percent) nights. 51 percent of respondents said the field condition is “good”, and 39 percent said “fair”. Only 4 to 6 percent said field condition is “excellent” or “poor”.

The top ranked improvements needed were:

- Restrooms (83 percent)
- Field (46 percent)
- Dugouts (46 percent)
- Bleachers (41 percent)
- Playground (41 percent)

- Safety (33 percent)
- Food vendors (13 percent)
- Parking (11 percent)

Additional input can be found in *Appendix F*.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This section outlines the goals and objectives for each of the Township properties. Also included in this section are general recreation policies, implementation strategies, and additional responsibilities related to the implementation of the action program outlined in the *Action Program* chapter.

Goals

Chocolay Township will continually work toward satisfying the recreational desires and needs of the community. To do this, the following will serve as goals for the recreation process:

- Provide recreational opportunities for Township residents that reflect their lifestyles and accommodate all age groups and abilities (including universal access or ADA)
- Provide recreation opportunities that will attract visitors to the Township
- Provide recreation opportunities that improve livability and public health, accommodate human comfort in all seasons, and provide a greater sense of place
- Prioritize recreation opportunities that accommodate energy efficiency, support economic and environmental sustainability, and adapt to changing social needs and contexts
- Establish risk management policies and procedures for the Township recreation properties to ensure a safe recreation environment
- Develop maintenance policies and procedures that will ensure the longevity of recreation facilities and equipment

Policies

Chocolay Township supports the following policies regarding recreation:

- Support and encourage the vision, goals, and policies in the *Chocolay Township 2014 Master Plan*
- Continue to develop a multi-use trail system that provides recreation as well as transportation alternatives
- Incorporate public sentiment on recreational issues
- Continually evaluate and develop new recreational programs and facilities
- Minimize negative impacts of new development and other land use activities adjacent to trail corridors, unique cultural features, recreation sites, open spaces and conservation areas
- Provide adequate land area and equipment for recreation facilities and programs
- Encourage residents to engage in recreation activities in the Township
- Provide a geographical balance of recreational opportunities within the Township
- Actively encourage and provide for the participation of disabled persons and the elderly in Township recreation
- Encourage the development of private recreation facilities and uses

- Prioritize recreation decisions according to the *Priority Decision Criteria* contained in the *Chocolay Township 2014 Master Plan*.
- Foster collaboration with adjacent jurisdictions to address regional recreation issues and goals

Implementation Strategies

The Township will implement strategies that incorporate a team mentality in reference to Township recreation. All team members will:

- Accomplish the goals of each recreation property and project within their time frames
- Actively encourage education about the recreation opportunities within the Township
- Actively encourage recreation in the Township's unique environmental settings
- Assist the Planning Director / Zoning Administrator in submitting assessments to the Planning Commission and the Township Board on the progress of recreation plan implementation
- Communicate with the local school boards on the use and integration of their recreation facilities with the Township
- Foster strong communication among the various volunteer organizations, local volunteers, local businesses, non-profit organizations, and local churches
- Review park and recreation facility and program capital improvement budgets annually
- Systematically assess recreation programs and facilities to ensure the absence of deficiencies
- Work jointly with local officials and groups to continue development of a multi-use trail system
- Work with Township staff to promote recreational facilities as an integrated system

Additional Responsibilities

Project / Responsibility	Department Responsible	Time Frame
Classify all parks and open areas according to the Classifying System for Parks and Open Systems in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' <i>Guidelines for Preparing a Community Recreation Plan</i> ; so as to recognize and correct deficiencies	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator	2014
Continually study the possibility of obtaining grants to fund recreational projects and programs	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, Community Development Coordinator, DPW	2014, and ongoing
Assure continued conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990	Community Development Coordinator, DPW	2014, and ongoing
Create programs and activities that stress participation of the elderly	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, Community Development Coordinator	2014, and ongoing
Develop and conduct a public survey on recreation every three to five years	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, Community Development Coordinator	2015, 2018
Enforce and strengthen, where necessary, all appropriate land-use controls	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator	2014, and ongoing
Seek the cooperation and participation of private landowners to allow public recreation where appropriate	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, Community Development Coordinator	2014, and ongoing

ACTION PROGRAM

The action program contains both general and site-specific implementation strategies. General implementation strategies address recreation needs within a broader scope or context.

General Implementation Strategies

General Review

- A general review of the Township recreation opportunities show both a need for upgrades and a need for additional recreation prospects within the community. Our community risk assessment identified areas for replacement of equipment and upgrades of existing equipment, as well as a need to mitigate the risks in several of the areas (see *Appendix E*).
- Areas of Township-owned recreation are not known to all of its citizens, either because of lack of proper signage (such as Brower Recreation Area and Voce Creek) or because there are no maps, brochures, or other publications that identify the areas and the recreational opportunities within those areas.
- There is a need to address the aging population. Planning for a community center and appropriate recreation opportunities for seniors is a priority, especially as the trend continues toward an upward age bracket.
- Organized recreation programs are not readily available for all age groups within the Township. Some programs, such as the softball, soccer, and Little League programs are growing, and the facilities need to be upgraded to accommodate the growth.
- The Chocolate River and Sand River watersheds are an underutilized resource for recreation within the Township. Establishment of fishing access points or trails and kayak / canoe access points would enhance the opportunities available on Township waterways.
- Long-term maintenance programs to facilitate budgeting need to be established as part of the recreation planning process. This ensures ongoing direction and extended capabilities for each site.
- Walking and biking trails have been identified as important in public opinion surveys. There is a need for continued maintenance on current trails, mapping of those trails, and establishment of new pathways for future use.
- Identification of easements and access points on Township properties needs to be completed to facilitate public access to trail systems and recreation areas, and to establish potential locations for small neighborhood recreational options (such as small pocket parks or exercise areas).
- Preservation of waterways, trails, and recreation areas for long-term use is a high priority to ensure that opportunities are available for future generations.
- Improvements should be undertaken to provide for greater opportunity for winter recreation.

2014

1. Establish a long-term maintenance schedule for recreation assets with the Department of Public Works.

2. Implement an online map with GPS coordinates for all recreation facilities in the Township.
3. Coordinate recreation information with local governments, community groups, and local businesses to ensure accuracy of the information for all involved parties (see *Recreation Coordination* in *Appendix D* for examples).
4. Develop local recreation brochures to hand out to potential visitors and local citizens.
5. Coordinate with the Marquette Country Convention and Visitors Bureau to ensure the adequacy and accuracy of materials promoting Chocolay Township recreation.
6. Develop Township maps that indicate trails, trail heads, outdoor opportunities, public facilities, private facilities, and other government-related opportunities. Include the community gardens, Welcome Center, DNR fish hatchery, schools, and churches in the mapping project.
7. Establish geocache locations within the Township with the intent to serve both recreational and historical purposes.
8. Obtain public input and plan for recreation activities that target specific groups (such as youth, families, and senior citizens).
9. Develop sports and recreation programs in the Township in collaboration with local schools and clubs such as:
 - Cherry Creek School
 - Chocolay Co-Ed Softball League
 - Lion's Club
 - Little League
 - Superiorland Soccer
10. Promote recreation activities in various media (print, Web, social, TV, and radio), and establish scheduled updates for those promotions.
11. Seek grants to install artwork in the tunnel, and to install tiles of local artwork at the tunnel entrances.
12. Pursue the installation of "bike route" signs to increase awareness along both sides of US 41 and CR 480, especially within the vicinity of the Voce Creek Recreation Area and Beaver Grove Recreation Area.
13. Begin the process with the DNR to establish a "Natural River" designation for portions of the Chocolay River.
14. Assemble and maintain a natural features inventory for the Township.
15. Establish senior outreach services, with an emphasis on health and recreation in all seasons.
16. Develop GIS maps of recreation facilities and potential rural bicycle, ski skating, and cross country ski tours.
17. Establish a work group to consider wetland property acquisition (for estuary and nature park) adjacent to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. (204 Hotel Place, accessed through 255 W. Main Street)
18. Working with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, Trout Unlimited, and volunteers, develop a plan for canoe / kayak trail development on the Chocolay River and Sand River systems.
19. Establish a Livability Committee to focus on improving winter recreation opportunities for all age groups. This will include an assessment of elements of the public realm that need to be improved to support more comfortable conditions for walking and wheeling year round,

creation of climate-responsive design and service suggestions, and planning of community events to celebrate all seasons.

20. Cooperate with the DNR, U.P. Disc Golf Association and other interested trail stakeholders to design and redevelop (after forest management activities) the Kawbawgam Ski Trail as a dual-purpose trail accommodating an 18 hole disc golf course in the summer and ski / snowshoe / snow bike trail in the winter.

2015

1. Review the recreation plan and update accordingly.
2. Establish a *Recreation Punch Card* for completed activities in the Township – sponsored by local businesses to provide discounts to those that complete the punch card.
3. Develop “walk-in” fishing opportunities for the Chocolay River and local streams. Provide detailed maps for this activity. Develop this in conjunction with the DNR, Trout Unlimited, and local fishing groups.
4. Plan for easements to provide local access paths to the trail system throughout the Township. Provide residents the capability to easily access developed trails (such as the North Country Trail and the Iron Ore Heritage Trail).
5. Establish on-going recreation activities and events throughout the Township:
 - Community events (such as a Triathlon – kayak / biking / golf (disc or regular) or kayak / running / 3D archery)
 - Community leagues, tournaments, and activities throughout the year that emphasize community recreation and interaction
 - Adult league softball / fast pitch
 - Bocce ball
 - Disc golf
 - Flag football
 - Hockey
 - Ice bowling
 - Lacrosse
 - Little League baseball
 - Rugby
 - Soccer
 - Fishing / fly-fishing instruction at the Township Hall or at the Township Marina either through volunteer or private businesses (such as Switchback in Marquette)
 - Kayak / canoe instruction on the Chocolay River through private businesses (such as Downwind Sports in Marquette)
6. Seek grant funding to install solar bollards on the bike path for evening lighting. Remove the bollards in October and reinstall in May.
7. Working with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, Trout Unlimited, and volunteers, implement the plan for canoe / kayak trail development on the Chocolay River and Sand River systems.
8. Purchase or arrange for the use of trail-maintenance equipment or services to ensure optimal usability and transportation mobility in all seasons. This will include proper equipment for snow removal (on priority surfaced pedestrian trails) or management (for snow-packed trails). This may also include amenities such as landscaped wind breaks or benches.

2016 through 2018 - Annually

1. Review the recreation plan and update accordingly.
2. Continue to evaluate recreational programs, assets, and maintenance schedules for all recreation areas within the Township.

Site-Specific Implementation Strategies

Beaver Grove Agriculture Area

Site Review

The 14 acre farm site is being kept by the Township in continuous agricultural use until such time that the property is needed to accommodate expansion of the recreation area. The Township has recognized that preservation of prime farmlands is important to the support of local food systems that benefit residents. The land has been leased for private agricultural use, but previous efforts to secure a long-term private agricultural lease have not resulted in net revenues for the Township. The Township would benefit from a more value-added farm opportunity that would keep the land publicly accessible yet in productive use.

To that end, a private organization has proposed a plan to establish the 14 acres as a community farm. The Chocoy Community Farm Collaborative seeks to turn productive agricultural land that has traditionally been used for private, monoculture production into a working organic farm, community garden, outdoor classroom, center for entrepreneurship, and public gathering place. The proposed site plan includes a large plot community gardens, community hoop houses, and publically accessible food forest, u-pick berry patch, children's garden, permaculture demonstration gardens, native plant demonstration areas, and fitness / walking trails that meander through the site, inviting visitors to sample the edibles and learn while interacting with local gardeners and farmers.

The benefits of this project are many. It is a way for local government to partner with the community to support entrepreneurship, local food systems, agricultural occupations, organic gardening, sustainable lifestyles, and public education. The partnership also champions new public spaces that bring together residents, visitors, and participants in shared learning encounters.

The Chocoy Community Farm Collaborative organization and other community partners will relieve the Township of ongoing management responsibility and the expense of maintaining the land. Community support and volunteerism will enable the development and maintenance of the public elements. This project is meant to be a demonstration for other communities who are interested in creating innovative partnerships between the local government and the community.

2014

1. Evaluate current use of the property to ensure conditions of previous lease are complete.
2. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
3. Negotiate a land use and lease agreement with the Chocoy Community Farm Collaborative and Chocoy Community Garden group, detailing Township and other organizational expectations and responsibilities. Township responsibilities may or may not entail investments in site-specific long-term capital improvements, but the Township will cooperate as a fiduciary

PUBLIC INPUT

In the 2013 community survey, 60.5 percent of respondents said "yes" to leasing land for public use for food production. Another 32 percent said "yes" provided that it doesn't cost taxpayers money.

agent in grants pursued by the partner organizations (with or without the provision of match funding).

2015 through 2018 – Annually

1. Meet with the partner organizations to evaluate the progress of the Chocolay Community Farm project and discuss annual action strategies.

Beaver Grove Recreation Area

Site Review

- This recreation area is one of the two most-used recreation areas in the Township (the other is the Silver Creek Recreation Area). Both the ball field and the soccer field are used extensively throughout the summer months. The area was developed with DNR grant funding, and requires on-going follow-up to ensure conditions of the grants are maintained.
- The playground equipment at the site is aging and is due for replacement. The ball field is not properly laid out to softball or baseball specifications, thereby presenting potential risks to both players and spectators. Fencing down the base lines is not of adequate height to protect spectators from overthrows. The dugouts are within the field perimeter instead of outside the fence line.
- Due to the isolated location of the facility, the site is prone to vandalism. Although there are a significant number of visitors in the summer evenings, the daytime hours and winter months leave the property open to vandals.
- The trail along Big Creek at the southern end of the property is a nature trail, and it should be maintained as a part of general park maintenance.
- The pavilion is a central focus of the facility, especially for family and sports group use. Additional maintenance schedules should be established to ensure the pavilion is available well into the future. Consideration should also be given to the pavilion as a location for a farmer's market when the community farm project is up and running on the adjacent acreage.
- A recent survey of softball league players and spectators (see *Appendix F* for survey results) indicate that the restroom must be replaced. The current restroom does not have a privacy door, nor is the restroom ADA-accessible.
- Comments in the survey also indicate that rock removal from the field will improve the overall condition of the field. Consideration for replacing the infield dirt (skin) to accomplish this should be considered.
- Bleachers should be upgraded due to safety concerns.
- Grass areas of the facility (ball field, soccer field, and practice area) are well-maintained, and get high complements from those that use or visit those areas. On-going maintenance must be funded to ensure the quality look of the facility.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Ball field
 - Basketball court
 - Parking areas
 - Pavilion
 - Picnic benches and grills
 - Practice / warm up area (between ball field and soccer field)
 - Playground equipment
 - Restroom
 - Signage and sign boards (2)
 - Soccer field

3. Improve the sign boards with schedules, and stain the sign boards with outdoor stain to help preserve the sign boards.
4. Put the basketball court in the annual maintenance plan (concrete sealant, striping, nets, etc.)
5. Install temporary netting / fencing on first and third base sides of ball field to minimize the potential damage from overthrown balls from the infield.

2015

1. Redesign the layout of the ball field and incorporate American Softball Association (ASA) specifications for the field dimensions (see *Beaver Grove Recreation Area Ball Field in Appendix C* for proposed layout of the field). Layout will include:
 - Dugout upgrades
 - Infield skin replacement
 - New bases
 - New fence coverings
 - New fencing
 - Placement of spectator bleachers
2. Upgrade and replace the playground equipment.
3. Install an IP-based security system to help reduce facility vandalism.
4. Replace the restroom facility.
5. Plant deciduous trees on the south side of the pavilion to provide summer shade, and coniferous trees near the north and west sides to block the wind for a better year round microclimate. Fill with shrub layers.
6. Establish a walking / exercise trail that will encompass both the Beaver Grove Recreation Area and the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area.
7. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Brower Recreation Area

Site Review

In 2002, Eagle Scout Samuel Ledebuhr designed a plan for the site. This plan included trails, signage, bridges, benches, and shelters. Specific to his plan was the wishes of the donor, Don Brower, that the site be developed for youth by youth.

However, the plan was never implemented, and the site remains undeveloped. There is no signage to indicate where entrance locations are or that the property is publicly accessible. There is no established parking area for visitors to the site.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Parking area
 - Trail signage
 - Trail maintenance
3. Re-evaluate plan designed for property in 2002 (see *Brower Recreation Area Assessment in Appendix C* for property history).

4. Establish a work group with a local Boy Scout troop to do plan evaluation and implementation.
5. Install signs indicating that the property is Township property.
6. Establish a parking area on the Kawbawgam Road side of the property.
7. Establish long-term site review for:
 - Deed restriction compliance
 - Grant compliance

2015

1. Implement plan recommendations.
2. Establish trail head and trail signage throughout the property for interpretive trails.
3. Establish a two-to-three vehicle parking area at the southeast corner of the property to accommodate public access.
4. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Community Gardens

Site Review

A successful garden was established at the Harvey Baptist Church in 2012, which quickly became an essential outdoor activity that helps local growers become self-sufficient through the growth of their own food.

A proposed garden project is in the works for St. Louis the King Church (located approximately an eighth of a mile from Harvey Baptist Church) that will be directed by local Girl Scouts.

With the success of these gardens, and the potential gardens that will be located at the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area, the western side of the Township is well-served. A future location of a garden or hoop house at the Kawbawgam Pocket Park should be considered to serve residents in the eastern half of the Township.

2014

1. Evaluate properties for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Garden beds
 - Water supply
3. Establish long-term site review in conjunction with the Choccolay Community Gardens group for:
 - Growth of garden
 - Maintenance
4. Evaluate garden locations with property owners and look at lease arrangements to ensure lease arrangements are updated.
5. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2015

1. Establish a community garden or hoop house on the east end of the Township in conjunction with the Chocoley Community Gardens group, preferably in the Kawbawgam Pocket Park.
2. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Green Bay Street Park**Site Review**

This park has the potential to be a destination fishing site. The park is situated along the Chocoley River, and has been developed in the past; however, it is in a state of decline. This area has a potential to be a Boy Scout / Girl Scout / 4H project, and it can be established as both a fishing site and a plant demonstration area.

The park is not marked with signage, and parking locations are not marked.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Erosion control
 - Parking area
 - Stairway to river
3. Evaluate, establish, and clear a parking area for access to the site.
4. Install signage to indicate the property boundaries.
5. Remove rope swing (water area is too shallow and rocky for the rope swing).
6. Establish a Boy Scout / Girl Scout / 4-H project to:
 - Add rail handles for the stairway
 - Plant trees
 - Plant native plants to prevent hillside erosion
 - Replace railroad tiles in the stairway
7. Establish a Native American garden to showcase Native American foods and grains.
8. Work with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish future goals for the property and the waterway.
9. Add a picnic table near the shoreline to be removed each year during the first week of October, and reinstalled after spring flooding has ended.

2015

1. Implement the plan developed with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited for the property and the waterway.
2. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Green Garden

Site Review

This site is the oldest recreation site in the Township. Deeded to the Township in 1949, the site has long served as a fishing and swimming location for local residents.

- Because of changes in the water flow in the Chocoday River, the site needs a review to determine if swimming is still a viable option at this location. The area does serve as a location for access to the river.
- Signage does not exist at this site; only the locals know that this is Township property.
- An existing grass parking area should be maintained, with well-marked entrance and exit locations.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Parking area (mowing and clearing of brush)
3. Establish long-term site review for:
 - Deed restriction compliance
4. Install signs indicating that the property is Township property.
5. Establish a project with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish a fishing path along the river for fishing access from the property and the waterway.
6. Work with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish future goals for the property and the waterway.

2015

1. Establish a location for kayak / canoe carry-down, with the potential of take out on the DNR location on Mangum Road.
2. After spring flooding season is over, place a picnic table in the southern portion of the parcel near the water and anchor the picnic table (to prevent theft).
3. Remove brush and debris that may have accumulated from spring flooding.
4. Continue regular maintenance (mowing).
5. Remove picnic bench and place into storage for winter (usually during the first week of October).
6. Implement the project established with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish a fishing path along the river for fishing access from the property and the waterway.
7. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Kawbawgam Pocket Park

Site Review

This park was reduced to its current size after part of the parcel was sold to a private developer. The park was once the trail head for the Kawbawgam Cross Country Ski Trail, and based on logging operations taking place in the ski area in 2014, the trail head could be reestablished.

The park also serves as an access point for the North Country Trail, and is in close proximity to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.

This park requires a redesign, with the parking area serving as the launch point for east-west ATV / ORV traffic, snowmobiles, hikers, cross-country skiers, and those that enjoy snowshoeing.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Basketball court
 - Playground equipment
 - Parking area
 - Restrooms
3. Re-establish the cross-country ski trail connection from the park to the Kawbawgam Cross Country Ski Trail using the existing North Country Trail route. Incorporate climate responsive amenities for four season use; summer time connection already exists for hikers on the trail. Include signage in the project.
4. Establish parking lot as a launch point for east-west ATV traffic. Connection would be to the existing trail that is located approximately 100 yards south of the park. Include signage in the project.
5. Treat and seal the basketball court, and include the court on yearly maintenance schedules.

2015

1. Replace the restroom facility at the park to accommodate additional park traffic.
2. Expand parking lot to accommodate vehicles with ATV / ORV / snowmobile trailers (see *Kawbawgam Pocket Park* in *Appendix C*).
3. Replace swing set and relocate it to the front of the park (see *Kawbawgam Pocket Park* in *Appendix C*).
4. Install picnic benches near the parking lot.
5. Establish a community garden or hoop house in the park in conjunction with the Chocolate Community Gardens group (see *Kawbawgam Pocket Park* in *Appendix C*).
6. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016

1. Determine use for the portion of the park parcel that is located across the road.
2. Consider use of the east-west abandoned road grade for potential mountain biking trail.
3. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2017 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Lion's Field

Site Review

This recreation area is primarily used for adult softball, and an ice skating / hockey rink will be coming on-line during the winter months of 2013.

The Chocolay Lion's Club started the development of this field, and those developments were passed on to the Township when the Township purchased the property. There is location signage on M-28, and the area is accessible from multiple locations.

- Approximately one-half of the property (the southern half) is an undeveloped sand dune.
- The site borders the Iron Ore Heritage Trail, and has been designated as a trail head for the trail.
- The ball field needs extensive fencing and dugout improvements for both player and spectator safety and comfort. As identified in the survey taken by players and spectators (see *Appendix F* for survey results), the fences on both sides of the field are not high enough to protect spectators from overthrows. The dugout fences are too low (four feet), and there are no covers on the dugouts.
- The restroom has been a source of contention with many ball players and spectators, especially during the warm summer months. There are plans to move the restroom to another location, but that location must be ADA-accessible.
- Bleachers are needed on the first base side of the field, and those on the third base side of the field need to be upgraded for safety reasons. Bleacher options for the third base side include reversing the bleachers during the winter months so that spectators can watch those using the skating rink. Surface materials for bleachers should accommodate winter comfort.
- An Iron Ore Heritage Trail connector trail needs to be established at the west end of the ball field that connects the parking lot (trail head) to the main trail. Signage needs to be installed at the trail head.
- Additional low impact land uses such as a dog park or archery range in the sand pit behind the field should be considered.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Ball field
 - Basketball court
 - Hockey rink
 - Parking area
 - Restrooms
 - Sign board (see number 4)
 - Trail signage (see number 6)
3. Move the restroom facility to area south of the hockey rink, and make it ADA-accessible.
4. Install a sign board with schedules near backstop of the ball field.
5. Install a small scoreboard for the ball field.
6. Establish a trail head and signage to Iron Ore Heritage Trail at the west end of the facility, including map locations. Build the connector trail behind the western end of the ball field in a southern direction to connect to the trail.
7. Set up temporary / permanent fencing on the ball fields along baselines for protection from overthrows at bases.

2015

1. Install replacement vinyl-coated aluminum bleachers and covered dugouts.
2. Set up the ball field to American Softball Association (ASA) specifications for co-ed softball (see *Lion's Field Ball Field* in *Appendix C* for specifications and layout).
3. Begin the process of establishing sand area behind the ball field as a dog park or archery range while preserving the wild blueberry patches.
4. Install an IP-based security system.
5. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2017

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2018

1. Install a roof over the hockey rink to use as a multi-use summer shelter.
2. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Silver Creek Recreation Area**Site Review**

This recreation area is one of the two most-used recreation areas in the Township (the other is the Beaver Grove Recreation Area). The soccer field and disc golf course are used extensively throughout the summer months. The area was developed with DNR grant funding, and requires on-going follow-up to ensure conditions of the grants are maintained.

The facility provides opportunity for winter recreation in the heart of the most densely populated area which also contains vulnerable demographic groups and supportive civic institutions.

- The playground equipment at the site is aging and is due for replacement.
- There is a restroom with a changing area at the east end of the site. This facility is easily accessible for those using the ball field or the tennis courts, but it is not easily accessed by those using the soccer field at the other end of the property.
- Location for an additional well and restroom should be considered for the soccer field area, as this also would serve those using the disc golf course.
- The ball field is not properly laid out to softball or baseball specifications, thereby presenting potential risks to both players and spectators. A maintenance shed is not properly located, and dugouts do not protect players from foul balls or overthrows. Fencing down the base lines is not of an adequate height to protect spectators from overthrows. This field has the potential to be a premier Little League field, and with support from Little League representatives, that can be accomplished.
- Although the site is located in a residential area, the site is prone to vandalism, and a security system for this area should be considered. Added lighting on the soccer field parking area could be a vandalism deterrent.

- Bleachers should be upgraded due to safety concerns. When bleachers and hillside benches are replaced, they should be made from materials that are more comfortable in cold climate conditions.
- As soccer and disc golf are growing sports, parking near the soccer field will become an issue. Parking expansion should be considered in this area.
- Grass areas of the facility (ball field, soccer field, and practice area) are well-maintained, and get high complements from those that use or visit those areas. On-going maintenance must be funded to ensure the quality look of the facility.
- Access to the facility is through the Silver Creek Church parking lot. This creates potential issues in the future, especially when usage of the park increases. Purchase of vacant property on Silver Creek Road for direct access to the site should be considered, as this frontage could provide both access and a potential location for a recycling drop off for residents. It would also provide an additional well to support maintenance activities and other amenities.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Ball field
 - Disc golf equipment, signage, and trails
 - Parking area (2)
 - Picnic benches and grills
 - Playground equipment
 - Restrooms
 - Roadway (between entrance and soccer field)
 - Signage and sign boards
 - Soccer field
 - Tennis courts / basketball hoop
3. Acquire vacant property west of the Silver Creek Church driveway to gain direct access to the recreation area.
4. Replace the existing 9 hole disc golf course with a redesigned 18 hole course (see *Silver Creek Disc Golf Course* in *Appendix C*) in conjunction with the U.P. Disc Golf Association.
5. Implement ongoing snow removal, maintenance operations, and improvement of restrooms and trail lighting to accommodate winter use.
6. Establish a Livability Committee to begin planning for the accommodation of winter recreation opportunities. For example, snow could be piled in the playground area for use in sledding or snow sculpture activities. Disc golf trails can be utilized for snowshoeing or cross-country skiing and winter disc events. This site is also ideal for a winter festival since most areas are somewhat protected from the wind by trees and terrain and spectator seating is available. This activity could be coordinated with the neighboring church as a winter version of its popular block party.
7. Consider the area near the northwest corner of the west parking lot as a potential location for a cell tower, and mitigate the 50' by 50' area with additional land purchase.
8. Purchase and install a replacement DNR LWCF marker sign near the soccer field.

2015

1. Move playground equipment to increase the size of the parking area near the soccer field.
2. Double the size of the parking area near the soccer field by utilizing some of the forested area.
3. Open a well on the west end of the property.
4. Install and plumb a restroom near the soccer field.

5. Install an IP-based security system.
6. Establish lighted cross-country skiing, snowbike and snowshoe trails at Silver Creek Recreation Area, utilizing the disc golf areas when possible.
7. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016

1. Add additional bleachers, and replace existing bleachers with vinyl coated aluminum bleachers.
2. Update / replace the playground equipment.
3. Install parking lot lighting.
4. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2017

1. Design ball field according to specifications for Little League while also accommodating American Softball Association (ASA) co-ed specifications. Move sprinklers, install covered dugouts, and install new fence on the Little League field. Replace skin with new soil. (see *Silver Creek Recreation Area Ball Field* in *Appendix C* for proposed layout of the field).
2. Upgrade tennis courts with tile surfaces, and rebuild the courts. Eliminate the basketball net and pole from the tennis court. Establish lines and correlating borders for both tennis and pickleball.
3. Establish a new location for the basketball net and pole.
4. Construct a pavilion near the soccer field.
5. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2018

1. Pave the parking areas.
2. Install fencing at the resident end of the soccer field.
3. Refurbish benches in the park using winter-friendly materials.
4. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Township Marina

Site Review

This site serves as the main launch facility for those wishing to access the Chocolay River by boat, canoe, or kayak. The area was developed extensively with DNR grant funding, and requires on-going follow-up to ensure grant conditions are met.

- Due to the difficulty of removing and installing the skid pier in the winter and the spring, the pier should be replaced with a rolling pier. This would eliminate the need to hire an outside contractor to remove and install the pier, permitting DPW staff to move the pier as necessary.
- ADA issues exist, especially with access to the restroom.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.

2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:

- Boardwalk
- Launch ramp
- Parking area
- Camping platforms
- Launch pier
- Restroom
- Fishing pier
- Lighting
- Kayak locker
- Picnic benches and grills

3. Expand and pave the parking area to accommodate additional vehicles with trailer parking.
4. Evaluate project to remove silt from the launch site to enable motorized boats to use the launch facility.
5. Consider additional kayak storage locker of NMU design that is more user friendly and accessible.
6. Update water trail maps at the site.
7. Expand ADA access to the boardwalk, restroom, camping sites, and picnic areas.
8. Continue to clear brush from shoreline to permit shore fishing access.
9. Mark property boundaries.
10. Work with the DEQ, DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish future goals for the property and the waterway.
11. Determine repair / replacement process for concrete ramp.

2015

1. Implement the plan developed with the DEQ, DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited for the property and the waterway.
2. Install neighborhood appropriate lighting in the parking area. Paint the light pole near the fishing pier.
3. Replace skid pier with rolling pier.
4. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2016

1. Install playground equipment (smaller scale version of what is installed at Marquette's Lower Harbor) plus benches in the upper level of the marina property (near Main Street).
2. Upgrade tent camping platforms to accommodate yurt-type facilities. Work with the DNR to ensure this is within grant compliance.
3. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2017

1. Upgrade the restroom.
2. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

2018

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Township Municipal Complex

Site Review

In 2013, the Township built a new fire hall on this site. Because of the location of the new fire hall, the pavilion and the skating area were removed. Parking was increased, and access to the facilities in the Township Hall was improved.

- Seniors (55 and over) do not have a community space to use within the Township. The Township Hall can be better utilized to serve this population.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Meeting room
3. Establish a small trout fishery next to the new fire hall. This fishery can be supported and maintained through cooperative efforts with the DNR, Trout Unlimited and the DNR Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery. Pond can be used for ice skating in the winter months.
4. Establish a program for seniors (55 and over) to utilize the Township Hall as a community center, especially during the winter months.

2015 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Voce Creek Recreation Area

Site Review

In 1979, the Township purchased this site for passive recreation using a DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. The site has not been significantly developed.

- The major difficulty with the property is access. Road frontage on US 41 S is very narrow, and currently the only available parking is on the shoulder of the highway.
- Because the central part of the property is a sand “blowout”, it was once used to grow beach grasses for transplant to beach areas.
- Road-front signage does not exist for this property, and the current sign that is located about 50 yards from the road needs to be replaced. Property boundaries to the north need to be firmly established to prevent private encroachment.

2014

1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Parking area
 - Signage with trail maps
3. Provide mapping and signage for the site, including boundary markers.

2015

1. Establish area for bow hunters / small-game hunters (shotgun only).
2. Establish small parking area to provide access from US 41.

3. Consider this as a potential location for a cell tower, and mitigate the tower location with additional land purchase.
4. Reestablish the area for growing beach grasses in cooperation with NMU and other public entities.

2016 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Wick Site

Site Review

This property was donated to the Township in 2010, and is currently undeveloped.

- The property could serve as a take-out area for canoes and kayaks, and could serve as part of a fishing trail system along the Chocolay River and LeVasseur Creek. Easements for this property have not been determined.

2014

1. Establish where existing easements are located that provide access to the property.
2. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.
3. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets:
 - Signage with water trail maps
4. Provide mapping and signage for the site, including boundary markers.

2015

1. With the assistance of the DNR, Ducks Unlimited, Superior Watershed Partnership, Trout Unlimited, and property owners that surround Kawbawgam Lake, establish a water trail from Kawbawgam Road west to Township and DNR properties that border LeVasseur Creek. The trail would be limited to non-motorized watercraft (necessary features to establish the trail can be found under *Wick Property Design* in *Appendix C*).

2016 through 2018 – Annually

1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.

Action Tables

Future Action by Year

Table 11 shows future recreation actions by recreation site or facility by year.

Table 11 Future Action by Year

Recreation Facility / Opportunity	General Recreation Goals	Beaver Grove Agricultural Area	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	Brower Recreation Area	Green Bay Street Park	Green Garden Site	Kawbawgam Pocket Park	Lion's Field	Silver Creek Recreation Area	Township Hall	Township Marina	Voce Creek	Wick Property
2014	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
2015	A	E	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	E	A	A	A
2016	A	E	E	E	E	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	E
2017	A	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	A	E	A	E	E
2018	A	E	E	E	E	E	E	A	A	E	E	E	E

Table 11 Legend

Action A – Action item E – Evaluation and ongoing maintenance

Five Year Action Plan – Cost, Funding Source, and Participants

Table 12 shows future recreation actions by recreation site or facility by year. This will provide a listing, by year, of the proposed recreation projects.

Table 12 Legend

Cost **ST** – staff time **TBD** – to be determined

Participants **A** – Assessor **ART** – Arts Interest Group **C** – Community Development Coordinator
CABA – Chocoday Area Business Association **CCGG** – Chocoday Community Garden Group
CCSL – Chocoday Co-ed Softball League **CRC** – County Road Commission
DEQ – Department of Environmental Quality **DNR** – Department of Natural Resources
DU – Ducks Unlimited **DPW** – Department of Public Works **H** – History Interest Group
IOHT – Iron Ore Heritage Trail **KBIC** – Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
LB – Local Business **LC** – Lion’s Club **LL** – Little League
MAPS – Marquette Area Public Schools **MDOT** – Michigan Department of Transportation
NC – Nature Conservancy **NCT** – North Country Trail
NMU – Northern Michigan University **PUB** – Public **PZ** – Planning / Zoning Administrator
S – Scouting **SOM** – State of Michigan **SSA** – Superiorland Soccer Association
SWP – Superior Watershed Partnership **TM** – Township Manager **TS** – Township staff
TU – Trout Unlimited **UPDG** – UP Disc Golf Association **UPLC** – UP Land Conservancy
UPW – UP Whitetails **V** – Volunteer

Funding source **D** – Donations (materials or in-kind) **G** – grant **TB** – Township budget **UF** – user fees

Table 12 Five Year Action Plan -- Cost and Funding Source

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2014				
General	1. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets with the Department of Public Works.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Implement an online map with GPS coordinates for all recreation facilities in the Township.	ST	C, PZ	TB
	3. Coordinate recreation information with local governments, community groups, and local businesses to ensure accuracy of the information for all involved parties (see <i>Recreation Coordination</i> in <i>Appendix D</i> for examples).	ST	C, CABA, PZ, V	TB
	4. Develop local recreation brochures to hand out to potential visitors and local citizens.	ST	C, PZ	TB
	5. Coordinate with the Marquette County Convention and Visitors Bureau to ensure the adequacy and accuracy of materials promoting Chocolay Township recreation.	ST	C, PZ	TB
	6. Develop Township maps that indicate trails, trail heads, outdoor opportunities, public facilities, private facilities, and other government-related opportunities. Include the community gardens, Welcome Center, DNR fish hatchery, schools, and churches in the mapping project.	ST	C, PZ, V	TB
	7. Establish geocache locations within the Township with the intent to serve both recreational and historical purposes.	TBD	ART, C, CABA, H, PZ, V	D, G, TB
	8. Obtain public input and plan for recreation activities that target specific groups (such as youth, families, and senior citizens).	ST	C, PUB, PZ	TB
	9. Develop sports and recreation programs in the Township with local schools and clubs such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cherry Creek School ■ Chocolay Co-Ed Softball League ■ Lion's Club ■ Little League ■ Superiorland Soccer 	ST	C, CCGS, DPW, LC, LL, MAPS, SSA, V	D, TB, UF
	10. Promote recreation activities in various media (print, Web, social, TV, and radio), and establish scheduled updates for those promotions.	\$500	TS	TB
	11. Seek grants to install artwork in the tunnel, and to install tiles of local artwork at the tunnel entrances.	\$8,000	ART, DPW, H, PZ, V	D, G
	12. Pursue the installation of "bike route" signs to increase awareness along both sides of US 41 and CR 480, especially within the vicinity of the Voce Creek Recreation Area and Beaver Grove Recreation Area.	TBD	C, DPW, MDOT, PZ	G, TB
	13. Begin the process with the DNR to establish a "Natural River" designation for portions of the Chocolay River.	ST	C, DNR, PZ	G
	14. Assemble and maintain a natural features inventory for the Township.	ST	C, PZ	TB
	15. Establish senior outreach services, with an emphasis on health and recreation in all seasons.	ST	C, PUB, PZ, V	D, TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2014				
General, continued	16. Develop GIS maps of recreation facilities and potential rural bicycle, ski skating, and cross country ski tours.	ST	C, PZ, V	TB
	17. Establish a work group to consider wetland property acquisition (for estuary and nature park) adjacent to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. (204 Hotel Place, accessed through 255 W. Main Street).	TBD	C, DNR, NC, PUB, PZ, SWP, UPLC, V	D, G, TB
	18. Working with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, Trout Unlimited, and volunteers, develop a plan for canoe / kayak trail development on the Chocolay River and Sand River systems.	ST	C, DNR, SWP, TU, V	TB
	19. Establish a Livability Committee to focus on improving winter recreation opportunities for all age groups. This will include an assessment of elements of the public realm that need to be improved to support more comfortable conditions for walking and wheeling year round, creation of climate-responsive design and service suggestions, and planning of community events to celebrate all seasons.	ST	CABA, PZ, V	TB
	20. Cooperate with the DNR, U.P. Disc Golf Association and other interested trail stakeholders to design and redevelop (after forest management activities) the Kawbawgam Ski Trail as a dual-purpose trail accommodating an 18 hole disc golf course in the summer and ski / snowshoe / snow bike trail in the winter.	ST	C, DNR, DPW, PZ, UPDG	D, G, TB
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	1. Evaluate current use of the property to ensure conditions of previous lease are complete.	ST	PZ	TB
	2. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	3. Negotiate a land use and lease agreement with the Chocolay Community Farm Collaborative and Chocolay Community Garden group, detailing Township and other organizational expectations and responsibilities. Township responsibilities may or may not entail investments in site-specific long-term capital improvements, but the Township will cooperate as a fiduciary agent in grants pursued by the partner organizations (with or without the provision of match funding).	ST	CCGG, PZ, TM, V	TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2014				
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ball field ■ Basketball court ■ Parking areas ■ Pavilion ■ Picnic benches and grills ■ Practice / warm up area (between ball field and soccer field) ■ Playground equipment ■ Restroom ■ Signage and sign boards (2) ■ Soccer field 	ST	DPW	TB
	3. Improve the sign boards with schedules, and stain the sign boards with outdoor stain to help preserve the sign boards.	\$100	DPW	TB
	4. Put the basketball court in the annual maintenance plan (concrete sealant, striping, nets, etc.)	ST	DPW	TB
	5. Install temporary netting / fencing on first and third base sides of ball field to minimize the potential damage from overthrown balls from the infield.	\$2,000	DPW	D, G
Brower Recreation Area	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Parking area ■ Trail signage ■ Trail maintenance 	ST	DPW	TB
	3. Re-evaluate plan designed for property in 2002 (see <i>Brower Recreation Area Assessment</i> in <i>Appendix C</i> for property history).	ST	C, DPW, PZ	TB
	4. Establish a work group with a local Boy Scout troop to do plan evaluation and implementation.	ST	C, PZ, S	TB
	5. Install signs indicating that the property is Township property.	\$3,000	DPW	G, TB
	6. Establish a parking area on the Kawbawgam Road side of the property.	\$3,000	DPW	G, TB
	7. Establish long-term site review for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Deed restriction compliance ■ Grant compliance 	ST	C, PZ	TB
Community Gardens	1. Evaluate properties for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Garden beds ■ Water supply 	ST	DPW	TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2014				
Community Gardens, continued	3. Establish long-term site review in conjunction with the Chocolay Community Gardens group for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Growth of garden ■ Maintenance 	ST	C, CCGG, PZ	TB
	4. Evaluate garden locations with property owners and look at lease arrangements to ensure lease arrangements are updated.	ST	C, CCGG, PZ	TB
	5. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, CCGG, PZ	TB
Green Bay Street Park	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Erosion control ■ Parking area ■ Stairway to river 	ST	C, DEQ, DNR, PZ, SWP	TB
	3. Evaluate, establish, and clear a parking area for access to the site.	\$3,000	C, DPW, V	D, G, TB
	4. Install signage to indicate the property boundaries.	\$500	DPW	G, TB
	5. Remove rope swing (water area is too shallow and rocky for the rope swing).	ST	DPW	TB
	6. Establish a Boy Scout / Girl Scout / 4H project to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Add rail handles for the stairway ■ Plant native plants to prevent hillside erosion ■ Plant trees ■ Replace railroad ties in stairway 	ST	C, KBIC, PZ, S, V	D, G
	7. Establish a Native American garden to showcase Native American foods and grains.	ST	C, KBIC, PZ, V	D, G
	8. Work with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish future goals for the property and the waterway.	ST	C, DNR, PZ, SWP, TU	G, TB
	9. Add a picnic table near the shoreline to be removed each year during the first week of October, and reinstalled after spring flooding has ended.	\$800	DPW	TB
Green Garden	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Parking area (mowing and clearing of brush) 	ST	DPW	TB
	3. Establish long-term site review for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Deed restriction compliance 	ST	C, PZ	TB
	4. Install signs indicating that the property is Township property.	\$3,000	DPW	TB
	5. Establish a project with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish a fishing path along the river for fishing access from the property and the waterway.	\$2,000	C, DNR, PZ, SWP, TU, V	G
	6. Work with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish future goals for the property and the waterway.	ST	C, DNR, PZ, SWP, TU	G, TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2014				
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Basketball court ■ Parking area ■ Playground equipment ■ Restroom 	ST	DPW	TB
	3. Re-establish the cross-country ski trail connection from the park to the Kawbawgam Cross Country Ski Trail using the existing North Country Trail route. Incorporate climate responsive amenities for four season use; summer time connection already exists for hikers on the trail. Include signage in the project.	\$2,000	C, DNR, DPW, NCT, PZ	D, G, TB
	4. Establish parking lot as a launch point for east-west ATV traffic. Connection would be to the existing trail that is located approximately 100 yards south of the park. Include signage in the project.	\$1,000	C, DPW, IOHT, PZ, V	D, G, TB
	5. Treat and seal the basketball court, and include the court on yearly maintenance schedules.	\$500	DPW	TB
Lion's Field	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ball field ■ Basketball court ■ Hockey rink ■ Parking area ■ Restrooms ■ Sign board (see number 4) ■ Trail signage (see number 6) 	ST	DPW	TB
	3. Move the restroom facility to area south of the hockey rink, and make it ADA-accessible.	\$10,000	DPW	TB
	4. Install a sign board with schedules near backstop of the ball field.	\$500	DPW	TB
	5. Install a small scoreboard for the ball field.	\$1,000	DPW	G, TB
	6. Establish a trail head and signage to Iron Ore Heritage Trail at the west end of the facility, including map locations. Build the connector trail behind the western end of the ball field in a southern direction to connect to the trail.	\$5,000	C, DPW, IOHT, PZ	G, IOHT, LC, TB
	7. Set up temporary / permanent fencing on the ball fields along baselines for protection from overthrows at bases.	\$2,000	DPW	G, TB
	8. Provide a warming shed / rain shelter for improved comfort for those using the park facilities and the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.	TBD	C, DPW, IOHT, PZ	G, IOHT, LC, TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2014				
Silver Creek Recreation Area	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ball field ■ Disc golf equipment, signage, and trails ■ Parking area (2) ■ Picnic benches and grills ■ Playground equipment ■ Restrooms ■ Roadway (between entrance and soccer field) ■ Signage and sign boards ■ Soccer field ■ Tennis courts / basketball hoop 	ST	DPW	TB
	3. Acquire vacant property west of the Silver Creek Church driveway to gain direct access to the recreation area.	TBD	A, PZ, TM	G, TB
	4. Replace the existing 9 hole disc golf course with a redesigned 18 hole course (see <i>Silver Creek Disc Golf Course</i> in <i>Appendix C</i>) in conjunction with the U.P. Disc Golf Association.	ST	DPW, UPDG	D, TB
	5. Implement ongoing snow removal, maintenance operations, and improvement of restrooms and trail lighting to accommodate winter use.	\$3,000	DPW	G, TB
	6. Establish a Livability Committee to begin planning for the accommodation of winter recreation opportunities. For example, snow could be piled in the playground area for use in sledding or snow sculpture activities. Disc golf trails can be utilized for snowshoeing or cross-country skiing and winter disc events. This site is also ideal for a winter festival since most areas are somewhat protected from the wind by trees and terrain and spectator seating is available. This activity could be coordinated with the neighboring church as a winter version of its popular block party.	ST	PZ, UPDG, V	D, TB
	7. Consider the area near the northwest corner of the west parking lot as a potential location for a cell tower, and mitigate the 50' by 50' area with additional land purchase.	ST	C, PZ, TM	TB
	8. Purchase and install a replacement DNR LWCF marker sign near the soccer field.	\$275	DPW	TB
Township Marina	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2014				
Township Marina, continued	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Boardwalk ■ Camping platforms ■ Fishing pier ■ Kayak locker ■ Launch ramp ■ Launch pier ■ Lighting ■ Picnic benches and grills ■ Parking area ■ Restroom 	ST	DPW	TB
	3. Expand and pave the parking area to accommodate additional vehicles with trailer parking.	\$5,000	DPW	G, TB
	4. Evaluate project to remove silt from the launch site to enable motorized boats to use the launch facility.	ST	C, DEQ, DNR, SOM	G, TB
	5. Consider additional kayak storage locker of NMU design that is more user friendly and accessible.	ST	C, DPW, NMU	D, G, TB
	6. Update water trail maps at the site.	ST	DPW, PZ	TB
	7. Expand ADA access to the boardwalk, restroom, camping sites, and picnic areas.	ST	DPW	TB
	8. Continue to clear brush from shoreline to permit shore fishing access.	ST	DPW	TB
	9. Mark property boundaries.	\$500	DPW	TB
	10. Work with the DNR, DEQ, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish future goals for the property and the waterway.	ST	C, DEQ, DNR, PZ, SWP, TU	G, TB
	11. Determine repair / replacement process for concrete ramp.	\$25,000	DNR, DPW	G, TB
	Township Municipal Complex	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW
2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Meeting room 		ST	DPW	TB
3. Establish a small trout fishery next to the new fire hall. This fishery can be supported and maintained through cooperative efforts with the DNR, Trout Unlimited and the DNR Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery. Pond can be used for ice skating in the winter months.		\$2,000	C, DNR, DPW, TU	D, G
4. Establish a program for seniors (55 and over) to utilize the Township Hall as a community center, especially during the winter months.		ST	C, V	TB
Voce Creek Recreation Area	1. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	2. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Parking area ■ Signage with trail maps 	ST	DPW	TB
	3. Provide mapping and signage for the site, including boundary markers.	\$3,000	C, DPW	G, TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2014				
Wick Site	1. Establish where existing easements are located that provide access to the property.	ST	A, C, PZ	TB
	2. Evaluate property for potential risk management issues.	ST	C, DPW	TB
	3. Establish long-term maintenance schedule for recreation area assets: ■ Signage with water trail maps	ST	DPW	TB
	4. Provide mapping and signage for the site, including boundary markers.	\$3,000	C, DPW, V	G, TB
2015				
General	1. Review the recreation plan and update accordingly.	ST	C, PZ	TB
	2. Establish a <i>Recreation Punch Card</i> for completed activities in the Township – sponsored by local businesses to provide discounts to those that complete the punch card.	ST	C, CABA	G, TB
	3. Develop “walk-in” fishing opportunities for the Chocolay River and local streams. Provide detailed maps for this activity. Develop this in conjunction with the DNR, Trout Unlimited, and local fishing groups.	ST	C, DNR, PZ, TU, V	
	4. Plan for easements to provide local access paths to the trail system throughout the Township. Provide residents the capability to easily access developed trails (such as the North Country Trail and the Iron Ore Heritage Trail).	ST	C, DNR, IOHT, LB, MDOT, NCT, PUB, PZ	G, TB
	5. Establish on-going recreation activities and events throughout the Township: ■ Community events (such as a Triathlon – kayak / biking / golf (disc or regular) or kayak / running / 3D archery) ■ Community leagues, tournaments, and activities throughout the year that emphasize community recreation and interaction, such as: ○ Adult league softball / fast pitch ○ Bocce ball ○ Disc golf ○ Flag football ○ Hockey ○ Ice bowling ○ Lacrosse ○ Little League baseball ○ Rugby ○ Soccer ■ Fishing / fly-fishing instruction at the Township Hall or at the Township Marina either through volunteer or private businesses (such as Switchback in Marquette) ■ Kayak / canoe instruction through private businesses (such as Downwind Sports in Marquette)	ST	C, CABA, LB, PZ, V	D, TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2015				
General, continued	6. Seek grant funding to install solar bollards on the bike path for evening lighting. Remove the bollards in October and reinstall in May.	ST	C, CABA, DPW, PZ	D, G, TB
	7. Working with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, Trout Unlimited, and volunteers, implement the plan for canoe / kayak trail development on the Chocoday River and Sand River systems.	TBD	C, DNR, PZ, SWP, TU, V	D, G, TB
	8. Purchase or arrange for the use of trail-maintenance equipment or services to ensure optimal usability and transportation mobility in all seasons. This will include proper equipment for snow removal (on priority surfaced pedestrian trails) or management (for snow-packed trails). This may also include amenities such as landscaped wind breaks or benches.	TBD	C, DPW, PZ	D, G, TB
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	1. Meet with the partner organizations to evaluate the progress of the Chocoday Community Farm project and discuss annual action strategies.	ST	C, PZ	TB
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	1. Redesign the layout of the ball field and incorporate American Softball Association (ASA) specifications for the field dimensions (see <i>Beaver Grove Recreation Area Ball Field</i> in <i>Appendix C</i> for proposed layout of the field). Layout will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dugout upgrades ■ Infield skin replacement ■ New bases ■ New fence coverings ■ New fencing ■ Placement of spectator bleachers 	\$30,000	C, CCSL, DPW, V	G, TB
	2. Upgrade and replace the playground equipment.	\$40,000	DPW	G, TB
	3. Install an IP-based security system to help reduce facility vandalism.	\$5,000	C, DPW	G, TB
	4. Replace the restroom facility.	\$20,000	DPW	G, TB
	5. Plant deciduous trees on the south side of the pavilion to provide summer shade, and coniferous trees near the north and west sides to block the wind for a better year round microclimate. Fill with shrub layers.	\$2,000	DPW, PZ, V	D, G, TB
	6. Establish a walking / exercise trail that will encompass both the Beaver Grove Recreation Area and the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area.	\$5,000	C, CCGG, DPW, PZ	D, G, TB
	7. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Brower Recreation Area	1. Implement plan recommendations.	ST	C, DPW, PZ, S, V	D, G, TB
	2. Establish trail head and trail signage throughout the property for interpretive trails.	\$5,000	C, DPW, PZ, S, V	G, TB
	3. Establish a two-to-three vehicle parking area at the southeast corner of the property to accommodate public access.	\$5,000	DPW	G, TB
	4. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2015				
Community Gardens	1. Establish a community garden or hoop house on the east end of the Township in conjunction with the Chocolay Community Gardens group, preferably in the Kawbawgam Pocket Park.	ST	C, CCGG, DPW, PZ, S, V	G, TB
	2. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Green Bay Street Park	1. Implement the plan developed with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited for the property and the waterway.	ST	C, DNR, PZ, SWP, TU	G, TB
	2. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Green Garden	1. Establish a location for kayak / canoe carry-down, with the potential of take out on the DNR location on Mangum Road.	\$1,000	C, DNR, DPW, V	G
	2. After spring flooding season is over, place a picnic table in the southern portion of the parcel near the water and anchor the picnic table (to prevent theft).	\$800	DPW	TB
	3. Remove brush and debris that may have accumulated from spring flooding.	ST	DPW	TB
	4. Continue regular maintenance (mowing).	ST	DPW	TB
	5. Remove picnic bench and place into storage for winter (usually during the first week of October).	ST	DPW	TB
	6. Implement the project established with the DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited to establish a fishing path along the river for fishing access from the property and the waterway.	ST	C, DNR, PZ, SWP, TU	G, TB
	7. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	1. Replace the restroom facility at the park to accommodate additional park traffic.	\$20,000	DPW	G, TB
	2. Expand parking lot to accommodate vehicles with ATV / ORV / snowmobile trailers (see <i>Kawbawgam Pocket Park</i> in <i>Appendix C</i>).	\$5,000	DPW	G, TB
	3. Replace swing set and relocate it to the front of the park (see <i>Kawbawgam Pocket Park</i> in <i>Appendix C</i>).	\$5,000	DPW	G, TB
	4. Install picnic benches near the parking lot.	\$1,600	DPW	G, TB
	5. Establish a community garden or hoop house in the park in conjunction with the Chocolay Community Gardens group (see <i>Kawbawgam Pocket Park</i> in <i>Appendix C</i>).	\$9,000	C, CCGG, DPW, PZ, S, V	G
	6. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Lion's Field	1. Install replacement vinyl-coated aluminum bleachers and covered dugouts.	ST	C, DPW	G
	2. Set up the ball field to American Softball Association (ASA) specifications for co-ed softball (see <i>Lion's Field Ball Field</i> in <i>Appendix C</i> for specifications and layout).	\$30,000	C, CCSL, DPW, LC, V	G
	3. Begin the process of establishing sand area behind the ball field as a dog park or archery range while preserving the wild blueberry patches	ST	C, PZ, UPW, V	G
	4. Install an IP-based security system.	\$5,000	C, DPW	G, TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2015				
Lion's Field, continued	5. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Silver Creek Recreation Area	1. Move playground equipment to increase the size of the parking area near the soccer field.	ST	DPW	TB
	2. Double the size of the parking area near the soccer field by utilizing some of the forested area.	\$10,000	DPW	G, TB
	3. Open a well on the west end of the property.	\$5,000	DPW	G, TB
	4. Install and plumb a restroom near the soccer field.	\$30,000	DPW	G, TB
	5. Install an IP-based security system.	\$5,000	C, DPW	G, TB
	6. Establish lighted cross-country skiing and snowshoe trails at Silver Creek Recreation Area, utilizing the disc golf areas when possible.	ST	DPW, UPDG	TB
	7. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Township Marina	1. Implement the plan developed with the DEQ, DNR, Superior Watershed Partnership, and Trout Unlimited for the property and the waterway	TBD	C, DEQ, DNR, DPW, PZ, SWP, V	G, TB
	2. Install neighborhood appropriate lighting in the parking area. Paint the light pole near the fishing pier.	\$5,000	DPW	G, TB
	3. Replace skid pier with rolling pier.	\$10,000	DPW	G, TB
	4. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	G
Township Municipal Complex	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Voce Creek Recreation Area	1. Establish area for bow hunters / small-game hunters (shotgun only).	ST	C, PZ, UPW, V	TB
	2. Establish small parking area to provide access from US 41.	\$5,000	C, DPW, MDOT, PZ	G, TB
	3. Consider this as a potential location for a cell tower, and mitigate the tower location with additional land purchase.	ST	C, PZ, TM	TB
	4. Reestablish the area for growing beach grasses in cooperation with NMU and other public entities.	ST	C, NMU, PZ	TB
Wick Site	1. With the assistance of the DNR, Ducks Unlimited, Superior Watershed Partnership, Trout Unlimited, and property owners that surround Kawbawgam Lake, establish a water trail from Kawbawgam Road west to Township and DNR properties that border LeVasseur Creek. The trail would be limited to non-motorized watercraft (necessary features to establish the trail can be found under <i>Wick Property Design</i> in Appendix C).	\$5,000	C, DNR, DU, PUB, PZ, SWP, TU, V	G
2016				
General	1. Review the recreation plan and update accordingly.	ST	C, PZ	TB
	2. Continue to evaluate recreational programs, assets, and maintenance schedules for all recreation areas within the Township.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	1. Meet with the partner organizations to evaluate the progress of the Chocoy Community Farm project and discuss annual action strategies.	ST	C, CCGG, PZ	TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2016				
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Brower Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Community Gardens	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Green Bay Street Park	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Green Garden	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	1. Determine use for the portion of the park parcel that is located across the road.	ST	C, PZ, TM	TB
	2. Consider use of the east-west abandoned road grade for potential mountain biking trail.	ST	C, CRC, PZ, TM	TB
	3. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Lion's Field	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Silver Creek Recreation Area	1. Add additional bleachers, and replace existing bleachers with vinyl-coated aluminum bleachers.	\$20,000	DPW	G, TB
	2. Update / replace the playground equipment.	\$40,000	DPW	G, TB
	3. Install parking lot lighting.	\$10,000	DPW	G, TB
	4. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Township Marina	1. Install playground equipment (smaller scale version of what is installed at Marquette's Lower Harbor) plus benches in the upper level of the marina property (near Main Street).	\$40,000	DPW	G, TB
	2. Upgrade tent camping platforms to accommodate yurt-type facilities. Work with the DNR to ensure this is within grant compliance.	\$5,000	C, DNR, DPW	G, TB
	3. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Township Municipal Complex	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Voce Creek Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Wick Site	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
2017				
General	1. Review the recreation plan and update accordingly.	ST	C, PZ	TB
	2. Continue to evaluate recreational programs, assets, and maintenance schedules for all recreation areas within the Township.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	1. Meet with the partner organizations to evaluate the progress of the Chocolay Community Farm project and discuss annual action strategies.	ST	C, CCGG, PZ	TB
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB

Action Program

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2017				
Brower Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Community Gardens	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Green Bay Street Park	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Green Garden	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Lion's Field	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	DPW	TB
Silver Creek Recreation Area	1. Design ball field according to specifications for Little League while also accommodating American Softball Association (ASA) co-ed specifications. Move sprinklers, install covered dugouts, and install new fence on the Little League field. Replace skin with new soil. (see <i>Silver Creek Recreation Area Ball Field</i> in <i>Appendix C</i> for proposed layout of the field).	\$50,000	C, DPW, LL, V	G, TB
	2. Upgrade tennis courts with tile surfaces, and rebuild the courts. Eliminate the basketball net and pole from the tennis court. Establish lines and correlating borders for both tennis and pickleball.	\$30,000	DPW	G, TB
	3. Establish a new location for the basketball net and pole.	\$1,000	DPW	G, TB
	4. Construct a pavilion near the soccer field.	\$20,000	DPW	G, TB
	5. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Township Marina	1. Upgrade the restroom.	\$20,000	DPW	G, TB
	2. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Township Municipal Complex	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Voce Creek Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Wick Site	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
2018				
General	1. Review the recreation plan and update accordingly.	ST	C, PZ	TB
	2. Continue to evaluate recreational programs, assets, and maintenance schedules for all recreation areas within the Township.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	1. Meet with the partner organizations to evaluate the progress of the Chocolay Community Farm project and discuss annual action strategies.	ST	C, CCGG, PZ	TB
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Brower Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB

Site	Project Description	Cost	Participants	Funding Source
2018				
Community Gardens	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Green Bay Street Park	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Green Garden	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Lion's Field	1. Install a roof over the hockey rink to use as a multi-use summer shelter.	\$20,000	DPW	G, TB
	2. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Silver Creek Recreation Area	1. Pave the parking areas.	\$100,000	DPW	G, TB
	2. Install fencing at the resident end of the soccer field.	\$10,000	DPW	G, TB
	3. Refurbish benches in the park using winter-friendly materials.	\$5,000	DPW, PZ	TB
	4. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Township Marina	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Township Municipal Complex	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Voce Creek Recreation Area	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB
Wick Site	1. Continue maintenance program and continue to evaluate property for improvements.	ST	C, DPW	TB

PLAN ADOPTION

Township Involvement

Township Board

Gary Walker, Supervisor

Max Engle, Clerk

John Greenberg, Treasurer

Sue Carlson, Trustee

Mark Maki, Trustee

Richard Bohjanen, Trustee

Judy White, Trustee

Planning Commission

Andy Sikkema, Chairperson

Andy Smith, Vice-Chairperson

Eric Meister, Secretary

Richard Bohjanen, member

Tom Mahaney, member

Kendell Milton, member

Bruce Ventura, member

Township Staff

Steve Lawry, Township Manager

Kelly Drake Woodward, Township Planning Director and Zoning Administrator

Brad Johnson, Department of Public Works Foreman

Dale Throenle, Community Development Coordinator

Plan Adoption Documentation

Official Resolution of the Township Planning Commission for Recommendation of Plan Adoption

On February 10, 2014, the Chocolay Township Planning Commission adopted the Plan as follows:

Ventura moved, Bohjanen seconded, that after conducting a duly noticed public hearing, the Planning Commission hereby approves adoption of the Draft Charter Township of Chocolay 2014 – 2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan as changed with a parcel number correction and addition of the disc golf proposal into the Action Plan for 2014 by way of adopting the attached Resolution which also recommends adoption of the Plan by the Chocolay Township Board of Trustees:

Figure 10 Planning Commission Attached Resolution - page 1

CHOCOLAY CHARTER TOWNSHIP 2014-2018 RECREATION PLAN

Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Chocolay, Marquette, County, Michigan

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Chocolay has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2014 through 2018, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Chocolay began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, the goals and objectives of the *Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan* were developed in response to needs identified by citizen surveys, input from Chocolay Township staff members and public comment, and

WHEREAS, residents of the Charter Township of Chocolay were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation 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 final public comment session was held on February 10, 2014 at the Chocolay Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Chocolay has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for residents of the Charter Township of Chocolay and all other visitors to the planning area, and

WHEREAS, the goals and objectives will serve as a guide for decision making regarding future Capital Improvement projects, and

WHEREAS, the *Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan* is consistent with the priority decision criteria, goals, and objectives of the *Draft 2014 Charter Township of Chocolay Master Plan*, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Charter Township of Chocolay Planning Commission hereby approves adoption of the *Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan*, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Charter Township of Chocolay Planning Commission hereby requests the Chocolay Township Board of Trustees adopt the *Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan* for the citizens of Chocolay Charter Township.

Figure 10 Planning Commission Attached Resolution - page 2

Moved by: Bruce Ventura
Supported by: Richard Bohjanen
Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0
Date Approved: February 10, 2014
State of Michigan
County of Marquette

I, Max Engle, Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Charter Township of Chocolay Planning Commission at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the tenth day of February, 2014.


Max Engle, Clerk

Planning Commission Minutes

Figure 11 shows minutes for the February 10, 2014, meeting where the Planning Commission adopted the recreation plan.

Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 1

<p>CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CHOCOLAY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES Monday, February 10, 2014</p> <p>I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Andy Sikkema at 7:30 p.m. ROLL CALL <i>Members Present:</i> Andy Sikkema (Chair), Andy Smith (Vice Chair), Eric Meister (Secretary), Richard Bohjanen (Board), Tom Mahaney, Kendell Milton, Bruce Ventura <i>Staff Present:</i> Kelly Drake Woodward (Planning Director/Zoning Administrator), Dale Throenle (Community Development Coordinator)</p> <p>II. MINUTES January 6, 2014 <i>Motion by Ventura, seconded by Milton, to approve the minutes as written.</i> <i>Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED</i></p> <p>III. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA <i>Motion by Meister, seconded by Bohjanen, to approve the agenda as written.</i> <i>Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED</i></p> <p>IV. PUBLIC COMMENT Patty Stephens of Stephens Realty and Consulting in Marquette spoke as an agent of the federal court regarding a property at 208 Timberlane. This 2.5 acre parcel is an asset in a federal case, valued at \$88,500. Stephens said this parcel could be part of a Chocolay River water trail from Green Garden or Mangum Road to M-28 and the Marina. It would also make a nice pocket park. She invited discussion on the parcel. Stephens said she had talked with Kelly Drake Woodward, Zoning Administrator, and Don Bode, Assessor, and wanted to comment on how professional they were, and she thinks they are great assets for the Township. Sikkema asked how such a purchase would be handled. Stephens said that if the Township wanted to make an offer, she should negotiate with the federal trustee as the appointed agent. The sale would need federal court approval, and creditors would be given the opportunity to object. Woodward offered a clarification that there had been discussion of the potential for a DNR acquisition grant which could take 1.5 to 2 years to implement. Sikkema said that is a long time frame, and asked if that would be an issue. Stephens said the Trustee has the liberty to accept such terms. Sikkema asked if they should add this to the agenda as a discussion item. Stephens said there is 375 feet of river frontage, and it's a very private property with electricity and point well.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 1 of 9</p>
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Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 2

After no further comments, public comment was closed.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing on the Draft Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan

Cathy Peterson, 6341 US 41 South, said staff did a great job on the plan. It is well put together. She didn't get a chance to read the whole plan, but she wants the Commission to know she is opposed to anything that is bad for the people. If there is anything negative in the plan, she is opposed.

After no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Silver Creek Church use proposal

Pastor Kevin Taylor of the Silver Creek Church said he echoes the sentiments expressed earlier regarding professional treatment he has received from Kelly and other folks from the Township office and offered appreciation.

He directed the Commission's attention to page 2 of their proposal, Objectives. They propose the development of a thrift store ministry to be located in their current facility at 219 Silver Creek Road to serve the residents of Marquette County with quality second hand clothing and household items.

They ask the Commission to consider this activity a customary accessory use to the activities and function of their Church. They cited quite a few examples of churches that also have thrift stores involved on-site in their ministry. In the U.P., the Salvation Army locations in Escanaba, Hancock, Iron Mountain, Ishpeming, and Marquette at one time operated a thrift store in conjunction with their church. He also specifically mentioned the Maranatha Assembly of God in Kingford, MI, whose ministry center grew so much that they had to purchase an off-site facility to serve the 3,000 clients each year, caring for a broad range of needs in addition to food and clothing.

The Church anticipates the ministry will create a couple salaried positions as well as an atmosphere and opportunity for volunteerism and donations within the community. There will be environmental benefits as items are repurposed instead of taken to the landfill. They believe the affordable shopping opportunity will also draw people from various parts of the County into the Township.

They believe the ministry will benefit people from all socio-economic backgrounds, but the physical location will especially benefit low-income residents within walking distance. Taylor cited a study conducted in 2004 by Precept showing that in Chocolay Township 30% of homes are single parent homes, 19% of households are below poverty level, etc. This project allows them to continue to take the church to the community with possible future outreach projects such as a food pantry, addiction recovery, and supplies for emergency situations.

The footprint of the building will not change except for a canopy on the rear. They estimate the traffic flow will be the same or less at any given time, except there will be additional Saturday traffic. Jennifer Prus of the Church brought the idea.

Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 3

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Recommendation on adoption of the Draft Charter Township of Chocolay 2014 - 2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan

Woodward presented an idea from the U.P. Disc Golf Association to turn the Kawbawgam Ski Trail into a multi-use system for miniature golf in the summer and ski / snowshoe trail in the winter. They'd like to be involved in the redesign of the system before replanting to accommodate this. This could be added to the Recreation Plan in the general action plan as a collaborative effort on State property.

There was a correction to a parcel number for the Beaver Grove Recreation Area. The title was changed to the 2014 - 2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan.

Sikkema asked about the Township role on the Kawbawgam Ski trail on State property. It is a DNR trail that the Township grooms. Sikkema suggested the disc golf group could deal directly with the DNR and the Township wouldn't have to be involved. Throenle said the Township would have to adjust their grooming to accommodate the uses.

Ventura inquired about the extent of the cutting of timber and whether they will go all the way to the lake. He is concerned about the steep slopes. Woodward said the area of the trails will be impacted, but she doesn't think the steep slopes and area near the lake will be impacted. The Township has a map, which they will make available to Ventura.

Throenle said it's relevant to the recreation plan in that the DNR would look for Township input on the use of the land. He said it would be a good addition to the plan for potential collaborations.

Bohjanen said that since we have other State properties listed in the plan, it wouldn't be a problem to list this potential project. Throenle said the project would be listed in the Action Plan under "General", last item page 64. It could be in either year 2014 or 2015, but if it was put in 2014 the group could get involved in redesign.

Ventura said it was appropriate since collaborations with other agencies and jurisdictions are included. Smith asked about the wording, and was referred to the memo. It references "working with" the group on the project, but doesn't mean the Township would do it. Throenle said the Township may get involved in the design and layout, but would not manage the disc golf trail. He said this could involve relinking the trail back to the Kawbawgam Pocket Park where it was originally. Woodward said a redesign would involve keeping some areas free of trees, and year round use would be beneficial. Ventura said it's similar to the dual-purposing proposed at Lion's Field.

Bohjanen suggested changing the words "work with" to "cooperate with".

Ventura moved, Bohjanen seconded, that after conducting a duly noticed public hearing, the Planning Commission hereby approves adoption of the Draft Charter Township of Chocolay 2014 – 2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan as changed by way of adopting the attached Resolution which also recommends adoption of the Plan by the Chocolay Township Board of

Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 4

Trustees, with the addition of the correction of a parcel number for the Beaver Grove Recreation Area, and the addition of the disc golf proposal into the Action Plan as item 20 for 2014 to read "Cooperate with the DNR, U.P. Disc Golf Association and other interested trail stakeholder to design and redevelop (after forest management activities) the Kawbawgam Ski Trail as a dual-purpose trail accommodating an 18-hole disc golf course in the summer and ski / snowshoe / snowbike trail in the winter.

Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of processing the Silver Creek Church use proposal

Woodward said this permit would ultimately be processed by the Planning Commission, so she proposes that the Planning Commission give this a preliminary review to determine their preferred method for processing the request. Three means are suggested as follows:

1. Consider this activity as a customary accessory use to the Church, and process the request through a modification of the original conditional use permit. Under this option, the Planning Commission would be evaluating this particular plan in association with this particular facility and situation in accordance with the Conditional Use standards.
2. Process through Site Plan Review and a rezoning to Planning Unit Development District. This would make the Church a nonconforming use that would require ZBA approval for expansion unless civic uses are added as uses in the PUD district. Civic uses seem reasonable in the PUD district since they are typically less disruptive to neighborhoods than manufacturing or commercial uses which are allowed in PUD districts. This would require action by both the Planning Commission and the Township Board.
3. Zoning ordinance amendment to accommodate mixed-use as a conditional use, then process this as an amendment to the original conditional use. This would require action by both the Planning Commission and the Township Board.

Woodward said the ZBA could be consulted for an interpretation of whether this type of activity is always to be considered a customary accessory use, and that decision would then be annotated in the ordinance and set precedent for all other cases. She wasn't convinced that every situation would be the same, and thought method #1 would allow each situation to be judged on its own merit. Woodward supplied a flow chart graphic with these three options.

Smith asked Woodward her opinion on the accessory use question. She said the applicant has supplied convincing evidence of other churches who do include thrift stores in their on-site ministries, and based on the project description, it is evident the activities would be incidental to the principal activities of the Church. Taylor spoke to this issue, giving background on the Church's activities in this type of ministry in the Silver Creek Church Block Party. He said offering the items for sale at a reasonable price preserves the dignity for some people who are in need but find it hard to accept donations. This will allow the Church to connect with people in a new way.

Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 5

Mahaney asked if the group foresees selling hard goods. Taylor said he expects people to donate things like that, although it's not their objective and a bit outside their scope. They would try to set limits for large items and stick to essentials. It's a donation driven ministry, however they could give people some direction.

Sikkema asked about planned hours. Prus said expected hours are Monday through Friday 11 to 6 and Saturday 10 to 3. Closed on Sunday.

The Commission discussed the dimensions of the store, which would be 60 feet by 70 feet, with additional private storage areas.

Milton asked about fire marshal review. Taylor said it's too preliminary, but their Board has discussed these things. The Church needs to approve it first.

Meister asked about opening date. Prus said October 1 is a preliminary estimate.

Ventura said it's a good proposal for that facility, and would serve the needs of the community. St. Vincent De Paul has more donations than they can get on the floor, so another outlet would be beneficial. He asked about a structural element as he was concerned about removing the center wall. Taylor said they didn't plan to remove the center supports.

Bohjanen addressed the customary accessory use idea, saying it's not very different except for the hours of operation from any other church bazaar, rummage sale, or chicken barbecue. He thinks the traffic impact would be less than the bazaar or rummage sale which might have 200 people in one day.

Sikkema said a garage sale is a commercial activity in a residential area, and the neighbors accept it because it's for a limited time period. But they might object if it was every weekend. He thinks it is a good thing for the community. But if you take it to the nth degree, a church that has an occasional barbecue might decide to open a restaurant, or start making furniture. So you have to be careful what you allow as an accessory use versus an intermittent activity. All the options require a public hearing and neighborhood input.

Mahaney said it's like a retail store. Prus said they believe most of the traffic won't enter the residential neighborhood, but will occur between the highway and the Church location. Ventura said there would be more vehicle traffic for the sporting events at the recreation area at one time than for the retail store that might have a few cars at any one time.

Meister said the conditional use would not make this acceptable for every church – each would be evaluated separately. He said this property would be appropriate for mixed-use zoning in the future, especially since it's buffered all around, which may not be the case at every property.

Sikkema said you have to be careful because you can't do for one what you can't do for all. You want to make sure it's fair.

Mahaney said the straightforward option is #1.

Smith asked if the Township attorney could be asked for an opinion. Woodward said that if the Commission wants an interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance that would apply to every situation, then it should go before the ZBA. The interpreter of the Zoning Ordinance is the ZBA, not the attorney. Smith asked if the ZBA

Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 6

would consult with the attorney. Woodward said he gives input on legal implications of the Ordinance.

Meister thinks the conditional use approach does not create precedent. Ventura said that other accessory uses allow for retail sales, such as market stands. Sikkema said we would be saying that a retail use is an accessory use to a church.

Taylor asked for a clarification of whether the Church's non-profit status impacts that idea of what can be accessory.

Smith asked what if a church started making and selling Amish furniture – is that an accessory activity? Regardless of the use of the funds, is it an accessory activity? Sikkema asked if selling thrift items at a garage sale make that an accessory use to the home?

Throenle pointed out that not every facility could accommodate a use such as a restaurant in a church. This operation is meant to support community, and bring visitors to the Township where they will spend money. It will also draw people to the recreation area. He said it's a big leap to think a church in this area would open a restaurant or make furniture. They don't have the proper facilities. No exterior change is required in this facility to accommodate the accessory use.

Sikkema said that people may create a wood shop business at their home which is an accessory use. Woodward said that's a good point – that we do allow home occupations as an accessory use in the R-1 district. Sikkema said the amount of space is limited, and they have to meet other standards. Woodward said if you hold this proposal up to those standards, they probably meet them.

Smith thinks this is a great idea, but is just worried about churches starting businesses. It's a good location for traffic and people.

Bohjanen said the property was rezoned to R-1 and was then granted a conditional use permit – but according to your definition that building is a home because it's in R-1. He said you're worried about creating a precedent, but all conditional uses would have to come before the Planning Commission anyway. Meister said he is in agreement, that's how you limit the conditions under which they are approved and handle each situation individually.

Gary Walker said doing this as a conditional use gives the Planning Commission more control rather than less control, and he would not be bothered if the thrift store is approved, and then a furniture operation in another church was denied. The ability to issue a conditional use is based on the entire circumstance, such as buffering, footprint, etc. The Commission can say no based on a lack of fit with neighborhood character. It doesn't mean saying yes to all like requests.

Meister moved, Mahaney seconded, that based on the presentation and proposal as submitted, the Planning Commission finds that the Silver Creek Church Thrift Store Ministry meets with the definition of a church which includes "accessory activities as are customarily associated therewith", and therefore recommends that the proposal is processed as a modification to the original conditional use permit.

Discussion: Woodward clarified that motion #1 means that *this* proposal seems to be a customary accessory use to *this* Church in *this* building, and should be

Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 7

processed as a conditional use. Mahaney said it's not setting precedent, it's taking each on a case by case basis. Sikkema said it is setting precedent because now retail sales would be an acceptable accessory activity in a church. Meister said they're already doing it, it's just a question of scale.

Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: 1 (Sikkema) MOTION CARRIED

B. Recreation rankings for Master Plan

Woodward pulled all the capital projects from the approved Recreation Plan draft and compared them to the priority decision criteria that had been approved for the draft Master Plan. She assigned a possible number of points from zero to 3 for each project or group of projects for each criteria. This resulted in a priority ranking for all capital projects. This is up for discussion so that the Board will have clear direction on the priority of projects.

The top priorities according to this ranking include the collaboration with the Chocolay Community Farm Collaborative for the project at the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area, the Lion's Field projects that include support from the Iron Ore Heritage Trail Recreation Authority, and the Silver Creek Disc Golf expansion project that has been facilitated by the U.P. Disc Golf Association. Woodward explained the method for evaluating the project at the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area.

Meister said there should be criteria related to percentage of residents expected to use a facility. Woodward said the closest criteria relates to user diversity, with greater diversity receiving more points. It could also be related to frequency of use or seasonality. Sikkema asked if Meister sees this as a weight applied to the final score.

Mahaney would like to revisit this now that he understands the method. Woodward said the only urgency is to make a decision on a project for a 2014 grant application. The rankings are for the recreation plan. Smith likes the idea of including number of users in the criteria.

Throenle explained his reasoning in ranking projects for the recreation plan.

Meister inquired about cost for signage, because for that item, it seems a priority for all parks, not just within the context of one park. Woodward said that's another way to look at it – should you look at one type of improvement in several locations or a particular project in a particular location? It could depend on the funding source for the project. DNR grants apply to one location. Meister said temporary signage could be put up that is less expensive until another option is funded.

Smith asked about the size of the annual budget for new capital recreation improvements. It is around \$50,000.

The Commission asked staff opinion on the weighting question. Woodward asked if the intent is to override all other criteria with this weight given to one criteria?

The Commission said they're good with the rankings as presented.

Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 8

C. Recreation Grant application 2014

Throenle introduced the anticipated amenities associated with this project that is supported by matching funds from the Iron Ore Heritage Trail Recreation Authority. This project is to create a trailhead at Lion's field. New restroom facilities were already planned at that location.

Staff evaluated the options and thinks this is a priority grant opportunity for this year. Sikkema said it requires 25% match of the project cost, not the grant amount. The cost of the project has not yet been estimated. It would include restrooms and warming shelter, parking, signage, and trails. Mahaney said it's a heavily used facility and it makes sense to apply for a grant.

Milton moved, Ventura seconded, to recommend that the Township Board pursue a collaborative 2014 recreation grant application with the Iron Ore Heritage Trail Recreation Authority to establish Lion's Field as a trailhead for the Iron Ore Heritage trail with appropriate amenities such as restrooms / warming shelter, improved parking, and signage.

Discussion: Ventura asked if this was anticipated to be a Trust Fund application. Woodward said probably yes. He said it would need to be a competitive request. Woodward said they talked about hiring a consultant. Ventura said collaboration gets a higher score, so partnering with the Heritage Trail is beneficial. Ventura said this also has multiple recreation opportunities with the trail, skating, and ball field, so that will also increase the score. Sikkema said it also supports a DNR facility.

Vote: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 MOTION CARRIED

D. Planning Commission priorities for 2014

Woodward created some suggested priorities for the year. Sikkema said they might get through priority 1 although it will be easier with fewer amendments. Smith asked about the firearms ordinance review. This was necessitated by changes in the zoning districts, for one thing.

Priority 1 items include the 2014 Recreation Grant application, master plan update, finish proposed amendments, reconsider "Accessory Homesteading Activities" regulations, junk car and blight ordinances, asset management plan for Township roadways, burn regulations, and updates to land division and lot split ordinances.

The Commission accepted the priorities as written.

E. Discussion of property at 208 Timberlane

Meister asked if people can take a canoe along that section. It is navigable. It is available to any prospective purchaser. Bohjanen asked if it is offered to the Township would it end up in a bidding war? Stephens said each offer is considered one on one.

Sikkema asked if staff has an opinion. Throenle asked if the owner would be willing to have an easement assigned to the Township. Stephens said she would have to inquire, but they wouldn't likely do anything that would diminish the value of the property. Throenle said the property would contribute to a water trail from Kawbawgam Road to the mouth of the Choccolay by creating another access

Figure 11 Planning Commission Minutes - page 9

point to the river.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

X. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENT

Woodward reminded the Commissioners to offer comments on the Marquette Township Recreation plan during this time. There were no comments from Commissioners.

XI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Commissioners will receive the Annual Report in March. The Choccolay Community Farm Collaborative will make a presentation to the Board on February 17. The management team members were discussed. Almost all are Township residents.

XII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Planning & Zoning News – January 2014
Charter Township of Choccolay 2013 Annual Report
Marquette Charter Township 2014 – 2018 Recreation Plan

ADJOURNMENT

Sikkema adjourned the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

Submitted by:

Planning Commission Secretary
Eric Meister

Official Resolution of the Township Board for Recommendation of Plan Adoption

On February 17, 2014, the Chocolay Township Board adopted the Plan as follows:

White moved Bohjanen seconded that the Charter Township of Chocolay Board of Trustees hereby approves adoption of the Draft Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan dated 2/14/14 as changed by way of adopting the attached resolution.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

Figure 12 Chocolay Township Board Attached Resolution - page 1

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CHOCOLAY
2014-2018 RECREATION AND NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION PLAN

Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Chocolay, Marquette, County, Michigan

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Chocolay has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2014 through 2018, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Chocolay began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, the goals and objectives of the *Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan* were developed in response to needs identified by citizen surveys, input from Chocolay Township staff members and public comment, and

WHEREAS, residents of the Charter Township of Chocolay were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation 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 final public comment session was held on February 17, 2014 at the Chocolay Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Chocolay has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for residents of the Charter Township of Chocolay and all other visitors to the planning area, and

WHEREAS, the goals and objectives will serve as a guide for decision making regarding future Capital Improvement projects, and

WHEREAS, the *Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan* is consistent with the priority decision criteria, goals, and objectives of the *Draft 2014 Charter Township of Chocolay Master Plan*, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Charter Township of Chocolay Board of Trustees hereby approves adoption of the *Charter Township of Chocolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan*.

Moved by: Judy White

Supported by: Richard Bohjanen

Figure 12 Chocolay Township Board Attached Resolution - page 2

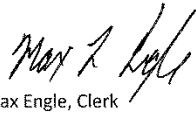
Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

Date Approved: February 17, 2014

State of Michigan

County of Marquette

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and complete copy of the 2014 - 2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan resolution duly adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Chocolay, County of Marquette, Michigan at a regular meeting held on February 17, 2014, and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan 1976, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting notice by publication or posting at least 18 hours prior to the time set for the meeting.



Max Engle, Clerk



Township Board Minutes

Figure 13 shows the minutes for the February 17, 2014, meeting where the Township Board adopted the recreation plan.

Figure 13 Township Board Minutes - page 1

February 17, 2014

A Regular meeting of the Chocolay Township Board was held on Monday, February 17, 2014 at the Chocolay Township Office, 5010 U.S. 41 South, Marquette, MI. Supervisor Walker called the Township Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

TOWNSHIP BOARD.
PRESENT: Gary Walker, John Greenberg, Max Engle, Mark Maki, Judy White, Susan Carlson, Richard Bohjanen.
ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Lawry, Mary Sanders, Kelly Woodward, Dale Throenle.

MINUTES – JANUARY 20, 2014.
Carlson moved Greenberg seconded to approve the minutes of January 20, 2014 as presented.
AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS.
Greenberg moved Carlson seconded to accept the agenda as presented.
AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT.
Gary Schaefer, 678 Cherry Creek Road – Owns Cedar Creek Farm and would like to voice support for the Chocolay Community Farm Collaborative project.

Natasha Lantz, 109 W. Baraga – Representing the Marquette Area Food Co-op would like to reserve time to answer any questions on the Chocolay Community Farm Collaborative project.

Don Britton, 121 Deerview Trail – Is available to answer any questions on the multi jurisdictional recreation authority study.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE.
Maki moved White seconded that bills totaling \$78,116.87 including checks numbered 19198 to 19220 and bills totaling \$44,708.44 including checks numbered 19221 to 19248 are approved for payment.
AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

PAYROLL.
Bohjanen moved Carlson seconded that the payroll for January 23, 2014 for \$3,957.40, including checks 9961 and 21169-21185 and ACH payments for Federal and State tax and January 30, 2014 for \$31,896.95

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Figure 13 Township Board Minutes - page 2

including check 9962-9966 and 21186-21203 and ACH payments for Federal tax, State tax and MERS and February 13, 2014 for \$32,170.97 including checks 9967-9973 and 21204-21221 and ACH payments for Federal tax, State tax and MERS retirement be approved for payment.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Engle moved Greenberg seconded to accept the December 2013 pre-audit financial report as presented.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

White moved Engle seconded to accept the Treasurer's report.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

PRESENTATIONS – CHOCOLAY COMMUNITY FARM PROJECT.

Planner Woodward introduced Angela Johnson, Tina Hall and Gary Woodward; members of the management team for the Community Farm Collaborative Project and Gary Shaffer, resource assistance team and Natasha Lantz also involved in many of the discussions for this project.

Angela Johnson and Tina Hall presented on the Chocoday Community Farm Collaborative Project.

- There is a disconnect between people and food growth
- The average pound of food travels 1,500 miles before it reaches the table
- There is a need for local diversified food
- There are health concerns with the highly processed foods in the grocery store
- The farm project will allow citizen involvement to create stewardship
- The location for the community farm is next to the Beaver Grove Recreation Facility
- This project will encourage new farmers
- This will give a unique stamp and draw to Chocoday Township
- This is a multiple year project broken down into three phases – phase one would utilize the area bordering the recreation area including smaller gardens, a children's garden, demonstration areas, picnic areas, wetland and you pick areas. Look for funding for a hoop house. Phase two would be larger plot gardens for single crops, build out the you pick area and the food forest. Phase three would be public food forest and continuing larger plots on the far side of the site.
- Permaculture gardens involve observation of natural systems to mimic and compliment them
- Permaculture ethics include care for the earth, care for people and fair share
- Permaculture zone zero would be the children's garden house and zone one would be the garden site just outside the children's garden

Figure 13 Township Board Minutes - page 3

- There is regional a support system involved including local farmers, the Marquette Co-op, Rotary Club, NMU professor, Angela Johnson and many local residents.
- We will be able to apply for grants for a well, irrigation and hoop houses once we have this on commonly held property such as government owned property

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

1. Proclamation Honoring the Pigs-n-Heat Fire Relief Fund of Marquette County.
2. Report on Wells Fargo Bank Tax Tribunal Appeal and on Anderson Tax Tribunal Appeal and the St. Onge Tax Tribunal Appeal. Chocolay Township hired Bruce Closser to do an independent appraisal finding the Wells Fargo valuation between \$520,000.00 and \$650,000.00. After supplying this information to Wells Fargo, they withdrew their appeal. The Anderson and the St. Onge Tax Tribunal appeals on uncapping property through transfer of ownership went to the State Tax Tribunal and the State sided with Anderson and Chocolay agreed to a settlement with the St. Onge's.

CONSIDERATION OF POLICY CHANGE REGARDING SEWER CHARGES FOR VACANT STRUCTURES.

Carlson moved Engle seconded to schedule a public hearing at the March 17, 2014 Township Board meeting for the purpose of amending the Sewer Ordinance by incorporating provisions for rate relief for the owners of vacant buildings.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY FARM CONCEPT FOR BEAVER GROVE PROPERTY.

Greenberg moved Carlson seconded that the Charter Township of Chocolay Board of Trustees hereby approves the use of Township Property known as the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area (parcel #52-02-116-020-110) for purposes as outlined in a proposal from the Chocolay Community Farm Collaborative, and authorizes the Township Manager and a committee of the Board (to be composed of Trustees Maki and Carlson and Supervisor Walker) to negotiate a lease for final Board approval.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee Maki commented that Cathy Peterson, prior owner of the Beaver Grove property that the Township negotiated to purchase for a public park is in the audience. Trustee Maki felt that she encouraged recreation and farming as a use for the property.

Cathy Peterson is concerned that all people are able to utilize this public property.

APPROVAL OF FIRE HALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT CHANGE ORDER #3 FOR BERGER & KING.

Greenberg moved White seconded that the Board approve Fire Station contract change order #3 for Berger and King in the amount of \$6,227.25 and the other project purchases listed above.

ROLL CALL.

AYES: Maki, Bohjanen, White, Carlson, Greenberg, Engle, Walker.

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Figure 13 Township Board Minutes - page 4

NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee Maki commended Manager Lawry for the fine job he did overseeing the Fire Station project. This resulted in a large savings to the Township. The Board agreed in commending Manager Lawry.

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE REPLACEMENT COPIER/SCANNER/FAX FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND DOLLARS.

Carlson moved White seconded to approve the purchase of an all-in-one printer, copier, scanner, fax machine for the Police Department. The cost will not exceed \$500.00. This will be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund Police electronics account 401.305.957.

ROLL CALL.

AYES: Maki, Bohjanen, White, Carlson, Greenberg, Engle, Walker.

NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND DOLLARS FOR POLICE TRAINING.

White moved Bohjanen seconded to expend \$825.00 for the NMU Public Safety Institute for the year 2014. This would come from the Capital Improvement Fund Police Training account 401.306.957.

ROLL CALL.

AYES: Maki, Bohjanen, White, Carlson, Greenberg, Engle, Walker.

NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDERATION OF MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL RECREATION AUTHORITY FEASIBILITY STUDY.

Engle moved Carlson seconded to accept the report as written, with the recommendations suggested by the Chocolay Township representatives. The recommendations from the Township representatives are to form the Recreation Authority with the City of Marquette and Marquette Township only for trails (both non-motorized and motorized) in the three jurisdictions, with a concentration on the Heartwood Forest property.

AYES: 7

NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Don Britton answered Board questions on the study. This will benefit Chocolay residents by giving them more recreation and trails even though it does not directly connect to Chocolay Township. Recreation facilities are down the road. The first priority is trails. The committee did not want to include any City of Marquette recreation property that had debt. That was the reason to work with trails. An authority creates a board that gives one seat and one vote per community in the authority.

APPROVAL OF REVISED RECREATION PLAN.

The Board discussed the Recreation Plan and commented that the document was very well written. They had one correction to the plan on page 47 and that was that Gentz Golf Course is a 9 hole golf course not

4

Figure 13 Township Board Minutes - page 5

18. Trustee Maki would like to see a five year plan for costs. Dale Throenle stated that the costs are in the plan by project not by year. The Planning Commission will revisit the plan at their March 2014 meeting.

White moved Bohjanen that the Charter Township of Choccolay Board of Trustees hereby approves adoption of the Draft Charter Township of Choccolay 2014-2018 Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan dated 2/14/14 as changed by way of adopting the attached resolution.
AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR 2014 RECREATION GRANT.
Bohjanen moved Carlson seconded to pursue the collaborative 2014 recreation grant application with the Iron Ore Heritage Trail Recreation Authority to establish Lion's Field as a trailhead with appropriate amenities such as restrooms/warming shelter, improved parking, signage, and other improvements, and to retain a consultant to assist in preparing a site plan and materials for submittal.
AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

DISCUSSION OF DRAFT MASTER PLAN CHAPTER 4.
The Board discussed Chapter 4 and had one change on page 59 under Risk Assessment of Public Health. Rewrite the statement concerning Township employees absorbing a greater portion of health expenses. The statement will be changed to - health care overall is rising in cost and when it rises for individuals it affects their disposable income and at the same time it also affects the Township budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT.
Kathy Peterson, 6341 U S 41 South – Wants it recorded in the minutes that she is opposed to anything bad and ugly and she supports anything that is good.

Mark Maki, Trustee – Curious about comments from current recreation facility users on the recreation plan. Dale Throenle, Community Development Coordinator stated that their comments are included in the recreation packet. Their comments were incorporated in developing the recreation plan.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
A. Minutes – Township Planning Commission, January 6th, 2014.
B. Minutes – Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Authority, December 19th, 2013.
C. Communication – Marquette County Conservation District, et al: Firewise Planning Workshop.

Supervisor Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Max Engle, Clerk

Gary Walker, Supervisor

5

Letter Transmitting Adopted Plan – Marquette Planning Department

A letter (see **Figure 14**) and a copy of the plan were transmitted to the Marquette County Resource Management & Development Department Planning Division on February 19, 2014.

Figure 14 Marquette Planning Department Letter



Letter Transmitting Adopted Plan – Central Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Regional Commission (CUPPAD)

A letter (see [Figure 15](#)) and a copy of the plan were transmitted to the Central Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Regional Commission (CUPPAD) on February 19, 2014.

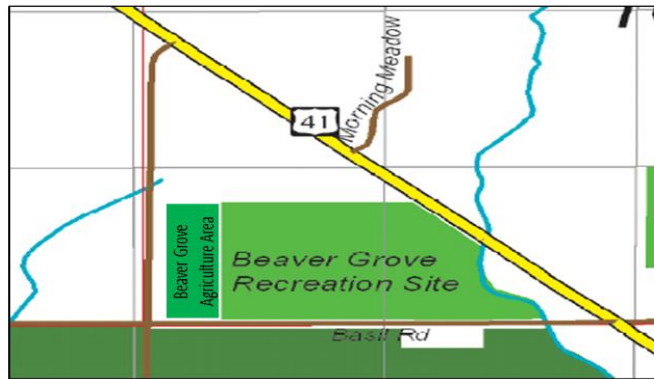
Figure 15 CUPPAD Letter



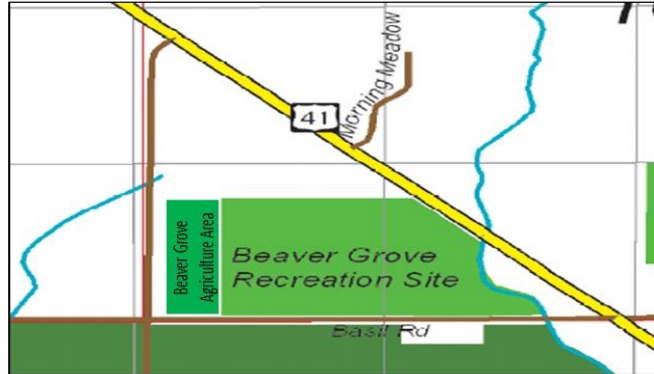
APPENDIX A MAPS

Close up map of each park

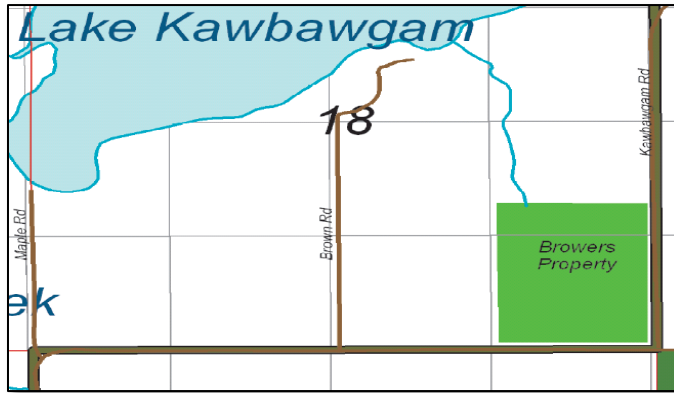
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area



Beaver Grove Recreation Area



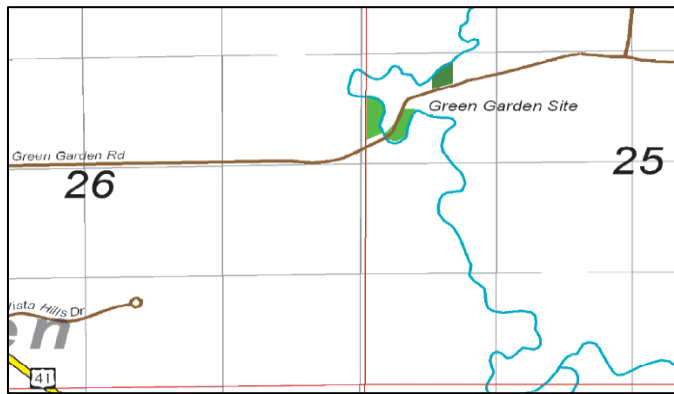
Brower Recreation Area



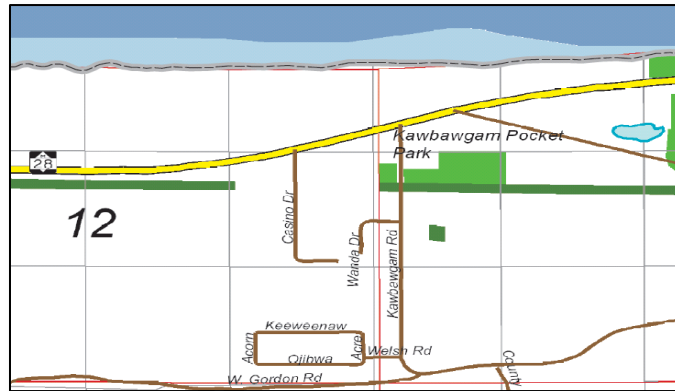
Green Bay Street Park



Green Garden Site



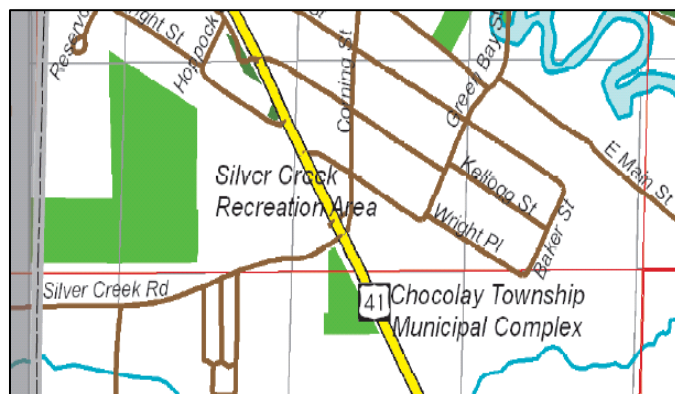
Kawbawgam Pocket Park



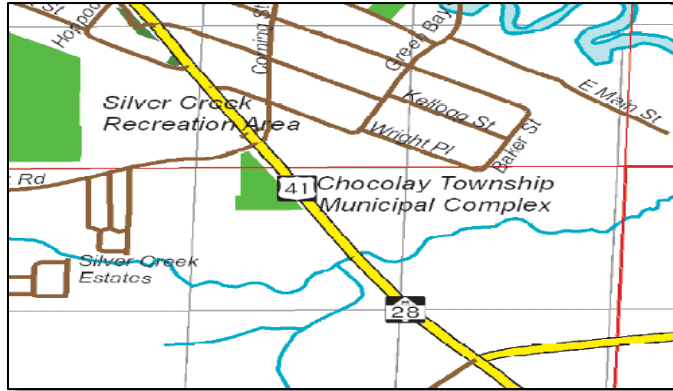
Lion's Field



Silver Creek Recreation Area



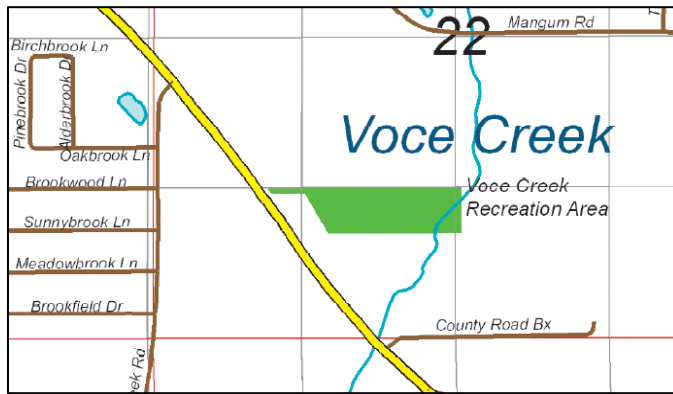
Township Municipal Complex



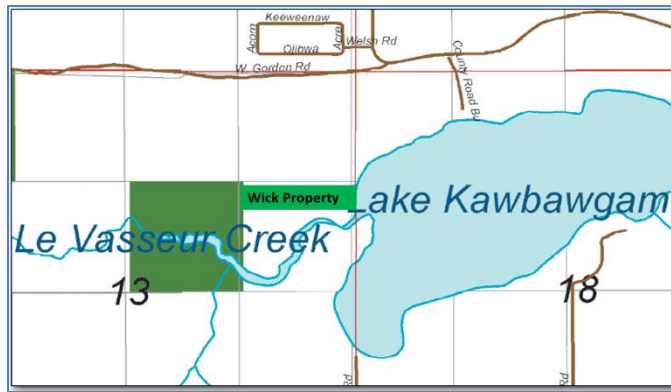
Township Marina



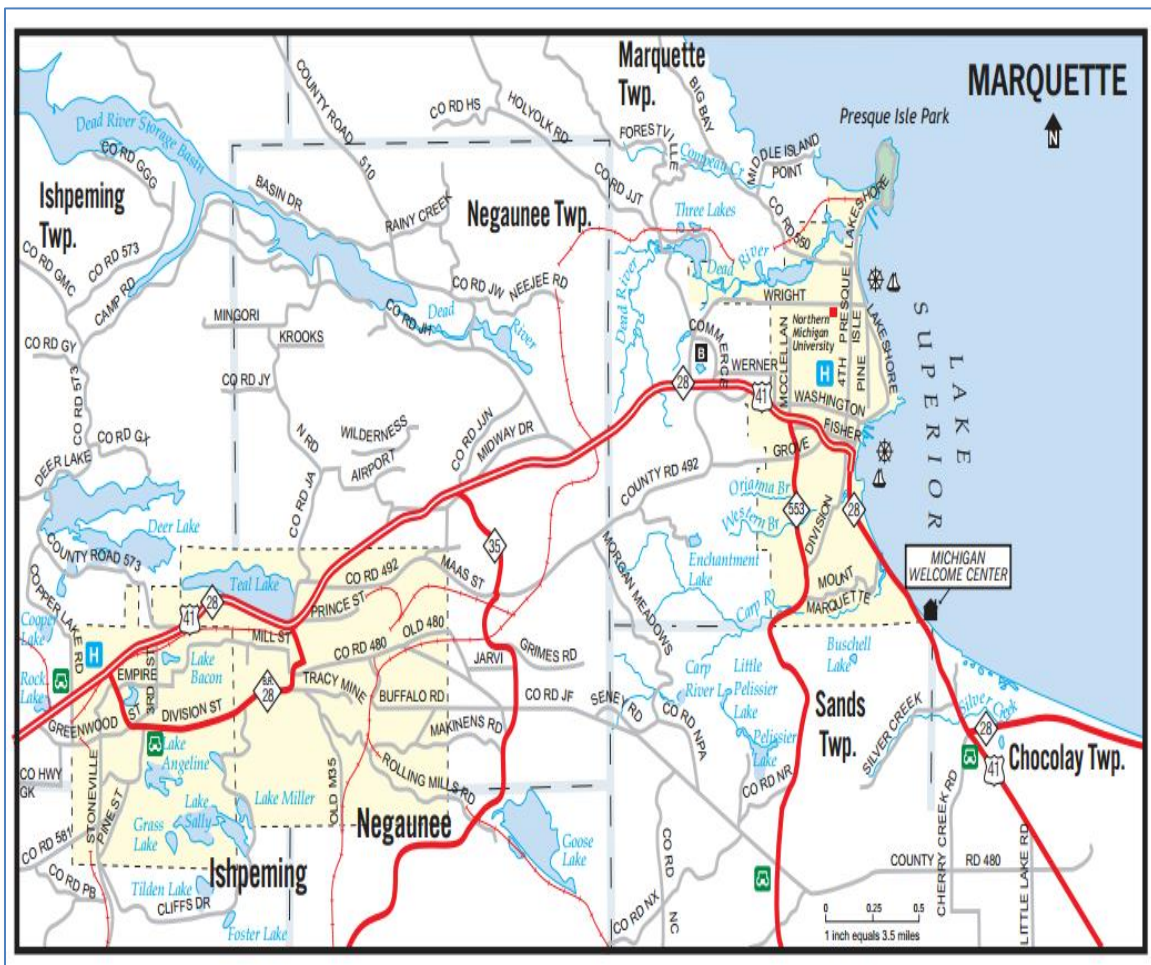
Voce Creek



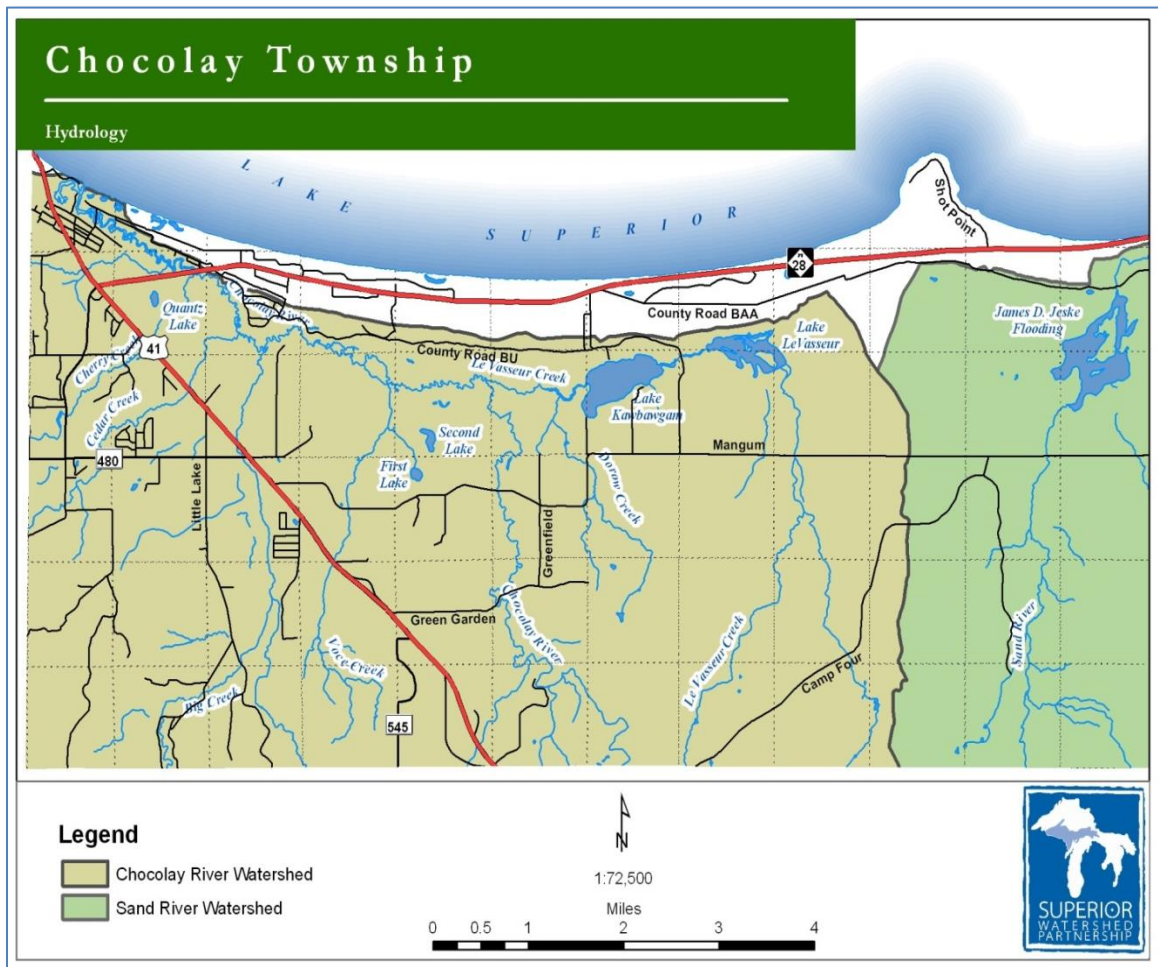
Wick Site



MDOT Map of Area



Lakes, Reservoirs, and Waterways Map



Current trails motorized / non-motorized

Iron Ore Heritage Trail

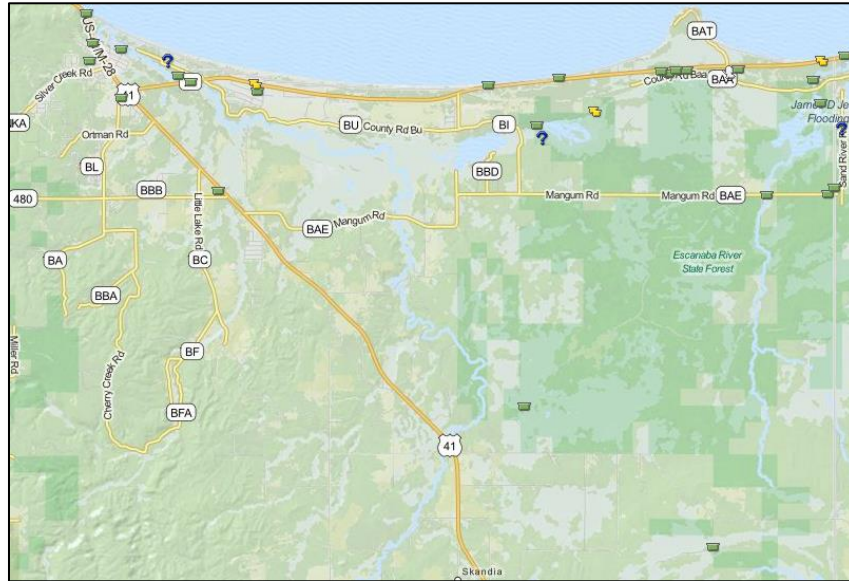
There are two trailheads for this trail in the Township, Trailhead # 10 and Trailhead #11. Information for trailhead #10 can be found at <http://ironoreheritage.com/trailhead-10/>, and information for trailhead # 11 can be found at <http://ironoreheritage.com/trailhead-11/>.

Marquette Multi-Use Path

This trail is used during the spring, summer, and fall months as a hiking and biking trail. It serves as a snowmobile trail during the winter season. Information on this trail can be found at <http://www.trailink.com/trail/marquette-multi-use-path.aspx>.

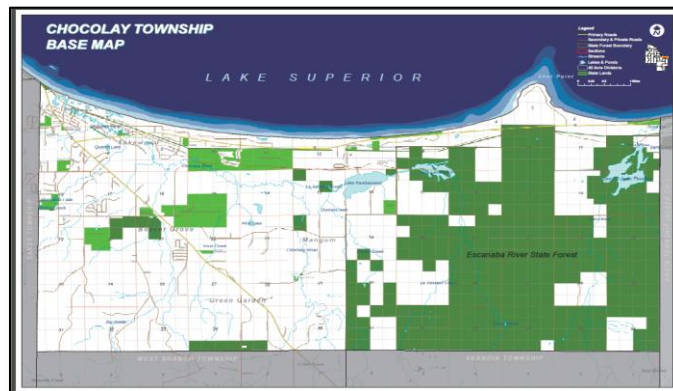
Geocache Locations

Figure 16 Chocolay Township Geocache Locations²³



Recreation Locations

Additional recreation locations in the Township can be found on the following map.



A larger version of the map is available at www.chocolay.org/documents/recreationmap.pdf.

²³ Map found at www.geocaching.com

APPENDIX B RECREATION LOCATIONS

Chocolay Township

Beaver Grove Agriculture Area

Parcel	52-02-116-020-10
Address	151 CR 480
Location	West of the intersection of US 41 South and CR 480
Map Coordinate	T.47N, R.24W, Section 16
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 634 ft. N 46°27.791' W087°19.391'
Access	Heading south on US 41 South, turn right on CR 480. Turn right into parking area approximately 350 yards past the Beaver Grove Recreation park sign.
Parking	Parking area is not marked and will hold two vehicles
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Not ADA accessible■ Restroom available (pit toilet) in the Beaver Grove Recreation Area

Beaver Grove Recreation Area

Parcel	52-02-116-011-10
Address	6350 US 41 South
Location	Intersection of US 41 South and CR 480
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 16
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 621 ft. N 46°27.909' W087°19.226'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Heading south on US 41 South, turn right at Beaver Grove Recreation Area sign2. Heading south on US 41 South, turn right on CR 480. Turn right at Beaver Grove Recreation Area sign approximately 300 yards from turn onto CR 480.
Parking	Two parking areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. West side parking (nearest to US 41 South) is primarily for access to the soccer field, basketball court, walking trail, and the pavilion.2. East side parking (off of CR 480) is primarily for access to the ball field
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ADA accessible■ Fishing access to Big Creek■ Restroom available (pit toilet)

Brower Recreation Area

Parcel	52-02-018-037-00
Address	430 Kawbawgam Road
Location	Corner of Kawbawgam and Mangum roads
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 18
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 656 ft. N 46°27.51' W087°13.19'
Access	From either Mangum Road from US 41 or Kawbawgam Road from M-28
Parking	None
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hiking / nature trails (under development) ■ No motorized vehicles permitted on the property ■ No restroom facilities available ■ Not ADA accessible

Green Bay Street Park

Parcel	52-02-204-006-50
Address	Lakewood Lane
Location	At the intersection of Green Bay Street and Lakewood Lane
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 623 ft. N 46°29.854' W087°21.018'
Access	Heading west on Green Bay Street, cross the bridge. Access on the left via the stairway going down to the river near the DNR snowmobile trail
Parking	Identified parking is not available at this time
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not ADA accessible ■ No restroom facilities available

Green Garden

Parcel	52-02-125-016-00 and 52-02-125-017-00
Address	Green Garden Road
Location	On Green Garden Road off of US 41 S
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 25
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 640 ft. N 46°26.569' W087°15.703'
Access	Road crossing
Parking	Lot on south side of the road
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No restroom facilities available ■ River is not ADA accessible ■ Site is split – part of the site is located on the north side of Green Garden Road, and part is located on the south side of Green Garden Road. Only the south side has vehicle access available. Both parts have access to the Chocoyay River.

Kawbawgam Pocket Park

Parcel	52-02-007-049-00
Address	131 Kawbawgam Road
Location	On Kawbawgam road, near the intersection of Kawbawgam Road and M-28 – distance is approximately ¼ mile from M-28 on the left side of the road when heading south.
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 634 ft. N 46°29.449' W087°21.286'
Access	Access is from Kawbawgam Road.
Parking	Parking area is directly in front of the park.
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Access to North Country Trail, but not clearly marked ■ ADA accessible ■ Restroom available (pit toilet) ■ Small part of property is directly across from park entrance on Kawbawgam Road

Lion's Field

Parcel	52-02-109-070-00
Address	1410 M-28 E
Location	On M-28, approximately 2.1 miles from the intersection of US 41 and M-28
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 9
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 630 ft. N 46°29.263' W087°18.336'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From M-28, turn right at the Lion's Field sign 2. From Industrial Drive, turn right into the parking lot approximately 30 yards after turning off of M-28
Parking	Located north of the ball field
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible ■ Future trailhead to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail ■ Restroom available (pit toilet now, future with running water)

Silver Creek Recreation Area

Parcel	52-02-106-038-00, 52-02-106-039-00, 52-02-059-00, and 52-02-107-034-00
Address	Silver Creek Road
Location	Silver Creek Road, next to Silver Creek Church
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 656 ft. N 46°29.540' W087°21.594'
Access	Heading west on Silver Creek Road, turn right at park sign
Parking	Two parking areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Front parking (nearest to entrance) is primarily for access to the ball field, tennis courts, and basketball net 2. Rear parking is primarily for access to the soccer field, playground, and disc golf

Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 18 hole disc golf course ■ ADA accessible in the lower portions of the park; upper portions of the park (disc golf, benches, etc.) are limited ADA access ■ Restroom with running water and changing area available
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Township Municipal Complex

Parcel	52-02-107-010-00
Address	5010 US 41 South
Location	1/4 mile north of the intersection of US 41 and M-28
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 693 ft. N 46°29.438' W087°21.293'
Access	Travel north on US 41, turn left on Silver Creek Road. Turn left into first driveway on the left
Parking	Parking for 51 vehicles
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible ■ Meeting room ■ Restroom with running water available

Township Marina

Parcel	52-02-203-010-00
Address	137 West Main Street
Location	In Harvey, off of Main Street
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 631 ft. N 46°29.775' W087°21.116'
Access	Travel south on Main Street, turn left at marina sign
Parking	Parking for both vehicles and boat trailers
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible, except for restroom ■ Boat launch ■ Fishing pier ■ Kayak locker ■ Parking for five vehicles with trailers ■ Primitive camping pads ■ Restroom available (pit toilet)

Voce Creek Recreation Area

Parcel	52-02-122-025-20
Address	6603 US 41 South
Location	On US 41, south of the Beaver Grove Recreation Area
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 22
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 672 ft. N 46°27.132' W087°18.098'

Access	Travel south on US 41; site is on the east
Parking	Limited to the shoulder of US 41
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hiking trails only ■ No restroom facilities available ■ No motorized vehicles permitted ■ Not ADA accessible

Wick Site

Parcel	52-02-113-004-00
Address	West Gordon Road
Location	West of Lake Kawbawgam
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 13
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 620 ft. N 46°28.26' W087°14.036'
Access	Via canoe or kayak on LeVasseur Creek
Parking	None
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No motorized vehicles permitted ■ Not ADA accessible ■ Property is landlocked – no drive-in access

Cooperative Facilities

Community Garden – Harvey Baptist Church

Property Owner	Harvey Baptist Church
Parcel	52-02-107-030-00
Address	224 Silver Creek Road
Location	On Silver Creek Road about 1/4 mile from the intersection of US 41 South and Silver Creek Road
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 651 ft. N 46°29.466' W087°21.488'
Access	Turn left on Bureaucrats from Silver Creek Road; garden is located behind the church parking lot
Parking	Parking lot behind the church
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible ■ No restroom facilities available

Community Garden – St. Louis the King Catholic Church (proposed)

Property Owner	St. Louis the King Catholic Church
Parcel	52-02-107-041-00, 52-02-107-042-00, 52-02-107-043-00, and 52-02-107-045-00
Address	264 Silver Creek Road
Location	On Silver Creek Road about 3/8 mile from the intersection of US 41 South and Silver Creek Road

Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 638 ft. N 46°29.442' W087°21.635'
Access	Turn left into parking lot from Silver Creek Road; garden will be located behind the parking lot
Parking	Parking lot next to the church
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible ■ No restroom facilities available

Kawbawgam Cross-Country Ski Trail

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-008-020-00
Address	355 Kawbawgam Road
Location	On Kawbawgam Road, at turnoff to Kawbawgam Ski Area and Lake LeVasseur access
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 8
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 588 ft. N 46°28.783' W087°13.278'
Access	Dirt / gravel road off of Kawbawgam Road – distance is approximately 1/4 mile from turn
Parking	Parking is at the entrance to the ski area, located on the left side of the dirt / gravel road.
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Access to North Country Trail, but not marked ■ ADA accessible ■ No restroom facilities available ■ Parking for five vehicles ■ Ski trail map is posted

Other Public Facilities

Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-118-022-00, 52-02-118-030-00, 52-02-118-033-00, and 52-02-118-039-05
Address	488 Cherry Creek Road
Location	On Cherry Creek Road about 1 mile from the intersection of US 41 South and Cherry Creek Road
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 18
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 657 ft. N 46°28.118' W087°21.455'
Access	Turn right at the fish hatchery sign into the fish hatchery driveway
Parking	Visitor parking is to the right
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible ■ No fishing equipment or boats permitted inside the hatchery gate

Cherry Creek Elementary School

Property Owner	Marquette Area Public Schools
Parcel	52-02-107-116-00
Address	1111 Ortman Road
Location	On Ortman Road about 100 yards from the intersection of Cherry Creek Road and Ortman Road
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 652 ft. N 46°28.683' W087°21.293'
Access	First driveway on left on Ortman Road after turn from Cherry Creek Road
Parking	Parking is at the rear of the school
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible ■ Gym is available on a rental basis ■ No motorized vehicles permitted on recreation areas ■ School soccer field (behind the school) ■ School playground (behind the school)

DNR Chocolay River Access – M28 E

Property Owner	Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-108-003-00, 52-02-108-003-10 and 52-02-108-006-50
Address	M-28
Location	On M-28, approximately ¼ mile from M-28 and US 41 intersection
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 8
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 661 ft. N 46°29.282' W087°21.038'
Access	Concrete driveway into the parking lot
Parking	Parking is at the end of the entrance driveway
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible ■ ADA-accessible fishing pier ■ Trail access to the Chocolay River ■ Shore fishing ■ Pit toilet

DNR Chocolay River Access – Mangum Road

Property Owner	State of Michigan
Parcel	52-02-124-010-00
Address	Mangum Road
Location	On Mangum Road, 2.5 miles from the US 41 South
Map Coordinate	T.47N, R.24W, Section 24
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 661 ft. N 46°27.525' W087°15.686'
Access	Dirt driveway from Mangum Road

Parking	Dirt parking area
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not ADA accessible ■ Trail along the river

James Jeske Flooding – Dam

Property Owner	Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-012-023-50
Address	Sand River Road
Location	Off of Sand River Road
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 12
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 492 ft. N 46°29.243' W087°07.523'
Access	Railroad Lane off of Sand River Road – distance is .7 miles from to the bridge
Parking	Parking is not available at this site
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Fishing only from the bridge ■ No parking available ■ North Country Trail access (trail crossing) west of the bridge ■ Not ADA accessible ■ Photography opportunity only

James Jeske Flooding – Launch

Property Owner	Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-012-032-10
Address	891 Sand River Road
Location	Off of Sand River Road
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 12
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 549 ft. N 46°29.087' W087°07.375'
Access	Dirt / gravel road off Sand River Road – distance is .3 miles from turn
Parking	Parking is at the end of the dirt two-track road near the launch ramp
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible across grass parking area ■ Concrete launch ramp ■ North Country Trail access (east and west) ■ Parking for four vehicles with trailers

Kawbawgam Lake Canoe / Kayak Access (proposed)

Property Owner	Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-018-002-20
Address	Kawbawgam Road
Location	On Kawbawgam Road, south of turnoff to Kawbawgam Ski Area and Lake LeVasseur access
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 18
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 620 ft. N 46°28.39'

	W087°13.17'
Access	Facing south (Kawbawgam Lake is to the west or to the right) – access is near the bridge on Kawbawgam Road
Parking	Parking is on the shoulder of the road.
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Canoe / kayak access only ■ No restroom facilities available

Lake LeVasseur

Property Owner	Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-017-001-00 and 52-02-017-002-00
Address	Kawbawgam Road
Location	From Kawbawgam Road at turnoff to Kawbawgam Ski Area and Lake LeVasseur access
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 17
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 651 ft. N 46°28.752' W087°12.937'
Access	Dirt / gravel road off of Kawbawgam Road – distance is approximately 3/4 mile from turn
Parking	Parking is at the entrance to the lake area, located on the right side of the dirt / gravel road.
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible to ramp but limited to other portions of the area ■ Concrete launch ramp ■ Dam ■ Duck hunting ■ No restroom facilities ■ Shore fishing

Michigan Department of Transportation Scenic Turnouts

M28 Turnout # 1

Property Owner	State of Michigan Department of Transportation
Parcel	52-02-007-003-00 and 52-02-008-010-00
Address	2111 M-28 E
Location	On M-28 E, approximately 5.6 miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 622 ft. N 46°29.291' W087°13.817'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Driveway entrance at the east side of the property 2. Driveway entrance at the west side of the property
Parking	Large parallel parking area; will accommodate motor homes and vehicles with trailers
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible for parking, grill, restrooms, and picnic tables; no ADA access to the beach ■ Grill ■ Map and directional kiosk ■ Picnic tables ■ Restroom facilities (pit)

- Scenic view

M28 Turnout # 2

Property Owner	State of Michigan Department of Transportation
Parcel	52-02-008-003-00
Address	2263 M-28 E
Location	On M-28 E, approximately 6.6 miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 8
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 590 ft. N 46°29.381' W087°12.585'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Driveway entrance at the east side of the property 2. Driveway entrance at the west side of the property
Parking	Large parallel parking area; will accommodate motor homes and vehicles with trailers
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible for parking; no ADA access to the beach ■ Beach access ■ No restroom facilities available ■ Scenic view

M28 Turnout # 3

Property Owner	State of Michigan Department of Transportation
Parcel	52-02-001-001-00
Address	3053 M-28
Location	On M-28 E, approximately 10.4 miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 1
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 622 ft. N 46°29.606' W087°07.678'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Driveway entrance at the east side of the property 2. Driveway entrance at the west side of the property
Parking	Large parallel parking area; will accommodate motor homes and vehicles with trailers
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible for parking; no ADA access to the beach ■ Beach access ■ No restroom facilities available ■ Scenic view

Northern Michigan University Golf Course

Property Owner	Northern Michigan University
Parcel	52-02-110-096-00, 52-02-111-064-00, 52-02-485-001-00, and 52-02-900-128-00
Address	125 Chocoley Downs Golf Drive
Location	On Chocoley Downs Golf Drive, south of M-28 E
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 10
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 627 ft. N 46°28.876' W087°17.010'

Access	Parking lot entrance at the end of the street
Parking	Parking is at the entrance to the golf course, located on the left side of the street
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 18 hole golf course ■ ADA accessible

Welcome Center

Property Owner	State of Michigan
Parcel	52-02-106-022-10 and 52-02-106-022-20
Address	2201 US 41 South
Location	On US 41 South on the lake side of the highway
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 611 ft. N 46°30.257' W087°21.763'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Driveway entrance at the north side of the property 2. Driveway entrance at the south side of the property
Parking	Two parking areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. North side of the property 2. South side of the property
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Access to beach ■ Access to DNR snowmobile / bike / hiking path ■ ADA accessible except to beach ■ Picnic area with grill ■ Restroom facilities with running water

Private Facilities

Gitche Gumee RV Park

Property Owner	Jeffery and Nancy Glass
Parcel	52-02-007-010-00
Address	2048 M-28
Location	On M-28, 5.6 miles from the intersection of M-28 and US 41 South
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 631 ft. N 46°29.269' W087°13.841'
Access	Driveway entrance across the highway from M-28 Turnout # 1
Parking	For campers and tent campers
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Overnight camping

Homestead Golf Course

Property Owner	Randell and Cathleen Gentz
Parcel	52-02-120-014-00
Address	353 Gentz Road

Location	From intersection of CR 480 and Little Lake, travel south to Gentz Road and turn left. Driveway entrance is on the left at the sign for the golf course
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 20
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 686 ft. N 46°27.36' W087°20.20'
Access	From intersection of CR 480 and Little Lake, travel south to Gentz Road and turn left. Driveway entrance is on the left at the sign for the golf course
Parking	Parking area is near the clubhouse at the top of the hill
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9 hole golf course ■ ADA accessible

Lakenenland

Property Owner	Thomas Lakenen, LLC
Parcel	52-02-011-005-00
Address	2800 M-28 E
Location	On M-28, 9.3 miles from the intersection of M-28 and US 41 South
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 11
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 617 ft. N 46°29.538' W087°09.123'
Access	Driveway entrance on south side of M-28 at park sign
Parking	Parking areas throughout the property
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA accessible ■ Concert shell ■ Metal art sculptures

Geocache Coordinates

The coordinates for geocache locations in Chocolay Township can be found at www.geocaching.com/map/default.aspx?lat=46.582967&lng=-87.380033#!l=46.45678,-87.22115&z=12.

Lakes, Reservoirs, and Waterways

Lakes and Reservoirs

Named lakes and reservoirs located in Chocolay Township include:

Name	Ownership	Type	Acres	Coordinates
First Lake	private	lake	4	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec. 23
James D Jeske Flooding	DNR	reservoir	unknown	T.47 N, R. 23 W, Sec. 12, 13, 14
Lake Kawbawgam (aka) Kawbawgam Lake	private	lake	180	T.47 N, R. 23, 24 W, Sec. 13, 18
Lake LeVasseur	DNR	reservoir	150	T.47 N, R. 23 W, Sec. 8, 9, 16, 17
Second Lake	private	lake	4	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec. 14

Waterways

Named rivers and creeks include²⁴:

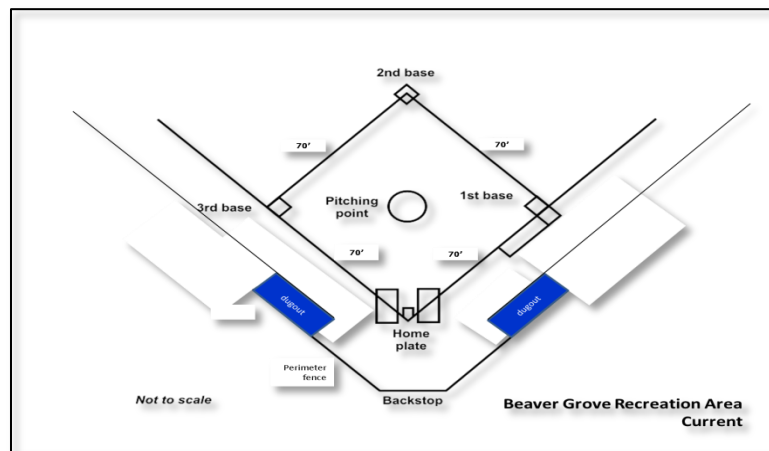
Name	Public Access	Length (in miles)	Townships	Coordinates
Big Creek	Yes	14.1	Chocolay, Sands, West Branch	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 9
Cedar Creek	No	7.4	Chocolay, Sands	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 9
Cherry Creek	Yes	6	Chocolay, Sands	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 5
Chocolay River	Yes	19.4	Chocolay, Skandia, West Branch	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 6
Dorow Creek	Yes	2.6	Chocolay	T.47 N, R. 23 W, Sec 13
Foster Creek	No	7.8	Chocolay, West Branch	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 25
LeVasseur Creek (east of Lake LeVasseur)	Yes	5.5	Chocolay, Skandia	T.47 N, R. 23 W, Sec 17
LeVasseur Creek (west of Lake Kawbawgam)	Yes	10.5	Chocolay, Skandia	T.47 N, R. 23 W, Sec 17
O'Neil Creek	No	2	Chocolay, West Branch	T.47 N, R. 23 W, Sec 36
Sand River	Yes	9.2	Chocolay, Onota	T.47 N, R. 22 W, Sec 5
Silver Creek	No	6.9	Chocolay, Sands	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 5
Voce Creek	Yes	3.4	Chocolay	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 15

²⁴ Locations and length extracted from the *Chocolay River Watershed Plan*, page 34, found at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/nps-chocolay-plan_315271_7.pdf. The Sand River length was extracted from <http://viewer.nationalmap.gov/viewer/>.

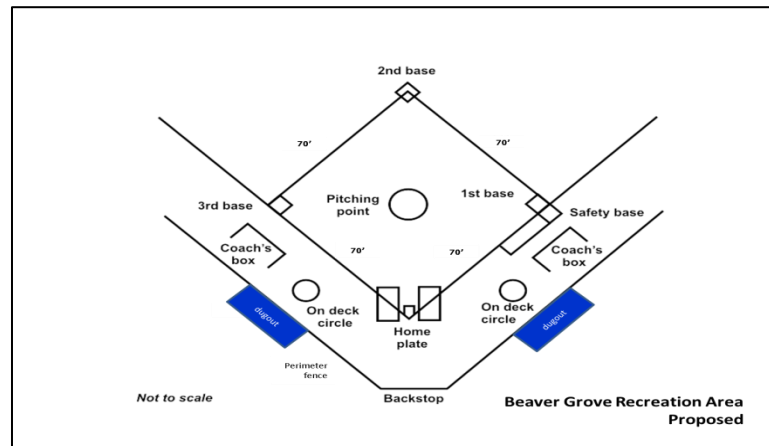
APPENDIX C SITE INFORMATION

Beaver Grove Recreation Area Ball Field

Current Layout



Proposed Layout



Proposal for this site includes:

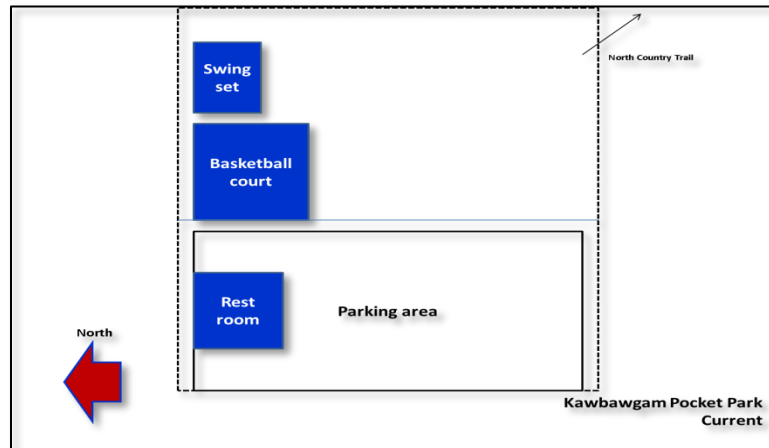
- Moving the dugouts outside the fence line
- Extending the baseline fences from the backstop directly to the outfield fence
- Establishing an eight foot fence height from the backstop to the first and third base locations to limit overthrows from going outside the field of play

Brower Recreation Area Assessment

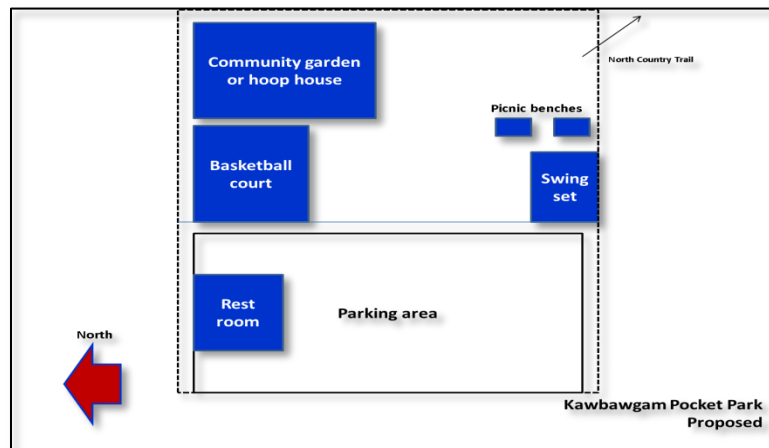
The original assessment document, which includes the intended direction for the area, can be found at www.chocolay.org/documents/browerrecreationarea.pdf.

Kawbawgam Pocket Park

Current Layout



Proposed Layout

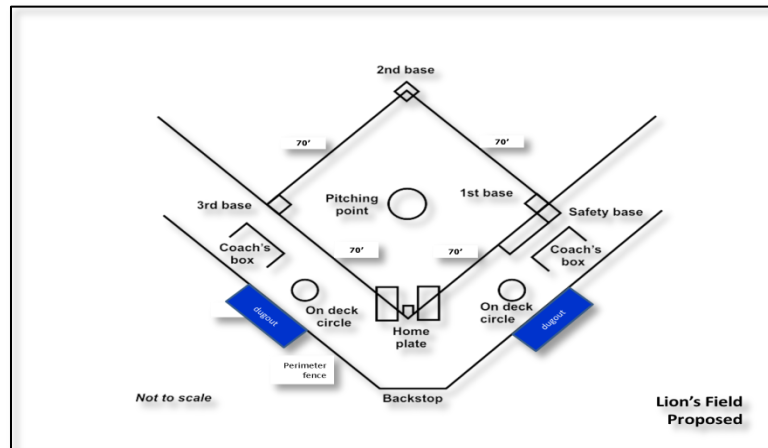


Proposal for this site includes:

- Moving the swing set
- Adding two picnic benches
- Building a community garden or hoop house in the former swing set location

Lion's Field Ball Field

Proposed Layout

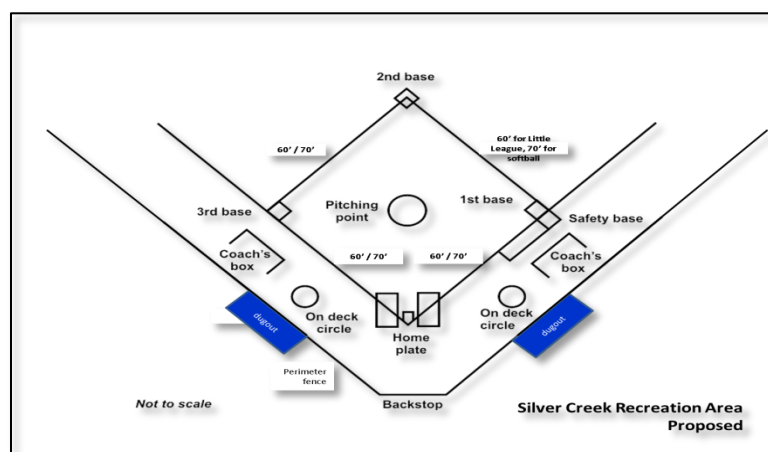


Proposal for this site includes:

- Covering the dugouts
- Extending the backstop fence to prevent foul balls from exiting the field
- Establishing an eight foot fence height from the backstop to the first and third base locations to limit overthrows from going outside the field of play

Silver Creek Recreation Area Ball Field

Proposed Layout

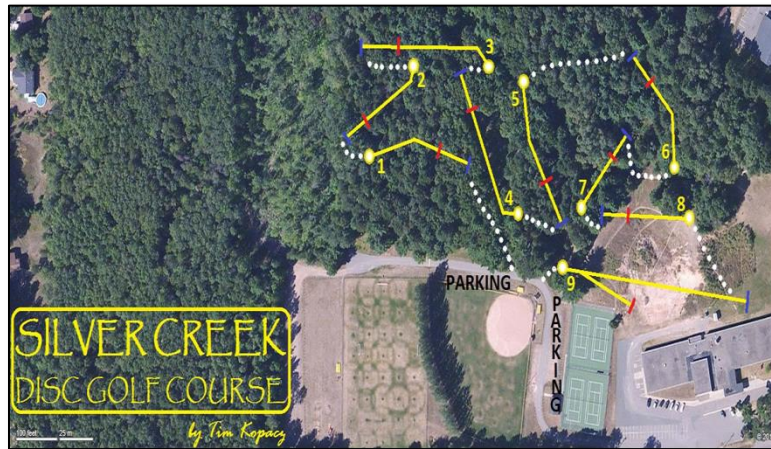


Proposal for this site includes:

- Covering the dugouts
- Extending the backstop fence to prevent foul balls from exiting the field
- Establishing an eight foot fence height from the backstop to the first and third base locations to limit overthrows from going outside the field of play
- "Curving" the outfield fence to meet Little League and ASA specifications

Silver Creek Disc Golf Course

Current Course Layout



Proposed Course Layout



Proposed course will:

- Change the existing nine hole layout to eighteen holes
- Replace the existing home-made baskets with factory-designed baskets
- Add tee pads and signage at each hole

Wick Property Design

Necessary features to establish a water trail from Kawbawgam Road to the Wick property include:

- A put-in location on Kawbawgam Road on DNR property. This would be a small launch site for kayaks and canoes
- Signage to the DNR and Township properties from the launch site
- Signage from the DNR and Township properties to the launch site
- A take-out location at the DNR and Township properties
- Picnic bench with a fire ring near the take-out location on the DNR and Township properties

APPENDIX D RECREATION COORDINATION

Area Recreation Plans

City of Ishpeming

<http://www.cuppad.org/Documents/2009%20Ishpeming%20Recreation%20Plan.pdf>

City of Marquette

<http://mqtcty.org/Departments/Parks/Files/RECREATION%20PLAN%20-%20FINAL%20-%20NOVEMBER%202011.pdf>

County of Marquette

http://www.co.marquette.mi.us/departments/planning/docs/Recreation_Plan.pdf

City of Negaunee

Contained in the city's Master Plan, found at http://ishpemingcity.org/?wpfb_dl=294.

Ishpeming Township

Not found online

Marquette Township

<http://www.marquettetownship.org/pdf.php?file=adoptedrecreationplan112008.pdf>

Negaunee Township

http://www.negauneetownship.org/negauneetownship/community_center_board/uploads/Negaunee_Recreation_Plan.pdf

Onata Township (Alger County)

Not found online

Sands Township

<http://www.cuppad.org/Documents/SandsTownshipRecreationPlan2011-2015.pdf>

Skandia Township

Not found online

Cooperative Projects

The Township interacts with the following government agencies, churches, and recreation authorities for recreation.

Harvey Baptist Church – Community Garden

This community garden was established in cooperation with the Chocolay Community Garden, Boy Scouts, Rotary Club, Harvey Baptist Church, and Township staff. The garden serves the local community near the Village of Harvey.

Iron Ore Heritage Trail

This trail originates at the eastern border of Republic Township, and extends to Kawbawgam Road in the eastern portion of the Township. Township residents passed a millage in 2010 to continue support for the trail through the Township.

Kawbawgam Cross-Country Ski Trail

This cross country ski trail is located on DNR property at the eastern end of the Township. The Township provides winter trail grooming as part of the cooperative effort between the DNR and the Township.

MDOT Funded Multi-Use Paths

These trails travel through the Village of Harvey on both sides of the US 41 right of way, and extend east along the south side of M-28. The trails provide hiking and biking opportunities during the non-winter months, and portions of the trails provide for snowmobile access during the winter months. The trails connect the Township to regional trails.

Recreation Authority (under consideration)

The Township, along with the City of Marquette and Marquette Township, are pursuing the possibility of establishing a regional recreation authority. This authority will be primarily directed at trail development and maintenance, with a potential of adding future recreation facilities under the authority's direction.

St. Louis the King Catholic Church – Community Garden – (proposed)

This community garden will be established in cooperation with the Chocolay Community Garden, Girl Scouts, Rotary Club, St. Louis the King Catholic Church, and Township staff in the spring of 2014. The garden will serve the local community near the Village of Harvey.

Nearby Recreation

Recreation listed below is available in close proximity to Chocolay Township:²⁵

City of Negaunee

- Iron Town Field
City owned baseball field with concessions, restrooms, and storage building

²⁵ Information extracted from the City of Negaunee *Master Plan*, found at http://ishpemingcity.org/?wpfb_dl=294.

- Jackson Park
Five acre, city owned, park with picnic area, 12 picnic tables, playground equipment, 2 tennis courts, and 6 horseshoe courts
- Lacombe Field
Owned by the city, this is a 3.3 acre parcel with an illuminated softball field, restrooms, storage facility, and open field used for football practice and soccer
- Lions Field
City owned baseball field with six illuminated horseshoe courts, playground equipment, restrooms, concessions, and a storage building
- Miner’s Park
Five acre, city owned, park with picnic area, 2 illuminated basketball courts, playground equipment, 2 horseshoe courts, green open area, historical markers, and volleyball courts
- Negaunee Ice Arena
A full-sized, city owned, area with restrooms, lobby, 4 locker rooms, summer volleyball court, and hard surface parking area

City of Marquette

- Lakeview Arena
Recreation and convention facility used for hockey, skating, concerts, shows, exhibits, etc.
- Marquette Mountain
Downhill skiing, lodge, and picnic area
- Mount Marquette Lookout
Lookout view of the City of Marquette and Lake Superior, snowmobile trail, and hiking trail
- Presque Isle Marina
40-acre site with boat launching and docking facilities on Lake Superior
- Presque Isle Park
312-acre park with picnic areas, cross-country ski / snowshoe trail, playground, 2 tennis courts, band shell, fishing, shuffleboard, horseshoe pits, gazebo, break wall with lighthouse
- Superior Dome
World’s largest wooden dome containing football field; also used for trade shows, concerts, etc.

Ishpeming Township

- Ishpeming Township complex
Seven acres with softball diamond, Little League diamond, tennis courts, pavilion, tot Lot, restrooms, concessions, playground, horseshoe court, shuffleboard, volleyball court, basketball court, picnic table, and grills

Marquette Township

- Forestville Dead River Public Access Site
Five acres with boat launch on Dead River

- Little Garlic River Public Access Site
Fishing access site
- NMU Forest (Long year Forest)
180-acres with nature trail and physical fitness trail
- Sugar Loaf Mountain Area
80-acre site with nature trail and scenic overlook

Negaunee Township

- Hoist Basin
Access Site: Hard-surface launch ramp, toilets, and parking area
- McClure Storage Basin
Access Site: Hard-surface launch ramp, toilets, and parking area
- Michigan Iron Industry Museum
30-acres with exhibits of early iron ore mining artifacts, audio-visual programs, and outdoor interpretive paths
- Negaunee Township Park
71-acres with basketball court, pavilion, warming building, concessions, playground area, Little League field, Babe Ruth Baseball Field, softball field, tennis court, cross-country ski trail, picnic tables, snowmobile trail access

Sands Township

- Blueberry Ridge Pathway: Trail system
Cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and hiking
- Marquette County Fairgrounds
60 acre site with exhibition building, American Legion building, 4 H Building, 2 cattle show rings, horse barn, poultry and small animal building, large livestock building, office building, barrier-free restroom/utility building, 2 storage structures, power outlets, 2 wells, large lighted parking area, outside speaker system, ½ mile oval race track, mud drag strip, paved go-cart track, large carnival area, outside horse stall, 2 outdoor pavilions, and portable bleachers.

APPENDIX E RISK MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Evaluated Recreation Areas

Beaver Grove Recreation Area

Recommendation	Replace/retrofit the bleachers that do not comply with current industry standards.
Response	Purchase of side and top rails for two of existing bleachers will be pursued in the 2014 budget. Staff will attempt to modify the existing bleachers during the winter to allow rails to be attached.
Cost	The estimated cost of materials per set of bleachers is \$1,000.00.
Recommendation	The ball fields should have breakaway bases installed to reduce the potential for injuries to players. The surface of ball diamonds should be free of stones and rocks that could cause an injury.
Response	Past attempts to utilize breakaway bases led to repeated theft of the bases. Staff has recessed the current bases into the ground surface to reduce the injury potential. Maintenance personnel routinely clear stones and other debris from the fields while performing other field maintenance.
Cost	No additional cost at this time.
Recommendation	Remove the fireman's pole from the metal climber. The surface material at the metal climber should be increased.
Response	Appropriately sized fall zones will be created around each piece of playground equipment by removing sod, replacing with loose sand, and instituting a maintenance program to keep the sand tilled each season.
Cost	Maintenance staff and equipment time.
Recommendation	Temporarily increase the height of the chain-link fence with nylon nets to reduce the potential for injuries.
Response	This work will be completed as part of routine maintenance.
Cost	Staff time and approximately \$1,000.00 for materials.
Recommendation	The soccer goals must be properly anchored at all times. Include language to this effect in the lease agreement between the Township and the soccer club.
Response	The club will be notified in writing this season and the agreement language will be modified before next season.
Cost	Staff time only.
Recommendation	Provide a hot-coal containment can near the grills.
Response	Staff feels that despite labeling, park users would mix garbage or other trash the hot coals in the can creating a greater fire hazard. The stoves presently receive very little use and have not created a problem with improper disposal of hot embers to date. If misuse occurs in the future, other measures will be implemented.
Cost	No change proposed at this time.

Appendix E

Recommendation Remove trees and debris from the trail system so that it does not impede users of the trail. Trim overgrowth above the trail to a clearance of at least nine feet.

Response Trimming will be done as a part of routine maintenance this season and in the future.

Cost Staff and equipment time.

Recommendation Develop a rental/use policy for Township-owned property.

Response Rental terms are presently spelled out in the Township's rental agreement. Staff will develop a policy for recommendation to the Board and modify the rental agreement to incorporate changes recommended by MMRMA.

Cost Staff time only.

Kawbawgam Pocket Park

Recommendation Remove the metal cable used as chain swing and replace it with playground equipment manufacturer-made chain.

Response Appropriate chain will be used to replace the steel cable.

Cost Maintenance staff time and \$300.00 for chain for four swings.

Recommendation The swing set should only have one swing per bay.

Response This park presently has one swing set with four swings mounted in two bays. There is little other play equipment in the park. As new equipment is installed at this facility to accommodate additional swings, half of the swings will be removed from the present structure.

Cost Future budget request for \$5,000.00 for a new swing set.

Recommendation The surface material near the swing set should be increased.

Response Appropriately sized fall zones will be created around each piece of playground equipment by removing sod, replacing with loose sand, and instituting a maintenance program to keep the sand tilled several times per season.

Cost Maintenance staff and equipment time.

Recommendation Inspect the swings and replace worn components.

Response This annual maintenance is in progress.

Cost Staff time and approximately \$300.00 for materials.

Recommendation Remove trees within the fall zone of the swing set.

Response This work will be completed this season.

Cost Staff time.

Lion's Field

Recommendation Install at least an 8-foot high cyclone fence alongside the first and third baselines to help protect spectators on the bleachers from foul balls and overthrows. Add a projecting overhang to the backstop. Post a sign warning spectators to watch for flying objects.

Response Signs will be posted. Fencing improvements will be included in future budgets, if possible.

Cost The estimated cost of the recommended fence improvements is \$5,000.00. Signs can be posted for \$200.00.

Recommendation Trim the trees near the basketball court and replace the chain-link nets with nylon nets to reduce the potential for injuries.

Response This work will be completed as part of routine maintenance.

Cost Staff time and approximately \$100.00 for materials.

Recommendation Ice rink dasher boards need to be repaired or replaced due to deteriorated wood, holes with jagged edges, and loose nails and screws. Post the area closed until repairs have been completed.

Response Township staff is presently trying to locate a source for used replacement dasher boards and repair materials. The site will be kept closed until repairs have been made.

Cost The cost of new replacement materials is estimated to be \$30,000.00 making the project beyond the capabilities of the Township alone at the present time. Present boards will be repaired to the extent possible while funding partners are sought for an upgrade to the facility. The Township would also like to pave the area under the boards for longer board life and year-round use.

Note Paving was completed in 2013. Dasher boards were built by Township staff and installed in the summer of 2013.

Silver Creek Recreation Area

Recommendation The swing set should only have one swing per bay.

Response This park presently has one swing set with six swings mounted in three bays. As new equipment is installed at this facility to accommodate additional swings, half of the swings will be removed from the present structure. Immediately reducing the park to three swings may fail to meet the needs of park users, particularly when the children or siblings of athletes use the playground during family attendance at baseball or soccer events.

Cost Future budget request for \$5,000.00.

Recommendation Swing chain hinge connections on the swing set are turned sideways and need to be reset and tightened. The bolt head must be at the top and the bolt nut on the bottom of the hinge.

Response Staff will remount and tighten all hinge connections to comply.

Cost Maintenance staff time and \$20.00 for miscellaneous hardware.

Recommendation Replace the tot bucket seats. They are worn and sharp edges are beginning to appear.

Response The swing with the damaged seat has been removed until a replacement is available. Other worn seats will be replaced as conditions warrant.

Cost Maintenance staff time and \$300.00 per swing seat.

Recommendation Remove the metal cable used as a chain swing and replace it with playground equipment manufacturer-made chain.

Response Appropriate chain will be used to replace the steel cable.

Cost Maintenance staff time and \$200.00 for chain for one swing.

Recommendation The metal dome climber, rung hand-over-hand equipment, and the stand alone slide should have safety fall zones with shock absorbing material.

Response Appropriately sized fall zones will be created around each piece of playground equipment by removing sod, replacing with loose sand, and instituting a maintenance program to keep the sand tilled several times per season.

Cost Maintenance staff and equipment time. Sand from Township property at Lion's Field can be utilized for this purpose. A small hand tiller, at an estimated cost of \$300.00 will be purchased for maintenance.

Appendix E

Recommendation	Replace / retrofit the bleachers that do not comply with current industry standards.
Response	Purchase of side and top rails for two of existing bleachers will be pursued in the 2014 budget. Staff will attempt to modify the existing bleachers during the winter to allow rails to be attached.
Cost	The estimated cost of materials per set of bleachers is \$1,000.00.
Recommendation	Remove the metal shed from the third base area of the baseball field to eliminate the potential for collision with the shed by a player on the field.
Response	A gate will be installed in the current gap in the fence in front of the shed to provide for a continuous perimeter fence while allowing access into the shed.
Cost	The estimated cost is \$500.00.
Recommendation	Install at least an 8-foot high cyclone fence alongside the first and third baselines to help protect spectators on the bleachers from foul balls and overthrows. Post a sign warning spectators to watch for flying objects.
Response	Signs will be posted. Fencing improvements will be included in future budgets, if possible.
Cost	The estimated cost of the recommended fence improvements is \$5,000.00. Signs can be posted for \$200.00.
Recommendation	Reset nails, remove splinters, and seal the wood in the wood handrail along the pathway leading to the disc golf course.
Response	Since this rail is regularly vandalized, and the path is paved, maintenance staff will remove the rail and posts. It does not appear necessary.
Cost	Staff time and landfill disposal fee of approximately \$50.00.
Recommendation	Repair cracked wood and raised nails on picnic tables.
Response	This is done on an annual basis and is currently in progress.
Cost	Staff time and approximately \$200.00 for lumber, hardware, and stain.
Recommendation	Relocate the basketball hoop that hangs over the tennis court/mixed-use area.
Response	The support post is in line with the tennis court fence posts, not presenting an undue hazard. Township staff is unaware of any conflicts occurring over use of the space and feels it makes efficient use of the park land until alternate basketball facilities can be located and constructed at the site.
Cost	No change proposed at this time.
Recommendation	Remove loose metal pieces that protrude from the tennis nets. Install caps on the support posts for the tennis nets.
Response	Nets will be cleaned and caps installed.
Cost	Staff time and approximately \$25.00 for post caps.
Recommendation	Remove overgrowth along the tennis court fence.
Response	This work has already been completed.
Cost	Minimal staff time.

Township Marina

Recommendation	Install a bottom rail on the boardwalk railing system that leads to the fishing pier to prevent toddlers from falling through.
Response	This work will be scheduled as future maintenance at the site.
Cost	Staff time and approximately \$1,000.00 for lumber and hardware.
Recommendation	Modify the railing on the fishing pier to run the full perimeter at a uniform height and design.
Response	The gate in the rail has been eliminated, but raising the front rail to four feet will prevent anglers from landing their catch without climbing outside the platform or rail. This is more likely to result in injuries and the rail will be repaired and maintained at its design height of three feet.
Cost	Staff time and approximately \$50.00 for lumber and hardware.

APPENDIX F SUMMARY OF SURVEY QUESTIONS

2013 Master Plan Survey

This survey was conducted from August 21, 2013 through October 2, 2013, and was designed to get input from Township residents concerning the Township master plan and recreation plan. The survey was conducted via the Chocolay Township web site, and Township residents were notified about the survey through a mass mailing to all Township residents. Those that did not have access to the online survey, or those that chose not to complete the survey online, had the ability to complete a paper copy of the survey and return it to the Township office.

Complete survey results and comments can be viewed at www.chocolay.org/surveys/surveys.php.

The questions below were related to recreation in the survey.

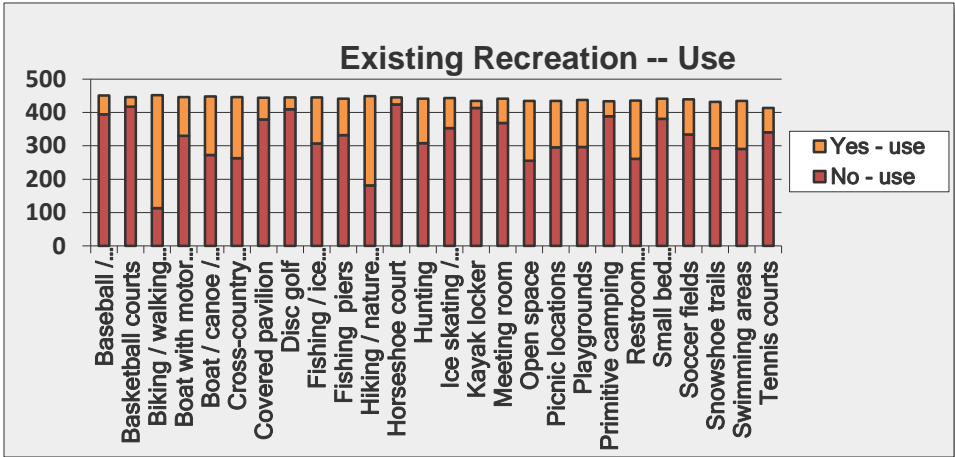
Question 10 – Current Recreation Opportunities

Question Listed below are current recreation opportunities available in the Township. In the first two columns, indicate if your household uses the opportunity by checking either “Yes-use” or “No-use”. In the next three columns, rate your level of satisfaction with the facility on a scale of 1 to 3, with 3 equal to “Very satisfied” and 1 equal to “Not satisfied”. In the last two columns, indicate your support for funding improvements for an opportunity by checking either “Yes-fund” or “No-fund”.

Note Results for use, satisfaction, and funding are calculated separately, not as aggregated across rows in the raw results.

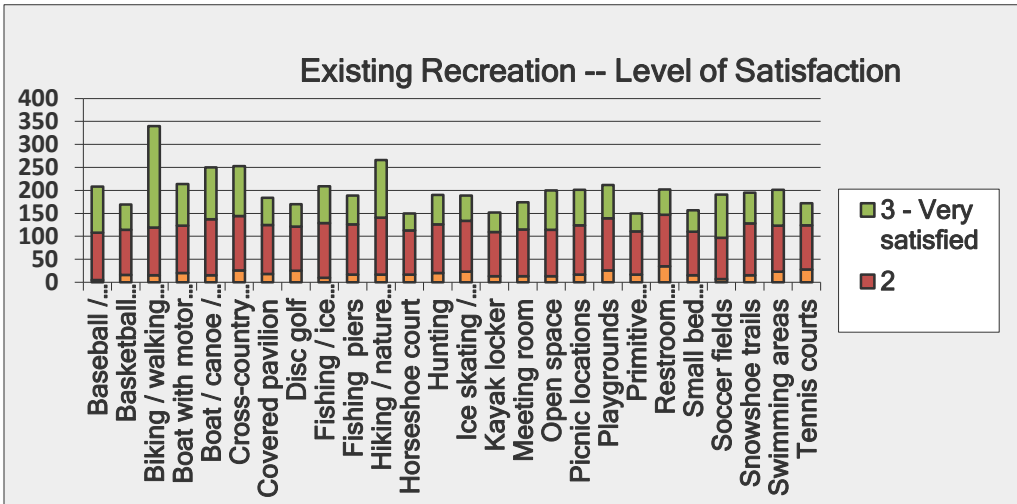
The highest used existing facilities by resident respondents are biking / walking trails (75 percent) and hiking / nature trails (60 percent). Keep in mind this does not include regional users of the sports facilities or younger users who did not respond to the survey. 41 percent use the cross-country ski trails and open space. 40 percent use restrooms and 39 percent use the non-motorized boat launch.

Figure 17 Existing Recreation -- Use



There were no strong indications of lack of satisfaction with existing facilities.

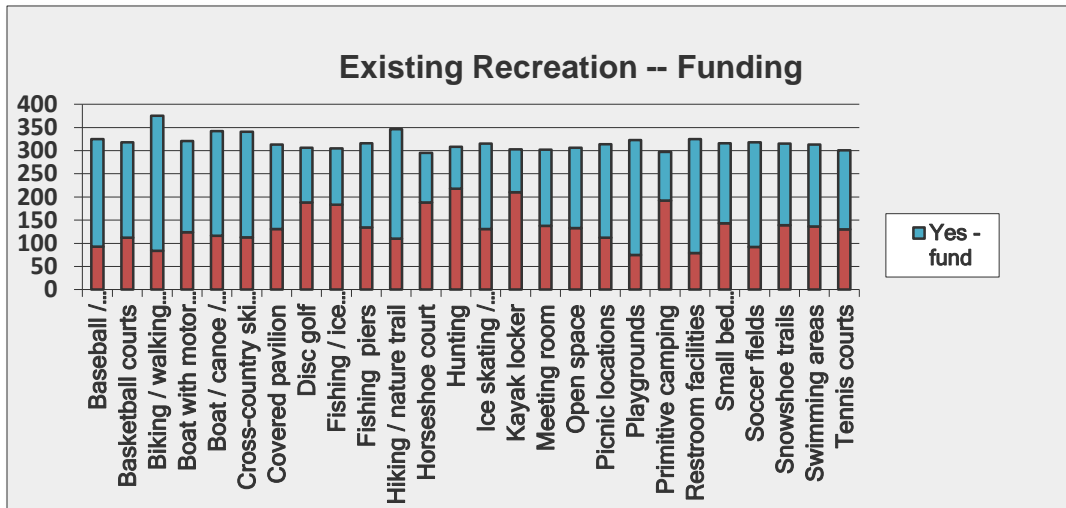
Figure 18 Existing Recreation -- Level of Satisfaction



65 percent were “very satisfied” with biking / walking trails (221 of 340), and 31 percent (104) were moderately satisfied. 47 percent were “very satisfied” with hiking / nature trails (125 of 266) and equally 47 percent (124) were moderately satisfied. 43 percent were “very satisfied” with the cross-country ski trails (109 of 253) and 47 percent (118) were moderately satisfied. 45 percent were “very satisfied” with the non-motorized boat launch (113 of 250) and 49 percent (122) were moderately satisfied.

Funding was supported by a majority of respondents for many existing facilities, including biking/walking trails (78 percent), playgrounds (77 percent), restroom facilities (76 percent), baseball/softball fields (71 percent), soccer fields (71 percent), hiking/nature trails (68 percent), cross-country ski trails (67 percent), non-motorized boat launch (66 percent), basketball courts (65 percent), picnic locations (64 percent), motorized boat launch (61 percent). Other majority-supported items include ice skating/hockey (58 percent), covered pavilion (58 percent), fishing piers (58 percent), open space (57 percent), tennis courts (57 percent), swimming areas (57 percent), snowshoe trails (56 percent), small bed community gardens (55 percent), and meeting room (54 percent).

Figure 19 Existing Recreation -- Funding



The common voice throughout the open comments indicates two general themes. One is that there is a lack of communication from the Township to the citizens about the recreational opportunities in the Township. This message indicates that the Township has the recreation opportunities available, but the residents do not know about those opportunities.

The second general theme indicates that Township respondents are willing to support the current recreation opportunities with funding, but they do not want to see a tax increase for maintenance or improvements on those facilities to accomplish that funding.

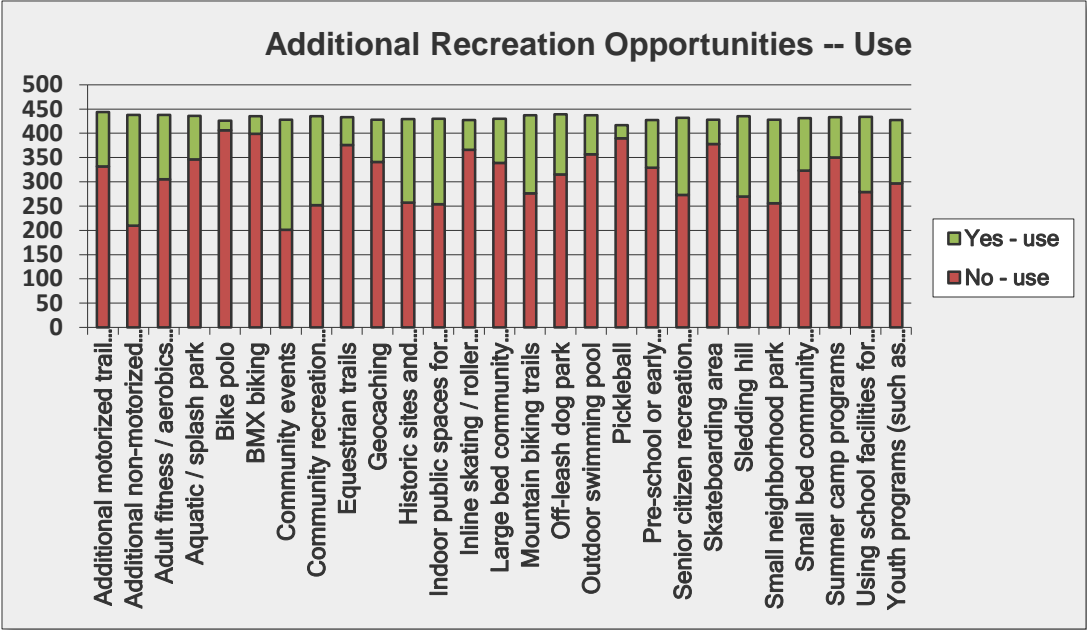
Question 11 – Future Recreation Opportunities

Question Listed below are recreation opportunities currently not available in the Township. Please indicate if you or any member of your household anticipates a use for the recreational opportunities by checking either “Yes-use” or “No-use” in the first two columns. Please indicate your support for funding of the opportunity by checking either “Yes-fund” or “No-fund” in the last two columns.

Note Results for use and funding are calculated separately, not as aggregated across rows in the raw results.

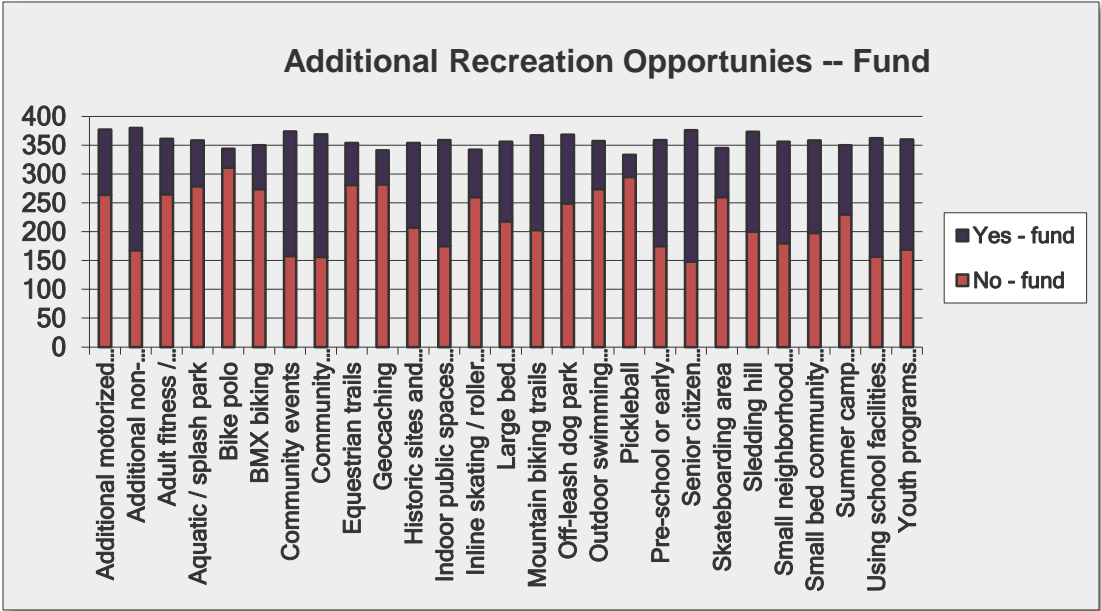
The majority of respondents indicated they would use community events (53 percent) and additional non-motorized trail connections (52 percent). Between 40 and 50 percent said they would use a community recreation center, indoor public spaces for community/private gatherings, small neighborhood parks, and historic sites and museums.

Figure 20 Additional Recreation Opportunities -- Use



A majority supported funding for senior citizen recreation programs (61 percent), community recreation center (58 percent), community events (58 percent), use of school facilities (57 percent), additional non-motorized trail connections (56 percent), youth programs (53 percent), pre-school or early childhood recreation programs (51 percent), and indoor spaces for community/private gatherings (51 percent).

Figure 21 Additional Recreation Opportunities -- Fund



Again, a common theme for additional or new recreational opportunities is the willingness to see the Township fund additional recreation on Township property, but the residents want to accomplish this without increasing taxes. Several respondents suggested fee-based solutions for the

funding of additional activities.

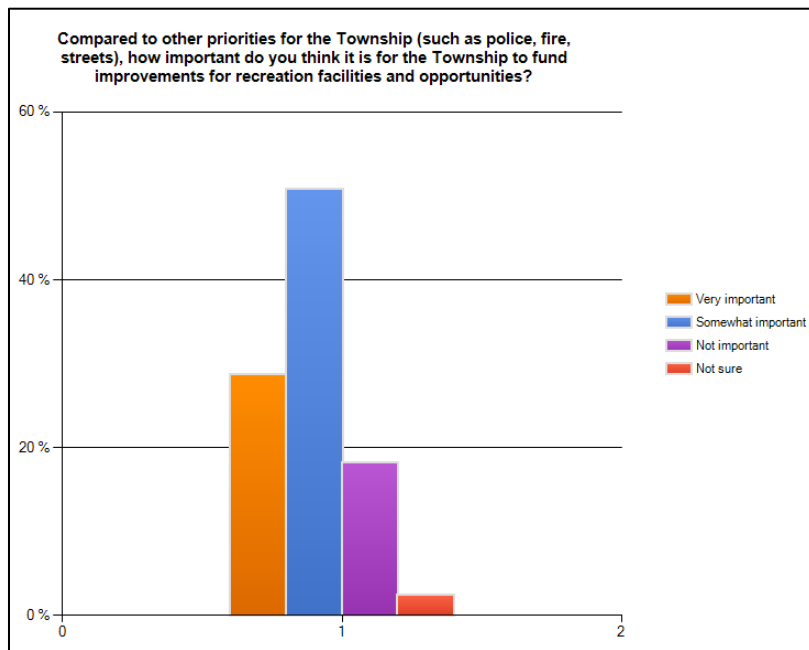
Another strong message was to provide more activities for seniors in a community-based environment (either in a community center or community events). There is thread throughout the comments that indicates more could be accomplished in this area to provide those opportunities. Passive recreation (such as non-motorized trails and community events) was supported as well. Again, a reminder that most survey respondents are in the upper age groups.

Question 12 –Recreation Funding Priority

Question Compared to other priorities for the Township (such as police, fire, streets), how important do you think it is for the Township to fund improvements for recreation facilities and opportunities?

The majority of respondents (50.8 percent) think funding improvements for recreation facilities and opportunities is “somewhat important” in relation to other priorities such as police, fire, and streets. 28.7 percent think it is “very important”, 18.1 percent think it is “not important”. 2.8.7 percent think it is “not sure”.

Figure 22 Recreation Funding Priority Comparison



Question 13 –Additional Comments

Question Please enter your additional comments or concerns regarding recreation in Chocolay Township.

Many of the comments centered on the use of ATVs in the Township. There is a fair amount of support for the ability to ride anywhere in the Township. At the same time there are many who indicate they do not want additional ATV traffic in the Township, as they want to maintain the biking / hiking / non-motorized and “rural atmosphere” opportunities that currently exist.

Question 14 – Importance of Public Improvements and Amenities

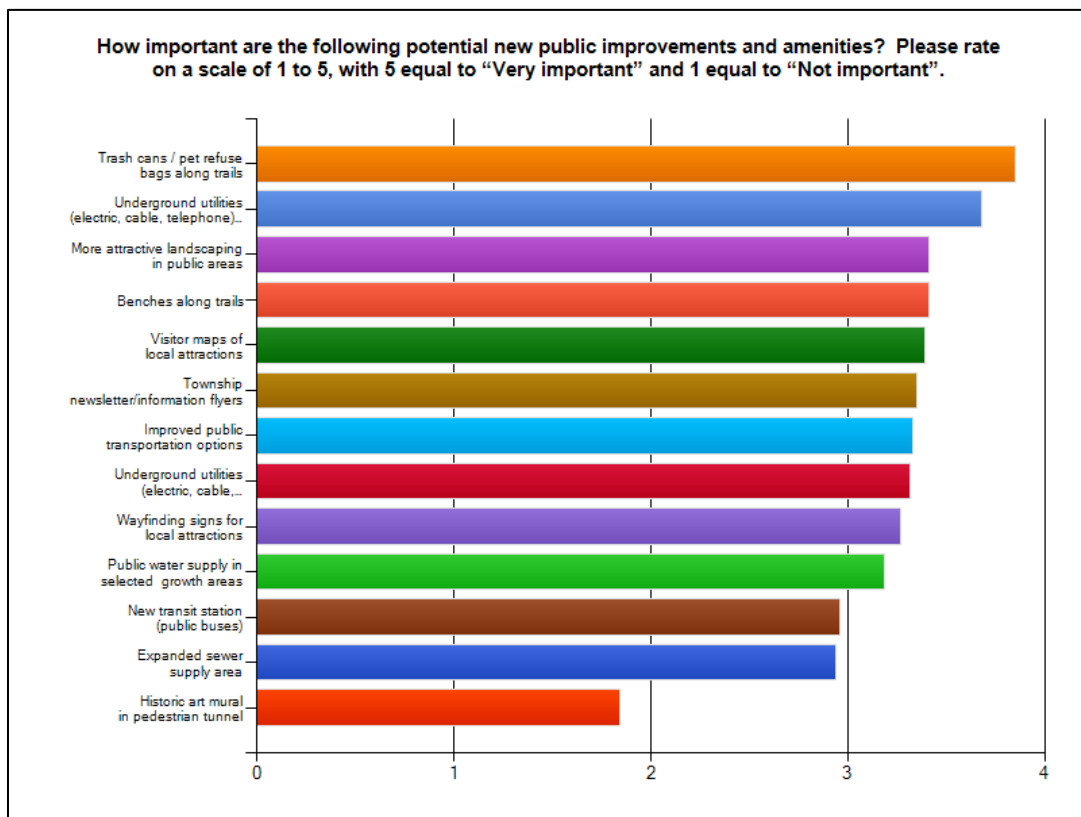
Question How important are the following potential new public improvements and amenities? Please rate on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 equal to “Very important” and 1 equal to “Not important”.

For purposes of scoring the responses, the response categories were given various weights on a rating scale. For example, “5 – Very Supportive” has a weight of “5”, “4” has a weight of “4”, “3” has a weight of “3”, “2” has a weight of “2”, and “1-not supportive” has a weight of “1”. Comparison is based on average points received.

Regulations receiving average support scores between “3” and “4” include the following:

- Trash cans/pet refuse bags along trails (3.85)
- Underground utilities with new development (3.68)
- Benches along trails (3.41)
- More attractive landscaping in public areas (3.41)
- Visitor map of local attractions (3.39)
- Township newsletter/information flyers (3.35)
- Improved public transportation options (3.33)
- Underground utilities along US 41 (3.32)
- Wayfinding signs for local attractions (3.27)
- Public water supply in selected growth area (3.19)

Figure 23 Importance of Public Improvements and Amenities



Many open comments were in support of underground utilities with occasional mention that it should be paid for by the developer. Some want natural gas provision.

Public transportation was mentioned as valuable for senior citizens. There was a suggestion for clear, fully enclosed shelters. ORV travel on paved road shoulders was mentioned.

Funding suggestions include community service (more attractive landscaping), probationers in District Court (benches), special assessments or user fees (water/sewer) and donations.

There was a reminder that not all citizens have internet access and are therefore excluded from information, with a suggestion to use normal media.

Public water supply was requested for areas with poor well water including Kawbawgam Road. It was noted that public water supply is also useful for fire protection.

Question 14 – Importance of Township Issues

Question How important are the following issues facing Chocolay Township in either the near or distant future? Rate on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 equal to “Very important” and 1 equal to “Not important”.

For purposes of scoring the responses, the response categories were given various weights on a rating scale. For example, “5 – Very Supportive” has a weight of “5”, “4” has a weight of “4”, “3” has a weight of “3”, “2” has a weight of “2”, and “1-not supportive” has a weight of “1”. Comparison is based on average points received. All these items received an average support score over “3” except “Lower taxes and decrease services” and “Raise taxes for new/improved facilities or services”.

Regulations receiving average support scores greater than “4” include the following:

- Protect water resources (4.58)
- Maintain curbside recycling services (4.58)
- Preserve public access to water resources (4.43)
- Maintain or improve road conditions (4.39)
- Keep taxes at or near present levels (4.39)
- Maintain existing police and fire services (4.36)
- Locate alternative funding for desired improvements (4.27)
- Protect environmentally sensitive areas (4.22)
- Maintain existing public facilities (4.19)
- Preserve wildlife habitat (4.18)
- Preserve agricultural lands for farming activities (4.15)
- Control nuisance activities (4.07)
- Improve curbside recycling services (4.01)

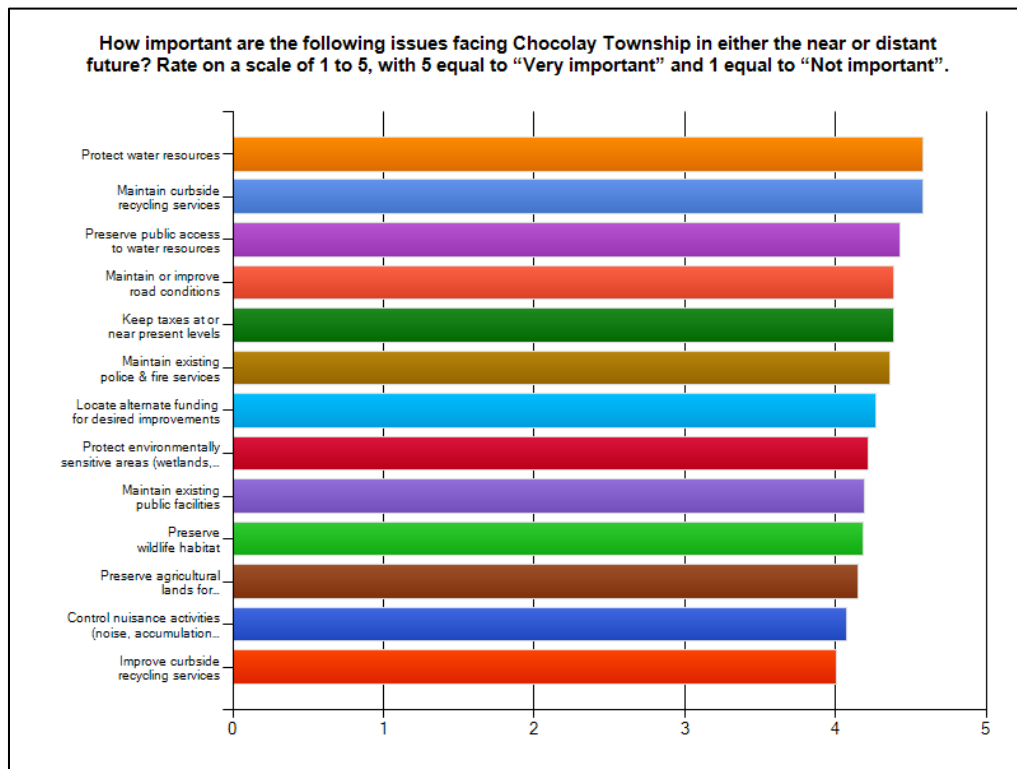
Complaints include burning garbage, loose dogs, taxes, road quality, truck noise, light pollution, and unwise government spending.

Suggestions include automatic electronic notices for people who sign-up for them; funding from grants, community fund raising, private investors; and elimination of the police department.

Desires include ORV routes, senior citizen services, services to attract families, off-leash dog park, rubbish and metal pickup, road resurfacing, beautification of the highway corridor in Harvey, on-site recreation in the mobile home community, and collection of Styrofoam.

It was suggested that people would keep their properties neater if there was an easier way to get rid of excess items.

Figure 24 Importance of Township Issues



Beaver Grove Softball

This online survey was conducted at the field in September of 2013 during a weekend league tournament and online via the Chocolay Township web site through November of 2013.

Complete survey results and comments can be viewed at www.chocolay.org/surveys/surveys.php.

Resident / Non-Resident

44.1 percent resident, 55.9 percent non-resident

Player / Spectator

73.1 percent player, 25.0 percent spectator, 1.9 percent umpire

Field Use

All nights, with primary night being Thursday, and secondary night being Monday

Field Conditions

Field is generally considered in excellent (31.3 percent) or good (53.1 percent) condition

Improvements

Top three are restrooms (68.1 percent), food vendors (42.6 percent) and field (31.9 percent)

Additional Activities

Bleachers

- Improved bleachers with top row back rest; maybe a paved area for handicapped spectators

Dugouts

- Bat racks and lined with concrete

Field

- Bases are in poor condition
- Provide way for umpires / others to drag / line fields for weekend tournaments
- Reduce rocks in the infield

Food Vendors

- Nice to have a concession stand, especially for tournaments

Parking

- Need more parking
- Paved parking area

Playground

- Upgrade the equipment, and provide sand, wood chips, or rubber padding for landing areas

Restrooms

- Add hand sanitizer / place to wash hands
- Clean more often
- Doors on the facility for privacy

Safety

- Higher fence at 1st and 3rd bases for overthrows
- New bases

Additional

- Camp ground
- Expand the number of soccer fields
- Get fields in better condition for end-of-season tournament
- Grade the practice soccer field to level for games and softball warm-ups

Lion's Field Softball

This online survey was conducted at the field in September of 2013 during a weekend league tournament and online via the Chocoday Township web site through November of 2013.

Complete survey results and comments can be viewed at www.chocoday.org/surveys/surveys.php.

Resident / Non-Resident

49.1 percent resident, 50.9 percent non-resident

Player / Spectator

73.1 percent player, 25.0 percent spectator, 1.9 percent umpire

Field Use

All nights, with primary night being Wednesday, and secondary night being Thursday

Field Conditions

Field is generally considered in good (51 percent) or fair (38.8 percent) condition

Improvements

Top three are restrooms (82.6 percent), dugouts (45.7 percent) and field (45.7 percent)

Additional Activities

Bleachers

- New bleachers on both sides of the field, and raise fences to protect spectators

Dugouts

- New covered dugouts

Field

- Higher back (outfield) fence
- Level out infield and drag
- Provide way for umpires / others to drag / line fields for weekend tournaments
- Rocky infield, uneven outfield

Food Vendors

- Nice to have ... could serve as way to earn revenue for the field

Parking

- Could use more parking

Playground

- Need a small playground for the kids while adults are playing ball

Restrooms

- Add hand sanitizer / place to wash hands
- Clean more often, and move the restroom from its current location

Safety

- Higher fence at 1st and 3rd bases for overthrows
- Too many rocks on the infield

Additional

- Access to the bike path
- Bins for cans
- Gate in fence in center field to retrieve home run balls
- Move outfield fence back 10 feet
- Night lighting for night games and hockey

APPENDIX G 2013 DNR GRANT SELF-CERTIFICATION

As part of follow-up on DNR grants, the DNR requests a self-certification on sites where DNR grant funds were used to purchase, develop, or improve the site. In 2013, the Township completed self-assessments as shown in **Table 13**.

Table 13 2013 DNR Grant Self-Certification Documentation

Location	Grant Number	Document Location
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	BF89-192	www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-BF89-192.pdf
	CM00-043	www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-CM00-043.pdf
	TF86-301	www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-TF86-301.pdf
	TF-88-103	www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-TF88-103.pdf
Silver Creek Recreation Area	26-00373	www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-00373.pdf
	26-01006	www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-01006.pdf
	26-01357	www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-01357.pdf
Township Marina	TF04-102	www.chocolay.org/documents/townshipmarina-TF04-102.pdf
Voce Creek Recreation Area	26-01060 F	www.chocolay.org/documents/vocecreekrecreationarea-26-01060F.pdf