

# Charter Township of Chocolay



*Recreation  
&  
Natural Resource  
Conservation Plan*

2020 through 2024  
Adopted 01.13.20

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## **Chocolay Township Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Plan 2020-2024**

**Adopted January 13, 2020**

### **Township Board**

Dr. Richard Bohjanen – Supervisor  
Max Engle – Clerk  
Ben Zyburt – Treasurer  
David Lynch – Trustee  
Mark Maki – Trustee  
Don Rhein – Trustee  
Judy White – Trustee

### **Planning Commission**

Tom Mahaney – Chair  
Susan Maynard – Vice Chair  
Donna Mullen-Campbell – Secretary  
Cory Bushong – Vice Secretary  
Don Rhein – Board representative  
Kendall Milton – Member  
Ryan Souci – Member

### **Township Staff**

Bill De Groot – Manager  
Brad Johnson – DPW Supervisor  
Dale Throenle – Planning Director / Zoning Administrator

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Plan Summary</b>	<b>1</b>	Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements, and Recreation Programming	16
<b>Plan Description</b>	<b>3</b>	Current Funding Sources	16
Purpose	3	Role of Volunteers	16
Intent	3	Relationships with School Districts, Other Public Agencies and Private Organizations	16
Design	3		
Plan Review	3		
<b>Community Description</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Recreation Inventory</b>	<b>18</b>
Township History	4	Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities	18
Township Features	5	Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory	18
Township Zoning Districts	6	Township-Owned Sites	19
Opportunities	6	Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	21
<b>Recreation History</b>	<b>8</b>	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	22
Recreation Timeline	8	Brower Recreation Area	23
1920 - 1959	8	Green Bay Street Park	24
1960 - 1969	9	Green Garden Site	25
1970 - 1979	9	Kawbawgam Pocket Park	26
1980 – 1989	9	Lion’s Field	27
1990 - 1999	10	Marina	28
2000 - 2009	11	Municipal Complex	29
2010 - Present	12	Silver Creek Recreation Area	30
<b>Administrative Structure</b>	<b>14</b>	Voce Creek	31
Recreation Administration	14	Wick Site	32
Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)	14	Cooperative Sites	33
Planning Commission	14	Iron Ore Heritage Trail (IOHT)	34
Township Board	14	Kawbawgam Cross Country Ski Trail	35
Public	14	US-41 / M-28 Paved Trail	36
Staff Description and Organization Chart	14	Other Public Sites	37
Planning Director / Zoning Administrator	14	Cherry Creek Elementary School	39
Department of Public Works	15	DNR River Access – M-28 East	40
Township Manager	15	DNR River Access – Mangum Road	41
		Gwinn Forest Management Unit	42
		James Jeske Flooding – Dam	43
		James Jeske Flooding – Launch	44



Lake LeVasseur	45	Recreation Discussion – Planning Commission	68
Marquette State Fish Hatchery	46	Recreation Discussion – Township Board	69
Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Scenic Turnouts	47	Regional Recreation Discussions and Surveys	69
Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Welcome Center	49	Plan Availability for Public Review and Comment	70
Northern Michigan University Golf Course	50	Plan Availability Notice	70
Private Sites	51	Notice for Public Hearing for Plan Adoption	71
Chocolay Bayou Nature Preserve	52	Township Board Minutes	72
Chocolay River RV Campground	53	<b>Goals and Objectives</b>	<b>75</b>
Gitche Gumees RV Park	54	Goals	75
Homestead Golf Course	55	Policies	75
Lakeland	56	Implementation Strategies	76
Trails	57	Additional Responsibilities	76
Township Community Wide Events	58	<b>Action Program</b>	<b>77</b>
Regional Recreation Locations	58	General Issues and Strategies	77
Grant-Assisted Facilities	58	Township Recreation Site Locations	78
1988 Recreation Bond Fund	58	Risk Assessment	80
Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Recreation Bond Fund	59	Recreation Opportunities	80
Land and Water Conservation Fund	59	Organized Recreation Opportunities	81
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund	59	Underutilized Watersheds and Watershed Preservation	81
Recreation Passport Grant Program	60	Long-Term Recreation Maintenance	81
<b>Natural Resource Inventory</b>	<b>61</b>	Long-Term Trail Maintenance	81
Township Natural Features	61	Recreation Easements	82
Geology	61	Lack of Winter Recreation	82
Natural Vegetation	61	Long-Term Funding for Recreation	83
Sensitive Natural Areas	62	Long-Term Energy Concerns	83
Water Features	64	Additional Non-Recreation Programs	83
Programs to Preserve the Natural Features	65	<b>Site-Specific Issues and Strategies</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Description of the Planning Process</b>	<b>66</b>	Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	84
Planning Methods	66	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	85
System Approach to Planning	66	Brower Recreation Area	86
Criteria for Open Space / Natural Area Acquisition	67	Green Bay Street Park	86
<b>Description of the Public Input Process</b>	<b>68</b>	Green Garden Site	87
		Kawbawgam Pocket Park	87
		Lion's Field	88



Marina	88	Ely Township	103
Municipal Complex	89	Forsyth Township	103
Silver Creek Recreation Area	89	Marquette County	103
Voce Creek Recreation Area	91	Marquette Township	103
Wick Site	91	Negaunee Township	103
Action Tables	92	Onata Township (Alger County)	103
Future Action by Year	92	Sands Township	103
Post-Completion Self Certification Reports	92	Skandia Township / West Branch Township	103
<b>Plan Adoption</b>	<b>93</b>	Cooperative Projects	104
Township Involvement in Planning and Adoption	93	Iron Ore Heritage Trail	104
Official Resolution of the Township Board for Plan Adoption	94	Kawbawgam Cross-Country Ski Trail	104
Letter Transmitting Adopted Plan – Marquette County Planning Department	95	MDOT Funded Multi-Use Paths	104
Letter Transmitting Adopted Plan – Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Regional Commission (CUPPAD)	96	Nearby Recreation	104
<b>Appendix A Maps and Recreation Locations</b>	<b>97</b>	City of Negaunee	104
MDOT Map of Township and Surrounding Area	97	City of Marquette	104
Township Zoning Maps	97	Ishpeming Township	105
Trails – Motorized / Non-Motorized	98	Marquette Township	105
Geocache	99	Negaunee Township	105
Lakes, Reservoirs, and Waterways	99	Sands Township	105
Recreation Locations	101	<b>Appendix D Summary of Survey Questions</b>	<b>106</b>
Proposed Recreation Locations	101	2020 – 2024 Recreation Plan Survey	106
<b>Appendix B Recreation Costing Plan</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>Appendix E Civic Features</b>	<b>139</b>
<b>Appendix C Recreation Coordination</b>	<b>103</b>	Population Characteristics	139
Area Recreation Plans	103	Income Characteristics	140
City of Ishpeming	103	Township Residential Influence	140
City of Marquette	103	<b>Appendix F Site Information</b>	<b>141</b>
City of Munising	103	Beaver Grove Recreation Area Ball Field	141
City of Negaunee	103	Current Layout	141
		Proposed Layout	141
		Brower Recreation Area Assessment	141
		Kawbawgam Pocket Park	142
		Current Layout	142
		Proposed Layout	142
		Wick Property Design	142



## TABLES

Table 1 Township Support Organizations	16
Table 2 Township-Owned Sites	19
Table 3 Cooperative Sites	33
Table 4 Other Public Sites	37
Table 5 Private Sites	51
Table 6 Chocolay Township Recreation Bond Fund grants	58
Table 7 Chocolay Township Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) grants	59
Table 8 Chocolay Township Land and Water Conservation Fund grants	59
Table 9 Chocolay Township Michigan Natural Resources Trust grants	59
Table 10 Chocolay Township Recreation Passport Grant	60
Table 11 Future Action by Year	92
Table 12 2019 DNR Grant Self-Certification Documentation	92
Table 13 Retirement Income	140

## FIGURES

Figure 1 Chocolay Township Region	5
Figure 2 Township Organization	15
Figure 3 Sensitive Natural Areas of Chocolay Township	62
Figure 4 Floodplains of Chocolay Township	63
Figure 5 Wetlands of Chocolay Township	63
Figure 6 Township Web Site Posting	70
Figure 7 Township Web Site Cover Page for Plan	70
Figure 8 Township Web Site Posting	71
Figure 9 Township Board Minutes extract – page 1	73
Figure 10 Chocolay Township Board Attached Resolution	94
Figure 11 Marquette County Planning Department Letter	95
Figure 12 CUPPAD Letter	96
Figure 13 MDOT Map of Township and Surrounding Area	97
Figure 14 Township Zoning Map	97
Figure 15 Harvey Area Zoning Map	98
Figure 16 Chocolay Township Geocache Locations	99
Figure 17 Township Watersheds	99
Figure 18 Recreation Map	101
Figure 19 Marquette County Population	139
Figure 20 Chocolay Charter Township Population	139
Figure 21 Median Age	139





## PLAN SUMMARY

This plan is constructed in various sections, all of which are directed toward the various aspects and availability of recreation within Chocolay Township. The layout of this plan follows the recommended format found *Appendix I* in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans*<sup>1</sup> publication, and includes consideration for requirements found in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)<sup>2</sup>.

A draft of this plan was released for public review on October 28, 2019. Notices were posted on the Township web site ([www.chocolay.org](http://www.chocolay.org)) and sent to each municipality in Marquette County indicating the plan was available for review and comment.

Sections within this plan are:

<b>Section</b>	<b>Section Description</b>
<b>Plan Description</b>	This section gives a brief description of the purpose and intent for the recreation plan.
<b>Community Description</b>	This section describes the Township history, community, and zoning.
<b>Recreation History</b>	This section establishes a timeline for the recreation activities in the Township beginning in 1920.
<b>Administrative Structure</b>	This section describes the Township administrative reporting structure, department budgets and budget projections, funding sources, and the roles and responsibilities of those involved in promoting, maintaining, and funding Township recreation.



Section	Section Description
<b>Recreation Inventory</b>	<p>This section presents a detailed look at the recreation sites in the Township and what is available at those locations. The inventory is separated into four sub-sections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Township-owned locations Recreation locations the Township owns and maintains</li> <li>2. Cooperative locations Recreation locations the Township staff supports or maintains that are owned by another agency or business</li> <li>3. Other public locations Recreation locations owned and maintained by other public agencies (such as the State of Michigan, Michigan Department of Transportation and the DNR)</li> <li>4. Private locations Recreation locations owned and operated by local businesses and private enterprises</li> </ol> <p>Each sub-section contains a description, primary service area, opportunities and facilities for the site, an ADA accessibility assessment of the site, and general location information (such as GPS coordinates and how to access the site).</p> <p>This section also covers trail systems located in the Township, provides a brief look at community events and regional recreation, and concludes with a history report of DNR grants that the Township has received for recreation.</p>
<b>Natural Resource Inventory</b>	<p>This section describes the natural resources that exist in the Township (such as wetlands, watersheds, flood plains, agriculture areas, woodlands, beaches, and scenic overlooks), and identifies potential locations for natural preservation.</p>
<b>Description of the Planning Process</b>	<p>This section describes the planning methods that went into the development of the recreation plan.</p>
<b>Description of the Public Input Process</b>	<p>This section describes the process used to acquire input from the public.</p>
<b>Goals and Objectives</b>	<p>This section outlines the general goals, objectives, policies and strategies, and staff responsibilities for recreation in the Township.</p>
<b>Action Program</b>	<p>This section details the policies, implementation strategies, responsibilities, costs, and potential funding sources associated with implementing projects and processes identified in the plan.</p>
<b>Post Completion Self Certification Report</b>	<p>This section details the self-certification that determined the direction for the planning for Township recreation.</p>
<b>Plan Adoption</b>	<p>This section contains the government approval documentation for the plan.</p>
<b>Appendices</b>	<p>These sections contain supplemental information for the plan.</p>

<sup>1</sup> *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans*, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grant Management, rev. 06/08/2018, [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/IC1924\\_Guidelines\\_for\\_the\\_development\\_of\\_Community\\_Park\\_Recreation\\_Open\\_Space\\_and\\_Greenway\\_Plans\\_626102\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/IC1924_Guidelines_for_the_development_of_Community_Park_Recreation_Open_Space_and_Greenway_Plans_626102_7.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Information and Technical Assistance on the Americans with Disabilities Act, <https://www.ada.gov/>







## PLAN DESCRIPTION

### Purpose

The primary purpose of the Chocoley Township *2020 – 2024 Recreation & Natural Resource Plan* is to set the direction for Chocoley Township for the acquisition, development, renovation, and provision of outdoor recreation opportunities for Township residents and visitors through 2024, and to continue with the efforts established in the *2014 – 2018 Recreation & Natural Resource Conservation Plan*.

This plan also serves an additional purpose of maintaining eligibility for DNR funding sources.

### Intent

The intent of this plan is to define the recreational direction for Chocoley Township and to develop a diverse set of recreational opportunities for all to enjoy.

Although there are several other public entities and private enterprises that provide recreation opportunities for the residents of the Township, the focuses of this plan are the Township-owned and Township-operated recreation sites and programs.

### Design

This plan is written with the 2015 edition of the Township *Master Plan* as a base, and incorporates input from citizens, visitors, staff and other government entities in order to have recreation opportunities available and usable for all, regardless of age and ability to participate. Much of the detail in this plan will be included in the future update of the *Master Plan*.

### Plan Review

This plan analyzes the historic, current, and future demand and use patterns for Township recreation, encourages citizen involvement in the planning, and provides for public input.

The plan will be reviewed annually by Township staff, the public and the Planning Commission, or as recreation conditions in the Township change. This review will serve as an annual monitoring tool to use for recreation direction and recreation budget decisions.





## COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

### Township History



of the Chocolay River. As a became a political and and Harvey authorized the Harvey in 1864.<sup>1</sup>

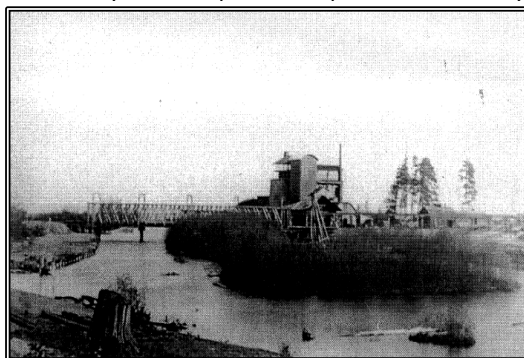
Sawmills were built to operation which experienced downs over the following years.

to support the growing community, such as dairies and service businesses. However, logging and farming were mainstays of the Township’s economy for many years. The most successful farmers settled on lands with hardwoods as opposed to pine, as the soils associated with the pines were not as productive.<sup>2</sup>

Earliest records regarding recreation in the Township show the Marquette State Fish Hatchery (now known as the Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery) was opened in 1920, but public facilities for recreation did not become available until 1960 when a gym was added to Silver Creek School.

During the 1700s, the Ojibwa people (also known as the Chippewa) inhabited the area and used the area as a summer camping place. Early explorers used the name “Chocolate” for the area because of the dark brown color of the river that runs through the Township (the color was caused by tannic acid from decaying vegetation of the interconnected swamps and marshes). The Chocolate River became the boundary for the Treaty of 1842 when the Chippewa gave the mineral lands to the west of the river to the United States government. The river name was changed to “Chocolay” in the late 1800s.

Chocolay Township became part of the history of the iron ore industry in 1860



when Charles T. Harvey directed the building of a blast furnace at the mouth result, the Township geographical unit in 1860, platting of the Village of

support the furnace many economic ups and Other businesses developed



The first Township recreation grant was a DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund grant obtained in 1973 for development of what is now the Silver Creek Recreation Area. Further land purchases and grants have expanded the Township’s recreation areas to the current-day total of twelve properties located throughout the Township.

## Township Features

Chocolay Township, established as a charter township in 1972, encompasses approximately sixty-one square miles of land and water area.<sup>3</sup> With a 2010 population of 5,903<sup>4</sup>, Chocolay is the second most populous township in Marquette County.

Two highways – US 41 and M-28 – provide primary road transportation through the Township, serving as two of the four entryways into the western part of the Upper Peninsula from the south and the east. The unincorporated Village of Harvey, located near the Township offices, functions as a center of commerce. The Township is also the site of the interconnection of the Marquette County (MARQ-TRAN) and Alger County (ALTRAN) public transit networks.

With a small village, busy highway corridor, waterfront residences, an elementary school, many civic organizations, multi-use trails, and rolling landscapes of farms and forests, the Township provides a transition between the adjacent rural townships and the City of Marquette. Neighboring townships include Sands, West Branch, and Skandia in Marquette County and Onota in Alger County (see [Figure 1](#)).

**Figure 1 Chocolay Township Region**



Recreation and master plan surveys of the community conducted in 2002<sup>5</sup>, 2010<sup>6</sup>, and 2013<sup>7</sup> indicate that rural character is one of the primary reasons for living in and visiting the Township. The Township’s recreational opportunities are strongly related to the natural environment in an attempt to retain the rural character, and these opportunities also accommodate organized sports and neighborhood orientations.



## Township Zoning Districts

The Township is divided into multiple zoning districts, each of which provides unique opportunities for residents and businesses within the Township. Location of these districts, especially the residential districts, helps determine the development of recreation opportunities in the Township.

District	District Title	District Intent <sup>8</sup>
AF	Agriculture / Forestry	To establish and maintain for low intensity use those areas which, because of their location, accessibility and natural characteristics, are suitable for a wide range of agricultural, forestry, and recreational uses
C	Commercial	To establish and preserve general commercial areas consisting of shopping centers and commercial areas where customers reach individual business establishments primarily by automobile
I	Industrial	To establish and preserve a district for industrial use along with those commercial uses which are more compatible with industrial than with other commercial uses
MFR	Multi-Family Residential	To make provision for multi-family residential developments and mobile home parks not sub-divided into individual lots, in an appropriate, safe, sanitary, and attractive environment
MP	Municipal Properties	To establish and preserve areas for certain public purpose and functions conducted by Chocolay Township
PUD	Planned Unit Development	To accommodate innovative land uses provided stated objectives are met and in conformance with a final development plan
R-1	Single Family Residential	To establish and preserve quiet single-family home neighborhoods, free from other uses except those which are both compatible with and convenient to the residents of such a district
R-2	High Density Family Residential (Harvey)	To provide regulations for the Harvey residential neighborhood, which due to existing small, high density lot sizes and residential land use, may not meet the requirements of other residential zoning districts in the Township
WFR	Waterfront Residential	This district is intended to establish and maintain for residential and recreational use those areas with frontage on inland lakes and rivers and the Lake Superior shoreline which, because of their natural characteristics and accessibility, are suitable for development

## Opportunities

This plan includes consideration for recreation opportunities outside of the Township. The Township works closely with the surrounding townships and the City of Marquette to ensure recreation opportunities are available throughout the region (recreation opportunities from other public and private sectors are detailed in the *Recreation Inventory* section and *Appendix B*).

<sup>1</sup> Plat map from State of Michigan [LARA](http://w1.lara.state.mi.us/platmaps/dt_image.asp?BCC_SUBINDEX=12734) website ([http://w1.lara.state.mi.us/platmaps/dt\\_image.asp?BCC\\_SUBINDEX=12734](http://w1.lara.state.mi.us/platmaps/dt_image.asp?BCC_SUBINDEX=12734) – view this site using either Microsoft Explorer or Mozilla Firefox as the browser)



---

<sup>2</sup> Historical information extracted from *Chocolay Township History then and now ...*. For additional historical reference, an interactive history of the Township can be found on the Township website ([www.chocolay.org](http://www.chocolay.org) – select the *General Government / Interactive History* tab from the main page).

<sup>3</sup> Data obtained from [www.city-data.com/township/Chocolay-Marquette-MI.html](http://www.city-data.com/township/Chocolay-Marquette-MI.html)

<sup>4</sup> 2010 State of Michigan Census – [www.michigan.gov/documents/cgi/cgi\\_census\\_cousub10\\_347512\\_7.xls](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/cgi/cgi_census_cousub10_347512_7.xls)

<sup>5</sup> Survey results can be found at [www.chocolay.org/surveys/surveysummary2002.pdf](http://www.chocolay.org/surveys/surveysummary2002.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Survey results can be found at [www.chocolay.org/surveys/surveysummary2010.pdf](http://www.chocolay.org/surveys/surveysummary2010.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Survey results can be found at [www.chocolay.org/surveys/surveysummary2013.pdf](http://www.chocolay.org/surveys/surveysummary2013.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Extracted from Section IV, *Zoning District Regulations* in the Township *Zoning Ordinance*





## 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 and activities within the Township boundaries.

As a result of generous private donations and public property acquisitions, the Township owns recreation properties totaling 160 acres.

### Recreation Timeline

#### 1920 - 1959

- 1920** The Marquette State Fish Hatchery (now known as the Cherry Creek Fish Hatchery) was established.
- 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”.
- 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 existing soccer field.



## 1960 - 1969

- 1960** The Chocolay Township School District (now merged with 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 merged with 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

- 1972** 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).
- 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 turnouts provide three of four accesses for the public 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 foot by 150 foot 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.
- 1988** The State of Michigan Welcome Center opened.



- 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, was 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 planted in both inland and Great Lakes waters.
- 1994** The Township expanded the Silver Creek Recreation Area by purchasing 6.6 acres west of the original 17.1-acre parcel from the Rudolf K. Heikkala estate. 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 a 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 sandy area of the Voce Creek Recreation Area to grow and harvest beach grass.
- 1997** The Township leased the 14 acres purchased in 1990 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 from First National Bank in 1987. Improvements 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 (MNRTF TF04-102) obtained in 2005.
- 1999** The Township signed a lease with Marquette Area Public 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, was named the Brower Recreation Area. A condition of this donation stipulated that the land would be used “for education or recreation purposes”.
- 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 defines the entire Chocolay watershed that covers acreage in four townships.

## 2000 - 2009

- 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’.”
- 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 4H 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.
- 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.



- 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 - Present

- 2010** A recreation survey for the City of Marquette was conducted, which included questions for Chocolay Township residents.
- 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 traffic on 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.  
The Board approved \$20,000 for a paved connector trail along US 41 / M28 for expenditure in 2014.
- 2015** Dugouts were built, roofed, and fenced with donations for the Little League field at Silver Creek Recreation Area.



- 2016** The ball field fence was replaced at Lion’s Field. This replacement included a new backstop, realignment of bases on the field to accommodate standard softball configurations, and 100 feet of 10-foot high fence along the infield to protect players and spectators from overthrows.
- 2017** A trailhead for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail was added at Lion’s Field that provides parking, a restroom, pavilion, picnic tables, water fountain and grills for trail users to enjoy. The trailhead provides walking and bike trail access to the Iron Ore Heritage trail.
- The Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy purchased property along West Main Street and established the Bayou Nature Preserve, with a trail system that connects to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.
- 2018** Dugouts were built, roofed, and fenced with donations for the ball field at Lion’s Field Recreation Area
- A Harvey Daze celebration was held at the Silver Creek Recreation Area. This family event was an effort to provide for a way for the community to celebrate the Chocoday area. The event included vendors, food, DJ music, classic cars, laser tag and bounce houses for the kids.
- 2019** A Chocoday Area Days celebration was held at the Silver Creek Recreation Area. This celebration continued the 2018 Harvey Daze experience with a softball tournament, live music, and expansion to Harvey Baptist Church for the classic car display.
- The Silver Creek tennis court project began at Silver Creek Recreation Area. The finished project will provide two courts lined for tennis and pickleball.





## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

### Recreation Administration

The Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, Department of Public Works, Township Manager, Planning Commission, Township Board and the public all play a role in recreation administration within the Township. The organization chart, shown in [Figure 2](#) provides a visual representation of the Township administration.

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

#### Planning Commission

The recreation plan approvals begin with the Planning Commission. When the Commissioners discuss the plan, they review the goals and objectives regarding recreation outlined in the Township *Master Plan* to ensure the recreation plan meets with those requirements, and they make recommendations based on their perception of what recreation should look like in the Township over the next five years.

When the Commissioners approve the plan, the plan is made available for comments from the public and other government entities for thirty days.

#### Township Board

The Township Board adopts the recreation plan after public and other government review and bases the adoption on recommendations from the Planning Commission. The Board also approves all funding for Township recreation budgets.

#### Public

The public has the opportunity to offer input and assistance in nearly every phase of recreation administration. More specifically, the public can make suggestions directly to the Planning Commission, the Township Board, the Township Manager DPW, or the Planning Director / Zoning Administrator.

### Staff Description and Organization Chart

#### Planning Director / Zoning Administrator

The positions of Planning Director and Zoning Administrator are combined into one full-time position in the Township. As part of that position, the Planning Director / Zoning Administrator researches and supports development of Township



plans as outlined in the Township *Master Plan*. The Planning Director / Zoning Administrator:

- Responds to requests and informs various boards and commissions as well as local citizens about recreation planning projects and efforts
- Facilitates citizen engagement and community outreach to support recreation planning efforts
- Provides research and technical assistance for Township recreation policies and decision-making
- Coordinates with the Township Department of Public Works for project development and implementation strategies
- Researches and applies for funding for proposed Township recreation projects
- Plans and assists with recreation project implementation

- Collaborates with other jurisdictions to develop regional strategies for recreation
- Serves as the technical assistant to the Planning Commission.

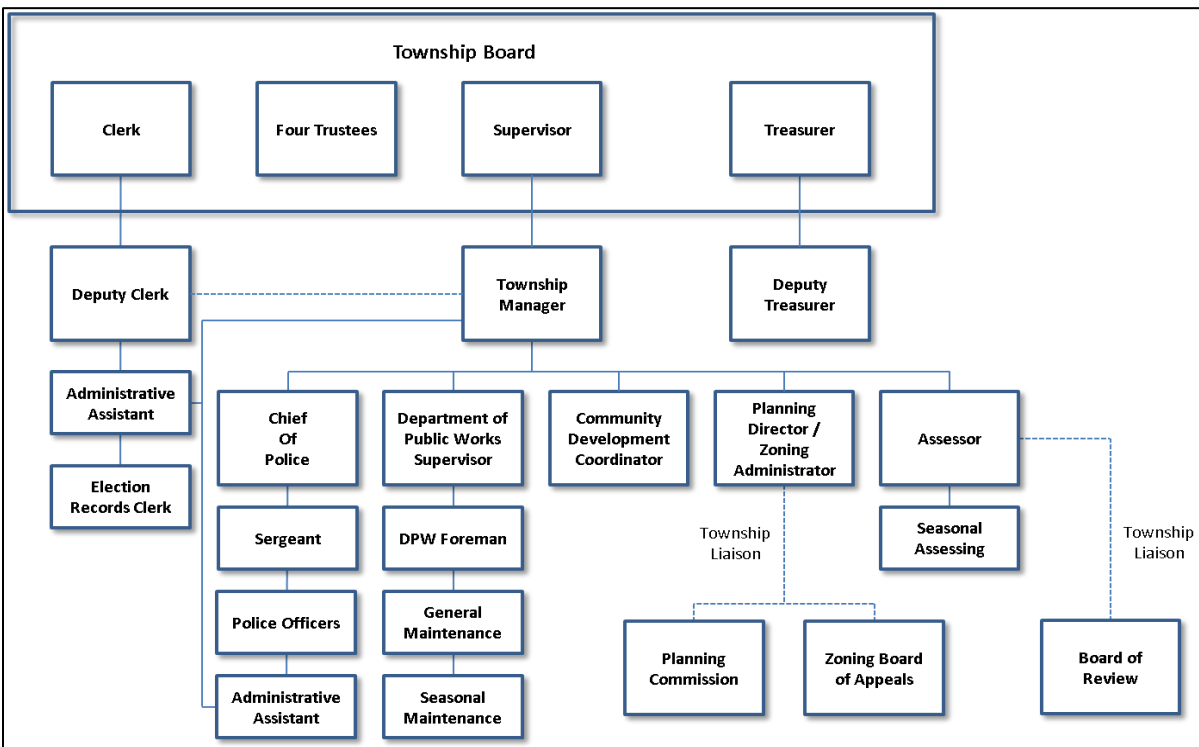
### Department of Public Works

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

### Township Manager

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

Figure 2 Township Organization



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

The primary source of operations, maintenance, and capital improvement funding for recreation is through the DPW budget. The 2019 DPW budget has the amount of \$111,500 (including department salaries) for recreation maintenance activities, with much of that budget 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 \$112,000 annually. The Capital Improvement budget for recreation is approximately \$57,000 annually.

Today, there is no Township recreation programming budget because all recreational programs in the Township are run by volunteer organizations (such as the Chocolay Lions Club) or organized sports organizations (such as the Chocolay Co-Ed league, Little League, and Superiorland Soccer Association).

### Current Funding Sources

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

**Table 1.**

**Table 1 Township Support Organizations**

Organization	Organization Description
Boy Scouts	Local Boy Scout Troop 360 and Boy Scout Troop 370 are involved in Eagle Scout projects in cooperation with the Township and other local entities. These troops defined a proposal for the Brower Recreation Area, led the building of the first Harvey Baptist community garden, and were responsible for the Township Adopt-A-Tree program.
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 2018-2019 enrollment of 418 students.
Chocolay 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. The league has donated funds for field improvements at the Beaver Grove Recreation Area and the Lion's Field Recreation Area.

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

People can serve on committees and volunteer for groups and organizations that help with the upkeep of recreation areas within the Township. Some of the groups and organizations within Chocolay Township that have assisted with recreation administration include:

- Boy Scouts
- Chocolay Community Gardens Group (CCGG)
- Chocolay Township Lion's Club
- Girl Scouts
- Marquette Rotary organizations

### Relationships with School Districts, Other Public Agencies and Private Organizations

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



Organization	Organization Description
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 intersection of US 41 and M-28. The Girl Scouts maintain the locations throughout the spring, summer, and fall.
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 to Chocolay Township. This trail celebrates the mining heritage of the region. The IOHTRA established a trailhead at the Lion’s Field Recreation Area in 2017.
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 and built the pavilion at Lion’s Field as part of the Iron Ore Heritage Trail trailhead project.
Marquette Rotary organizations	These internationally sponsored organizations provide grants and volunteer labor for Township projects. These organizations funded and helped build the Harvey Baptist 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).
Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP)	This organization provides insights and solutions for area watersheds. The SWP led dune restoration projects located at the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) turnouts and led the Chocolay River Watershed project in 1999.
Superiorland Soccer Association	This association organizes the soccer recreation programs at the Beaver Grove Recreation Area and the Silver Creek Recreation Area.
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, as well as other disc golf courses in the area.
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. The conservancy established the Bayou Nature Preserve in 2017.





## RECREATION INVENTORY

### Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities

Recreation opportunities in Chocolay Township are classified into four categories:

- Township-owned sites

Chocolay Township is the designated owner of the site, and Township staff is directly responsible for the maintenance of these sites.

- Cooperative sites

Recreation sites are either privately-owned (such as Harvey Baptist Church) or public-owned (such as the Kawbawgam Ski Trail on DNR property) and are supported or maintained by Township funds or staff.

- Other public sites

Recreation sites 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 these sites.

- Private sites

Recreation sites are privately-owned and operated within the Township. The owners of these sites provide all maintenance for these sites.

### Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory

Three primary methods were used to complete the latest recreation inventory of both public and private recreation in the Township.

Method one required a review of existing Township documents to check the historical references for the Township properties, to identify and validate grants acquired for the sites, and to identify equipment that was purchased or installed on the sites.

Method two was an on-site visit for each Township-owned site to determine available recreation opportunities for each location, with the intent of reviewing ADA accessibility, condition of equipment, and potential needs or hazards that may exist at the site.

Method three was an on-site visit for each recreation site that the Township does not own to determine available recreation opportunities at each location.





# Township-Owned Sites

Table 2 shows the recreational opportunities available at Township-owned sites.

Table 2 Township-Owned Sites

Recreation Opportunity / Facility	Recreation Site											
	Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	Brower Recreation Area	Green Bay Street Park	Green Garden Site	Kawbawgam Pocket Park	Lion's Field	Marina	Municipal Complex	Silver Creek Recreation Area	Voce Creek	Wick Site
ATV / ORV trail access			■			■						
Agriculture area	●											
Baseball / softball field		● B					● B			● C		
Basketball court		● D				● D	● E					
Bird / wildlife observation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●
Boardwalk							●					
Boat / canoe / kayak launch				● F	● F			● F, G, M				
Community garden						● P						
Covered pavilion with grills		●					●					
Cross-country ski trail						■ H				● H	● H	
Disc golf										● I		
Fishing / ice fishing	■ J	● J		● J	● J	■ K		● A, J			● J	● J ■ K
Horseshoe court		● 3										
Hockey rink							●					
Hunting												● L
Ice skating area							●					
Little Free Library					■							
Meeting room								● 2				
Open space	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●
Picnic location		●		●			●	●		●		
Playground	●	●				●				●		
Primitive camping								● S				
Restroom facilities	■ T	● T				● T	● T	● T	● U	● U		
Snowmobile access						■						
Snowshoeing			●			■	●			●	●	
Soccer field		●								●		
Swimming				● V	● V			● V				
Tennis / pickleball court										● 2		
Trails	■ Q	● Q	● R	■ O		■ O, Q	■ O ● Q	■ N ● W	■ N	■ N ● R	● R	
Water fountain		●					●					
<b>Total On-Site Amenities</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>



*Township-Owned Locations Legends*

Location	Description
●	On site
■	Nearby (within one mile of site)

Amenity	Description
A	ADA accessible fishing pier
B	Baseball / softball field – adult with 275’ fence
C	Baseball / softball field – Little League
D	Basketball – full court, 2 nets
E	Basketball – half court, 1 net
F	Boat / canoe / kayak carry down launch
G	Boat with motor launch
H	Cross-country ski trail – not groomed
I	Disc golf – 18 holes
J	Fishing – stream or river
K	Fishing / ice fishing – open water
L	Hunting -- deer / small game / upland birds
M	Kayak / canoe storage locker
N	Multi-use path -- asphalt
O	Multi-use path – gravel
P	Native American garden
Q	Non-motorized trails – developed
R	Non-motorized trails – undeveloped
S	Primitive camping platform
T	Restroom facilities – pit toilet
U	Restroom facilities – running water
V	Swimming – no lifeguard
W	Water trail



## 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.

### Primary Service Area

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

### Recreation Opportunities and Facilities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Agriculture area
- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Imagination playground
- ❖ Open space

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Fishing (Big Creek)
- ❖ Restroom (pit toilet – in Beaver Grove Recreation Area)
- ❖ Trail (along Big Creek)

### Accessibility

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

### Site Information

Parcel	52-02-116-020-10
Address	151 CR 480
Location	West of the intersection of US 41 South and CR 480
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 16
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 634 feet
Coordinates	N 46°27.791' W 87°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, but will hold two vehicles
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not ADA accessible</li></ul>



## Beaver Grove Recreation Area



### Description

Beaver Grove Recreation Area is a 16.29-acre sports complex and community park. 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 wildlife observation possibilities.

### Primary Service Area

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

### Recreation Opportunities and Facilities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Baseball / softball field
- ❖ Basketball court (full court)
- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Covered pavilion with grills
- ❖ Fishing (Big Creek)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (along Big Creek)
- ❖ Horseshoe court (3 pits)
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Picnic location
- ❖ Playground
- ❖ Restroom (pit toilet)
- ❖ Soccer field
- ❖ Water fountain

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Agriculture area
- ❖ Imagination playground

### Accessibility

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

### Site Information

Parcel	52-02-116-011-10
Address	6350 US 41 South
Location	Intersection of US 41 South and CR 480
Web Site	www.chocolay.org
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 16
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 621 feet
Coordinates	N 46°27.909' W 87°19.226'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Heading south on US 41 South, turn right at Beaver Grove Recreation Area sign</li> <li>2. 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.</li> </ol>
Parking	Two parking areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. West side parking (nearest to US 41 South) is for access to the soccer field, basketball court, trail, and the pavilion.</li> <li>2. East side parking (off CR 480) is primarily for access to the ball field</li> </ol>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADA accessible</li> </ul>



## Brower Recreation Area



### Description

The Brower property is a 48-acre undeveloped natural resource area that 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 regional. Participants travel from areas within and outside the Township to access this area.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

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

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

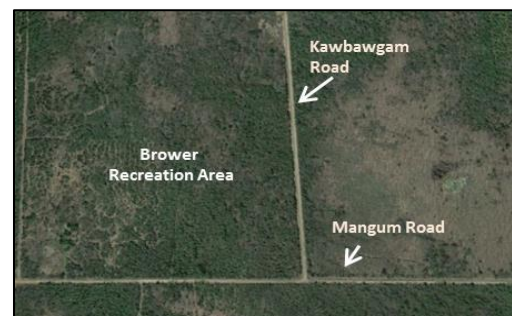
- ❖ ATV / ORV trails (DNR trail near Lake LeVasseur, Camp 4 Road)

### Accessibility

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

### Site Information

Parcel	52-02-018-037-00
Address	430 Kawbawgam Road
Location	Corner of Kawbawgam and Mangum roads
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.23W, Section 18
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 656 feet
Coordinates	N 46°27.51' W 87°13.19'
Access	From either Mangum Road from US 41 or Kawbawgam Road from M-28
Parking	Park on the side of the road as there are no marked parking areas at the site
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hiking / nature trails are not marked</li><li>• No motorized vehicles permitted on the property</li><li>• No restroom facilities available</li><li>• Not ADA accessible</li><li>• No hunting</li></ul>



## Green Bay Street Park



### Description

Green Bay Street Park 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 has served as a fishing and swimming location 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 along the river. Funds were used to stabilize the river 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 and swim at this location.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

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

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Gravel trail (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- ❖ Little Free Library (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)

### Accessibility

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

The incline from the road to the riverbank is steep, and ADA accessibility has not been established for access.

### Site Information

Parcel	52-02-204-006-50
Address	Green Bay Street
Location	At the intersection of Green Bay Street and Lakewood Lane
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 623 feet
Coordinates	N 46°29.854' W 87°21.018'
Access	Heading west on Green Bay Street, cross the bridge. Access is on the left via the stairway going down to the river near the DNR snowmobile trail.
Parking	Parking is not marked
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not ADA accessible</li><li>• No restroom facilities available</li></ul>



## Green Garden Site



### Description

The Green Garden site, consisting of two parcels totaling about three acres fronting the Chocolay River, is an undeveloped location used as a local fishing and swimming spot.

The site offers a primitive carry-down 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 from 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 and swim at this location.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

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

### Accessibility

The site is available via a grassy area along the river. The area is not under consideration for future ADA accessibility.

### Site Information

Parcels	52-02-125-016-00 and 52-02-125-017-00
Address	Green Garden Road
Location	On Green Garden Road off of US 41 South, east of the bridge crossing the Chocolay River
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 25
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 640 feet
Coordinates	N 46°26.569' W 87°15.703'
Access	Heading west on Green Garden Road, the site is just before the bridge. Heading east on Green Garden Road from US 41 South the site is on the east side of the bridge
Parking	Unmarked grassy area on the south side of the road
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No restroom facilities available</li><li>• River is not ADA accessible</li><li>• 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 portions of the site have access to the Chocolay River.</li></ul>



## Kawbawgam Pocket Park



### Description

This 1.5-acre site is developed as a children’s mini park. 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 nearby Iron Ore Heritage Trail, and in the past was the 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 Iron Ore Heritage Trail and the North Country Trail.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Basketball (full court)
- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Native American garden
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Playground (swing set only)
- ❖ Restroom (pit toilet)

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ATV / ORV trail access (heading east on the DNR trail 417 / Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- ❖ Cross-country skiing (near Lake LeVasseur; not groomed)
- ❖ Fishing – open water (Lake LeVasseur)
- ❖ Gravel multi-use trail (DNR 417 / Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (North Country Trail)
- ❖ Snowmobile access (DNR trail 417 / Iron Ore

Heritage Trail)

- ❖ Snowshoeing (North Country Trail)

### Accessibility

The parking lot provides a hard surface area during the non-winter months. The parking lot is plowed in the winter months.

The area is not under consideration for future ADA accessibility.

### Site Information

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 1/4 mile from M-28 on the left side of the road when heading south.
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.23W, Section 7
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 634 feet
Coordinates	N 46°29.449’ W 87°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"> <li>• Access to North Country Trail, but not access is not clearly marked</li> <li>• ADA accessible</li> <li>• Small part of property is directly across from park entrance on Kawbawgam Road</li> </ul>





## 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. In 2017, the park became a trailhead for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail, with added improvements of a shelter, grills, water fountain, updated restroom, and information signs. In 2018, the dugouts and roofs were donated, which provides cover for players using the field.

### 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Baseball / softball field
- ❖ Basketball (half court inside the hockey rink)
- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Covered pavilion with grills
- ❖ Hockey rink
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Picnic location / grills
- ❖ Restroom (pit toilet)
- ❖ Snowshoeing
- ❖ Trail (Iron Ore Heritage Trail trailhead)

- ❖ Water fountain

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Gravel multi-use trail (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)

### Accessibility

The parking lot provides a packed gravel surface area during the non-winter months. The parking lot is plowed in the winter months to provide access to the hockey rink.

### Site Information

Parcel 52-02-109-070-00  
Address 1410 M-28 East  
Location On M-28, approximately 2.1 miles from the intersection of US 41 and M-28

Web Site [www.chocolay.org](http://www.chocolay.org)  
Map T.47N, R.24W, Section 9  
Coordinates  
GPS Elevation: 630 feet  
Coordinates N 46°29.263'  
W 87°18.336'

Access From M-28, turn right at the Lion's Field sign

Parking Located north of the ball field

Additional Information

- ADA accessible
- Trailhead to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail



## Marina



### Description

The marina is situated on the Chocolay River approximately 1,500 feet from Lake Superior. Located in a residential neighborhood, the site is a community park, natural resource area, and serves boaters and Hiawatha Water Trail users.

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.

### Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. The marina serves Township residents and visitors to the area, especially those with boats, canoes, and kayaks.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Boardwalk
- ❖ Boat / canoe / kayak launch (concrete ramp with pier)
- ❖ Fishing – Chocolay River, with access by boat to Lake Superior from the launch site
- ❖ Fishing pier
- ❖ Kayak / canoe storage locker (for four kayaks or canoes for Heritage Water Trail use)
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Picnic location / grills
- ❖ Primitive camping (two raised wood platforms)
- ❖ Restroom (pit toilet)
- ❖ Swimming (no lifeguard)
- ❖ Trail (developed boardwalk)

❖ Water trail (Hiawatha Water Trail)  
Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Gravel multi-use trail (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- ❖ Little Free Library (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)

### Accessibility

The parking lot 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 rolling pier launch.

Access to the raised tent sites, the 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 not ADA-accessible.

### Site Information

Parcel	52-02-203-010-00
Address	137 West Main Street
Location	In Harvey, off Main Street
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 631 feet
Coordinates	N 46°29.775' W 87°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"><li>• ADA accessible, except for restroom</li><li>• Parking for four vehicles with trailers</li></ul>



## Municipal Complex



### Description

The Chocolay Township Municipal Complex is located on a 3.14-acre parcel with frontage on the west side of US 41 South. 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 necessary.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Meeting rooms (one in the Township hall and one in the fire hall)
- ❖ Restrooms (with running water)

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Paved multi-use path (US 41 bike path)

### Accessibility

The Township complex provides parking for 51 vehicles, of which three are reserved for handicap parking. The Township Hall is ADA-accessible.

### Site Information

Parcel	52-02-107-010-00
Address	5010 US 41 South
Location	1/4 mile north of the intersection of US 41 South and M-28
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 693 feet N 46°29.438' W 87°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"><li>• ADA accessible</li></ul>



## 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 as a community park and sports complex.

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

### 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Baseball field (Little League)
- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Cross-country skiing (not groomed)
- ❖ Disc golf course (eighteen holes)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (undeveloped)
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Picnic location
- ❖ Playground
- ❖ Restroom facilities (with running water and changing area)
- ❖ Snowshoeing
- ❖ Soccer field
- ❖ Tennis / pickleball courts (two)
- ❖ Undeveloped trails throughout the site

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Little Free Library (Silver Creek Road)
- ❖ Paved multi-use path (US 41 bike path)

### Accessibility

The east parking lot provides a gravel surface area, and a paved road leads to a packed gravel parking lot near the soccer field. Both are available during the non-winter months.

The recreation area is divided into a lower and upper level. The disc golf course and trail systems utilize both levels, and there is an ADA-accessible path that connects both levels.

### Site Information

Parcels	52-02-106-038-00, 52-02-106-039-00, 52-02-107-059-00, and 52-02-107-034-00
Address	Silver Creek Road
Location	Silver Creek Road, next to Silver Creek Church
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 656 feet
Coordinates	N 46°29.540' W 87°21.594'
Access	Heading west on Silver Creek Road, turn right at park sign
Parking	Two parking areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Front parking provides access to the ball field and tennis courts.</li> <li>2. Rear parking access to the soccer field, playground, and disc golf</li> </ol>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper portions of the park are limited ADA access</li> </ul>



## 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 site.

The Marquette County Soil and Water Conservation District (MCCD), in cooperation with the Township, has used a portion of the property in the past 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

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

### Accessibility

Parking is limited to the shoulder of US 41 South for vehicle access to this property. There is no road signage indicating the location of the property. ADA accessibility is not designated for this area, and the area is not under consideration for future ADA accessibility.

### Site Information

Parcel	52-02-122-025-20
Address	6603 US 41 South
Location	On US 41, south of the Beaver Grove Recreation Area
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 22
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 672 feet
Coordinates	N 46°27.132' W 87°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"><li>• Hiking trails only</li><li>• No motorized vehicles permitted</li><li>• No restroom facilities available</li><li>• Not ADA accessible</li></ul>



## 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

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

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Fishing (lake fishing in Lake Kawbawgam by boat, canoe or kayak only)
- ❖ Fishing (LeVasseur Creek)

### Accessibility

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

### Site Information

Parcel	52-02-113-004-00
Address	West Gordon Road
Location	West of Lake Kawbawgam
Web Site	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org">www.chocolay.org</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 13
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 620 feet
Coordinates	N 46°28.26' W 87°14.036'
Access	Via canoe or kayak on LeVasseur Creek
Parking	None
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No motorized vehicles permitted</li><li>• Not ADA accessible</li><li>• Property is landlocked – no drive-in access</li></ul>



## Cooperative Sites

**Table 3** shows the recreational opportunities available at sites that are either supported or maintained by Township funds or staff.

**Table 3 Cooperative Sites**

Recreation Opportunity	Recreation Site		
	Iron Ore Heritage Trail	Kawbawgam Ski Trail	US-41/ M 28 Paved Trail
ATV / ORV trail access	■	■	
Bike pumping / repair station	●		
Bird / wildlife observation	●	●	
Boat / canoe / kayak launch		■ A, B	
Cross-country ski trail	● C	● C	
Fishing / ice fishing	● E	■ D, E	■ E
Golf	■ X		
Little Free Library	●		
Open space	●	●	●
Restroom facilities	■ J, X		■ K
Snowmobile access	●		■
Snowshoeing	●	●	
Trails	● G ■ G, H, J	● H ■ H	● H
<b>Total On-Site Amenities</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

### Cooperative Sites Legends

Location	Description
●	On site
■	Nearby (within one mile of site)

Amenity	Description
<b>A</b>	Boat / canoe / kayak carry down launch
<b>B</b>	Boat with motor launch
<b>C</b>	Cross-country ski trail – not groomed
<b>D</b>	Fishing / ice fishing – open water
<b>E</b>	Fishing – stream or river
<b>F</b>	Golf – 18-holes
<b>G</b>	Multi-use path -- paved
<b>H</b>	Non-motorized trails – developed
<b>I</b>	Non-motorized trails – undeveloped
<b>J</b>	Motorized trails – snowmobile / ATV
<b>K</b>	Restroom facilities – running water
<b>L</b>	Restroom facilities – pit toilet



## Iron Ore Heritage Trail (IOHT)



### Description

This 47-mile 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.

There are established trailheads in the Township. One is located at the MDOT Welcome Center, and the other is located at Lion’s Field.

### Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. The trail is very heavily used for its entire length and provides a connection with various communities along its length.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bike pumping / repair station (at the Welcome Center)
- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Cross-country skiing (not groomed)
- ❖ Fishing (Chocolay River)
- ❖ Little Free Library (near Green Bay Street)
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Snowshoeing
- ❖ Snowmobiling

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ATV / ORV trail access (heading east on the DNR trail 417 / Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- ❖ Golf (Northern Michigan University golf course)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (Chocolay Bayou Nature Preserve)

- ❖ Multi-use trail (US 41 / M-28 paved trail)
- ❖ Restrooms at the Welcome Center (running water) and Lion’s Field (pit toilet)

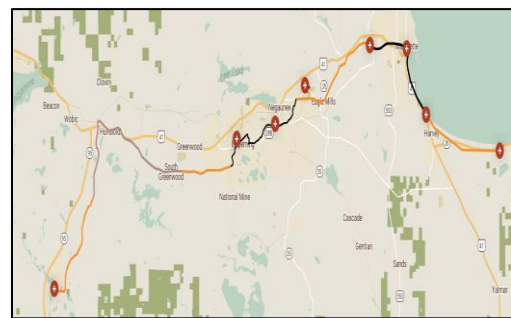
### Accessibility

The trail is accessible from Marquette and trailheads located at the Welcome Center and Lion’s Field. The trail is ADA-accessible throughout its length in the Township.

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

### Site Information

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
Web Site	<a href="http://www.nordicskiracer.com/ski-trail-detail.asp?ID=57">www.nordicskiracer.com/ski-trail-detail.asp?ID=57</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 8
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 588 feet N 46°28.783’ W 87°13.278’
Access	Dirt / gravel road off Kawbawgam Road – parking is approximately 1/4 mile from the 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"> <li>• Access to North Country Trail, but not marked</li> <li>• No restroom facilities available</li> <li>• Parking for five vehicles</li> </ul>





## Kawbawgam Cross Country Ski Trail



### Description

The Kawbawgam Cross Country Ski Trail is located on state land, approximately two miles south of M-28 off Kawbawgam Road. The parking area is located on the Lake LeVasseur public access road. This trail, as designed, 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 area was forested in 2017, and the trail has not been groomed since that time. The ski area intersects with 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

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

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ATV / ORV trail access (heading east on the DNR trail 417 / Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- ❖ Fishing (LeVasseur Creek)
- ❖ Fishing – open water (Lake LeVasseur)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (North Country Trail)

### Accessibility

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

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

### Site Information

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
Web Site	<a href="http://www.nordicskiracer.com/ski-trail-detail.asp?ID=57">www.nordicskiracer.com/ski-trail-detail.asp?ID=57</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 8
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 588 feet N 46°28.783' W 87°13.278'
Access	Dirt / gravel road off Kawbawgam Road – parking is approximately 1/4 mile from the 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"> <li>• Access to North Country Trail, but not marked</li> <li>• No restroom facilities available</li> <li>• Parking for five vehicles</li> </ul>



## 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.

### 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Developed hiking / biking trail
- ❖ Open space

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Fishing (Chocoday River)
- ❖ Gravel multi-use trail (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- ❖ Restroom with running water (Welcome Center)

### Accessibility

The paths are paved and are ADA-accessible.

### Site Information

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Parcel	US-41 South / M-28 MDOT right-of-way
Address	US-41 South / M-28
Location	Along US 41 South and M-28 corridors
Web Site	<a href="http://www.trailink.com/trail/marquette-multi-use-path/">www.trailink.com/trail/marquette-multi-use-path/</a>
Map Coordinate s	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
GPS Coordinate s	Elevation: 588 feet N 46°28.783' W 87°13.278'
Access	North access is from the MDOT Welcome Center parking lot East access is at the retired Soo Line railroad bridge on M-28 (near Timberlane)
Parking	Parking is available at the MDOT Welcome Center parking lot.
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADA accessible</li> <li>• Parking for multiple vehicles</li> <li>• Restroom facilities are available at the MDOT Welcome Center</li> </ul>



## Other Public Sites

**Table 4** shows the recreational opportunities available at other public sites located in the Township that are not owned by the Township.

**Table 4 Other Public Sites**

Recreation Opportunity	Recreation Site												
	Cherry Creek School	DNR Chocolay River Access – M-28 E	DNR Chocolay River Access – Mangum Road	Gwinn Forest Management Unit	Jeske Flooding – Dam	Jeske Flooding -- Launch	Lake LeVasseur	MDOT Turnout # 1	Marquette State Fish Hatchery	MDOT Turnout # 2	MDOT Turnout # 3	MDOT Welcome Center	Northern Michigan University Golf Course
ATV / ORV access				●	■	■	■						
Basketball court	● B												
Bird / wildlife observation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Boat / canoe / kayak carry down launch		● C	● C		■ C, D	● C, D	● C, D						
Camping							■						
Cross-country skiing				● E			■ E						
Fishing / ice fishing		● A, F	● F	● F	● F	● G	● F, G	■ F				■ F	
Golf													● H
Gym	●												
Hunting				● I	■ J	● J	● J						
Interpretive site								●				●	
Lake Superior beach access												●	
Open space	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Picnic location								●				●	
Playground	●												
Restroom facilities	● O	● N						● N	● O			● O	● O
Self-guided tours	●												
Sculpture park												■	
Snowshoeing	●			●	■	■	●						
Soccer field	●												
Swimming												● P	
Tourist information									●			●	
Trails	● L ■ K	● L	● M	● M	■ L	■ L	■ L					● K	
<b>Total On-Site Amenities</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>



*Other Public Sites Legends*

Location	Description
●	On site
■	Nearby (within one mile of site)

Amenity	Description
A	ADA accessible fishing pier
B	Basketball – full court, 2 nets
C	Boat / canoe / kayak carry down launch
D	Boat with motor launch
E	Cross-country ski trail – not groomed
F	Fishing – stream or river
G	Fishing / ice fishing – open water
H	Golf – 18 holes
I	Hunting -- deer / small game / upland birds
J	Hunting -- waterfowl
K	Multi-use path -- paved
L	Non-motorized trails – developed
M	Non-motorized trails – undeveloped
N	restroom facilities – pit toilet
O	restroom facilities – running water
P	swimming – no lifeguard



## Cherry Creek Elementary School



### Description

Cherry Creek Elementary School is located near the intersection of Cherry Creek Road and Ortman Road one mile west of 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

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

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Paved multi-use trail (MDOT bike path)

### 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.

### Site Information

Property Owner	Marquette Area Public Schools
Parcel	52-02-107-116-00
Address	1111 Ortman Road
Web Site	cherrycreek.mapsnet.org
Location	On Ortman Road about 1/10 mile from the intersection of Cherry Creek Road and Ortman Road
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 652 feet N 46°28.683' W 87°21.293'
Access	First driveway on right on Ortman Road after turn from Cherry Creek Road
Parking	Parking for the recreation area is at the rear of the school
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ADA accessible</li><li>• Gym is available on a rental basis</li><li>• No motorized vehicles permitted on recreation areas</li><li>• Playground (behind the school)</li><li>• Soccer field (behind the school)</li></ul>



## DNR River Access – M-28 East



### Description

After receiving the site from MDOT in 1995, the DNR 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 lower trail beginning at the parking lot and an upper trail beginning at the restroom lead to an additional fishing area further downstream on the river. The lower trail meanders along the riverbank; the upper trail reaches the water via a wooden stairway.

### Primary Service Area

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

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ADA-accessible fishing pier
- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Boat / canoe / kayak launch (carry down only)
- ❖ Fishing (Chocolay River)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trails
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Restroom facilities (pit toilet)

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Paved trail (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)
- ❖ Paved (MDOT bike path)

### Accessibility

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

### Site Information

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-108-003-00, 52-02-108-003-10, and 52-02-108-006-50
Address	M-28
Web Site	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79119_79146---,00.html">www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79119_79146---,00.html</a>
Location	On M-28, approximately 3/4 mile from M-28 and US 41 intersection
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 8
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 661 feet N 46°29.282' W 87°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"><li>• ADA-accessible fishing pier</li><li>• Trail access to the Chocolay River</li><li>• Shore fishing</li><li>• Pit toilet</li></ul>



## DNR River Access – Mangum Road



### Description

The DNR owns this property that serves as fishing access to the Chocolay River. This site 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 and steelhead.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

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

### 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. Parking may be difficult in the early spring or after heavy rainfall.

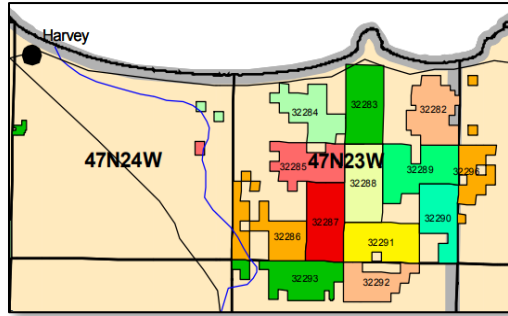
There is walk-up access to the river, and several locations for fishermen with waders to enter the water. The area is currently not ADA-accessible.

### Site Information

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-124-010-00
Address	Mangum Road
Web Site	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79119_79146---,00.html">www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79119_79146---,00.html</a>
Location	On Mangum Road, 2.5 miles from the US 41 South
Map Coordinate	T.47N, R.24W, Section 24
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 661 feet N 46°27.525' W 87°15.686'
Access	Dirt driveway from Mangum Road
Parking	Dirt parking area
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not ADA accessible</li><li>• Foot trail along the river</li></ul>



## 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. The parcels reverted to the State of Michigan because of unpaid property taxes, and the DNR reorganized these parcels of property into the Escanaba River State Forest. The unit is 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ATV / ORV trail access
- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Boat / canoe / kayak (carry-down only)
- ❖ Cross country skiing (not groomed)
- ❖ Fishing – stream and river
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail

- ❖ Hunting
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Snowmobile trail access
- ❖ Snowshoeing

### Accessibility

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

### Site Information

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-124-010-00
Address	Mangum Road
Location	Mangum Road, 2.5 miles from the US 41 South
Web Site	<a href="http://www.dnr.state.mi.us/publications/pdfs/ForestsLandWater/Cmpt_Reviews/Gwinn/GwinnMap.pdf">www.dnr.state.mi.us/publications/pdfs/ForestsLandWater/Cmpt_Reviews/Gwinn/GwinnMap.pdf</a>
Map Coordinate	T.47N, R.24W, Section 24
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 661 feet N 46°27.525' W 87°15.686'
Access	Dirt driveway from Mangum Road
Parking	Dirt parking area
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not ADA accessible</li> <li>• Trail along the river</li> </ul>





## James Jeske Flooding – Dam



### Description

The DNR built the dam on this site to establish a wildlife flooding area on the Sand River. The dam, located approximately 11 miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection, can be seen from a bridge on Railroad Lane. 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 to access to the North Country Trail.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Fishing (Sand River)
- ❖ Open space

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ATV / ORV trail (DNR trail 417)
- ❖ Boat launch (Jeske Flooding)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (North Country Trail)
- ❖ Hunting (waterfowl – Jeske Flooding)
- ❖ Snowshoeing (North Country Trail)

### Accessibility

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

### Site Information

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-012-023-50
Address	Railroad Lane
Web Site	<a href="http://www.michigandnr.com/publications/pdfs/huntingwildlifehabitat/sga/Sand_River_Flooding_SWMA_map.pdf">www.michigandnr.com/publications/pdfs/huntingwildlifehabitat/sga/Sand_River_Flooding_SWMA_map.pdf</a>
Location	Off Sand River Road
Map	T.47N, R.23W, Section 12
Coordinates	
GPS Elevation	492 feet
Coordinates	N 46°29.243' W 87°07.523'
Access	Railroad Lane off Sand River Road – distance is .7 miles to the bridge
Parking	Parking is not available at this site
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fishing only from the bridge</li><li>• No designated parking available</li><li>• North Country Trail access (trail crossing) east of the bridge</li><li>• Not ADA accessible</li><li>• Private property on the west side of the bridge</li></ul>



## James Jeske Flooding – Launch



### Description

The DNR built this wildlife flooding area on the Sand River located 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Boat / canoe / kayak launch (concrete ramp with no pier)
- ❖ Fishing – open water
- ❖ Hunting (waterfowl)
- ❖ Ice fishing
- ❖ Open space

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ATV / ORV trail (DNR trail 417)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (North Country Trail)
- ❖ Snowshoeing (North Country Trail)

### Accessibility

The launch ramp can be accessed from a two-track

road from 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.

### Site Information

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parcel	52-02-012-032-10
Address	891 Sand River Road
Location	Off Sand River Road
Web Site	<a href="http://www.michigandnr.com/publications/pdfs/huntingwildlifehabitat/sga/Sand_River_Flooding_SWMA_map.pdf">www.michigandnr.com/publications/pdfs/huntingwildlifehabitat/sga/Sand_River_Flooding_SWMA_map.pdf</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 12
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 549 feet N 46°29.087' W 87°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"> <li>• ADA accessible across grass parking area</li> <li>• Concrete launch ramp</li> <li>• North Country Trail access (east and west)</li> <li>• Parking for five vehicles with trailers</li> </ul>



## Lake LeVasseur



### Description

The DNR constructed a public access site to Lake LeVasseur primarily for fishing and waterfowl hunting. Located off Kawbawgam Road, the site is approximately eight miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection.

The DNR rebuilt the dam on the west end of the lake to provide improved hunting and fishing opportunities for the public. The lake was drawn down in 2012 and in 2018 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Boat / canoe / kayak launch (concrete ramp with no pier)
- ❖ Fishing – open water, shore and ice fishing
- ❖ Hunting (waterfowl)
- ❖ Open space

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ATV / ORV access (DNR trail 417)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (North Country Trail)
- ❖ Snowshoeing (North Country Trail)

### Accessibility

The boat ramp and parking area are accessible from a dirt road off of Kawbawgam Road (same road used for the Kawbawgam Ski Trail 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.

### Site Information

Property Owner	Michigan 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
Web Site	<a href="http://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis/mapbasic.aspx?basid=A-52-056">www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis/mapbasic.aspx?basid=A-52-056</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 17
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 651 feet N 46°28.752' W 87°12.937'
Access	Dirt / gravel road off 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"> <li>• ADA accessible to ramp but limited to other portions of the area</li> </ul>



## Marquette State 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Interpretive site
- ❖ Restroom facilities (with running water)
- ❖ Self-guided tours

### Accessibility

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

### Site Information

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
Web Site	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79136_79236_80247_80504_82188--,00.html">www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79136_79236_80247_80504_82188--,00.html</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 18
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 657 feet N 46°28.118' W 87°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"><li>• ADA accessible</li><li>• No fishing equipment or boats permitted inside the hatchery gate</li></ul>



## Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Scenic Turnouts



### Description

MDOT owns three roadside scenic turnouts by the M-28 corridor along the Lake Superior shoreline. Together, the first and second turnouts have approximately 1.5 miles of continuous beach access, while the third provides 1/2 mile of 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 and offer scenic rest stops for tourists.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Picnic location
- ❖ Restroom facilities (pit toilet – first turnout only)

Nearby opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Camping near turnout # 1 (Gitche Gumee RV Park)
- ❖ Sculpture park near turnouts # 2 and # 3 (Lakenenland)

### Accessibility

All three turnouts are accessible directly from M-28 from either the east end or the west end of the individual turnout. All three turnouts have paved parking areas, with ADA-accessible picnic tables and grill located at the first turnout. The restrooms at the first turnout are ADA-accessible. The viewing

area of the lake at all three sites is ADA accessible.

### Sites

#### M-28 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	Approximately 5.6 miles from the US 41 / M-28 intersection on M-28 East
Web Site	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-11151_11033_52552---,00.html">www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-11151_11033_52552---,00.html</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.23W, Section 7
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 622 feet N 46°29.291' W 87°13.817'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Driveway entrance at the east side of the site</li> <li>2. Driveway entrance at the west side of the site</li> </ol>
Parking	Large parallel parking area; will accommodate motor homes and vehicles with trailers
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADA accessible for parking, grill, restrooms, and picnic tables</li> <li>• Grill</li> <li>• Map and directional kiosk</li> <li>• No access to the beach</li> <li>• Picnic tables</li> <li>• Restroom facilities (pit)</li> <li>• Scenic view</li> </ul>



**M-28 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  
 Web Site [www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-11151\\_11033\\_52552---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-11151_11033_52552---,00.html)  
 Map Coordinates T.47N, R.23W, Section 8  
 GPS Coordinates Elevation: 590 ft. N 46°29.381' W087°12.585'  
 Access Two access points:  
 1. Driveway entrance at the east side of the site  
 2. Driveway entrance at the west side of the site  
 Parking Large parallel parking area; will accommodate motor homes and vehicles with trailers  
 Additional Information
 

- ADA accessible for parking
- No access to the beach
- No restroom facilities available
- Scenic view

**M-28 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  
 Web Site [www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-11151\\_11033\\_52552---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-11151_11033_52552---,00.html)  
 Map Coordinates T.47N, R.23W, Section 1  
 GPS Coordinates Elevation: 622 ft. N 46°29.606' W087°07.678'  
 Access Two access points:  
 1. Driveway entrance at the east side of the site  
 2. Driveway entrance at the west side of the site  
 Parking Large parallel parking area; will accommodate motor homes and vehicles with trailers  
 Additional Information
 

- ADA accessible for parking
- Access to the beach
- No restroom facilities available
- Scenic view



## Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Welcome Center



### Description

the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) owns and operates the Welcome Center, located at the northern border of the Township. The Welcome Center provides travel and tourism information and offers an overlook and access to Lake Superior.

### 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, and beach along Lake Superior.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Interpretive site
- ❖ Lake Superior beach access
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Picnic location
- ❖ Restroom facilities (with running water)
- ❖ Snowmobile trail access
- ❖ Swimming (no lifeguard)
- ❖ Tourist information

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Fishing (Chocoley River)
- ❖ Paved multi-use path (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)

### Accessibility

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

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

### Site

Property Owner	Michigan Department of Transportation
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
Web Site	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-11151_11033_52552---,00.html">www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-11151_11033_52552---,00.html</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 611 feet N 46°30.257' W 87°21.763'
Access	Two access points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Driveway entrance at the north side of the site</li> <li>2. Driveway entrance at the south side of the site</li> </ol>
Parking	Two parking areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. North side of the site</li> <li>2. South side of the site</li> </ol>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to the beach</li> <li>• ADA accessible except to beach</li> <li>• Picnic area with grill</li> <li>• Restroom facilities with running water</li> </ul>



# 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.

## Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Golf
- ❖ Restroom facilities (with running water)

## 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.

## Site

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 Location	125 Chocolay Downs Golf Drive On Chocolay Downs Golf Drive, south of M-28 E
Web Site	<a href="http://www.nmu.edu/golfcourse/home-page">www.nmu.edu/golfcourse/home-page</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 10
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 627 feet N 46°28.876' W 87°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"> <li>• 18 hole golf course</li> <li>• ADA accessible</li> </ul>



HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT
BLUE	298	409	170	255	189	424	351	253	289	374
WHITE	288	450	106	299	163	396	324	324	551	2901
YELLOW	278	389	80	288	126	288	256	283	488	2478
RED	268	379	70	278	116	278	246	273	478	2368
HDCP	7	15	18	6	4	1	3	11	13	

♦ Observe cart paths where provided  
 ♦ Allow faster players to play through  
 ♦ No more than a foursome for open play  
 ♦ Shirts must be worn at all times  
 ♦ Keep the pace. 18 holes no longer than 4 hours  
 ♦ GAM Canteen / Snaps Kiosk 70.3/123  
 ♦ Blue 67.5/115  
 ♦ Yellow 63.8/108  
 ♦ Red 66.1/113

**Front Nine**  
 NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY GOLF COURSE  
 General Manager: Glenn Rochester  
 Superintendent: Mike O'Leary  
**NMU GOLF COURSE**  
 1000 S. DILL BUILDING  
 1400 S. GOLF DRIVE  
 1000 S. DILL BUILDING

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	HCP	NET
349	329	168	461	126	331	377	576	332	3072	4227		
334	328	123	440	119	249	331	512	325	2761	5662		
269	320	115	364	112	217	307	417	284	2425	4903		
259	309	93	358	100	211	264	374	270	2214	4536		
8	2	10	16	12	17	9	14	5				

**Back Nine**  
 Clubhouse  
 PLEASE: Make bunkers Repair ball marks to replace divots  
 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ SCORER: \_\_\_\_\_ ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_





## Private Sites

**Table 5** shows the recreational opportunities available at privately-owned sites located in the Township.

**Table 5 Private Sites**

Recreation Opportunity	Recreation Sites				
	Chocolay Bayou Nature Preserve	Chocolay River RV Campground	Gitche Gumees RV Park	Homestead Golf	Lakeland
Camping		● A, B	● A, B, C		
Fishing	■ D ● D	● D			● E
Golf		■ G		● F	
Open space		●	●	●	●
Picnic location		●	●		●
Restroom facilities		● L	● L	● L	● K
Sculptures / artwork					●
Trails	● I ■ H	■ H	■ H		● H, I ■ H
<b>Total On-Site Amenities</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>

### Private Locations Legends

Location	Description
●	On site
■	Nearby (within one mile of site)

Amenity	Description
A	Camping – primitive
B	Camping – RV
C	camping – cabins
D	Fishing – stream or river
E	Fishing / ice fishing – open water
F	golf – 9 holes
G	golf – 18 holes
H	Multi-use path -- paved
I	Non-motorized trails – developed
J	Non-motorized trails – undeveloped
K	restroom facilities – pit toilet
L	restroom facilities – running water



## Chocolay Bayou Nature Preserve



### Description

This 11.3-acre site provides trails and interpretive locations through a very diverse nature preserve. This preserve is unique in that it both located in a residential neighborhood and it can be accessed from the Chocolay River via a bayou that borders the preserve.

There are three access points for the site. One is from West Main Street, a second is via kayak, canoe or boat from the nearby bayou, and the third is a walking path connected to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.

### Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. This preserve is very popular with Township residents and visitors, especially those using the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Fishing (river bayou)
- ❖ Nature trail

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Fishing (Chocolay River)
- ❖ Hiawatha Water Trail (mouth of the Chocolay River)

- ❖ Gravel multi-use path (Iron Ore Heritage Trail)

### Accessibility

This site is not ADA-accessible.

### Location

Property Owner	Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy
Parcel	52-02-106-022-00
Address	230 West Main Street
Location	On West Main Street, approximate 1/5 of a mile from the US 41 South / West Main Street intersection
Web Site	<a href="http://www.uplandconservancy.org/interactive-map/">www.uplandconservancy.org/interactive-map/</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 6
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 627 feet
Coordinates	N 46° 29' 52.004" W 87° 21' 24.724"
Access	Parking lot entrance on West Main Street
Parking	Parking is very limited
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not ADA accessible</li><li>• Restroom facilities not available</li><li>• Trails are signed</li></ul>



## Chocolay River RV Campground



### Description

This privately-owned campground is located approximately 3 1/2 miles east of the US 41 / M-28 intersection. Newly constructed in 2017, the site provides RV pull through spots, with full water, sewer and electric hookups. Tent camping is also available.

The site is open from May 1 through October 31.

### Primary Service Area

The primary service area is regional. This campground is available for Township residents and visitors.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Internet access
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Picnic location
- ❖ Primitive camping
- ❖ Restroom facilities (running water with showers)
- ❖ RV camping

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Golf – 18 holes (NMU Golf Course)

### Accessibility

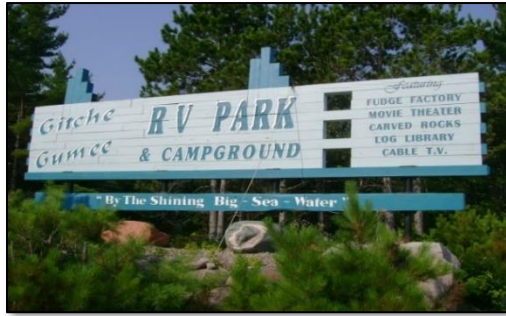
The campground is relatively flat, which provides ADA accessibility.

### Location

Property	Chocolay River RV & Campground
Owner	LLC
Parcel	52-02-114-003-00
Address	123 Eagle Pass Trail
Location	Near the intersection of M-28 East and Chocolay Downs Golf Drive
Web Site	<a href="http://chocolayrivercamping.com/">chocolayrivercamping.com/</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 14
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 620 feet
Coordinates	N 46°28' 47.093' W 87°16' 54.58'
Access	South on Chocolay Downs Golf Drive, then left onto Brewer Drive
Parking	For campers and tent campers
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long-stay camping is available</li></ul>



## 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 100 campsites and has a restroom / shower / laundry building available. Cabins are available for rent, and the site has a lodge and entertainment room available on-site. Nearly half of the sites support water, sewer, and electrical service, while the remaining sites are considered primitive.

### Primary Service Area

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

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Cross-country skiing (not groomed)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (developed)
- ❖ Internet access
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Picnic location
- ❖ Primitive camping
- ❖ Restroom facilities (running water with showers)
- ❖ RV camping
- ❖ Snowshoeing

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

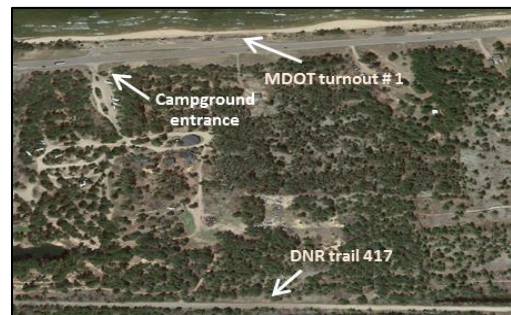
- ❖ ATV / ORV trail access (DNR trail 417)
- ❖ MDOT turnouts # 1 and # 2

### Accessibility

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

### Location

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
Web Site	<a href="http://www.gitchegumee.com/">www.gitchegumee.com/</a>
Map	T.47N, R.24W, Section 7
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 631 feet
Coordinates	N 46°29.269' W 87°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"> <li>• Year-round overnight camping</li> </ul>



## 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Golf
- ❖ Restroom facilities (with running water)

### Accessibility

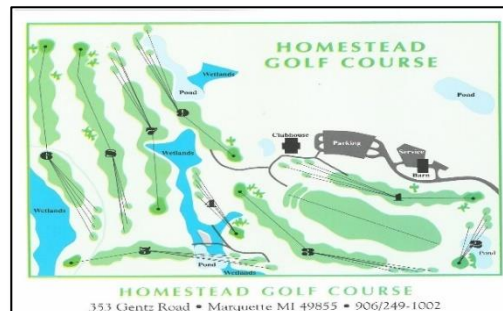
The golf course is accessible by vehicle from County Road 480 on Gentz Road. The parking area is located near the course clubhouse and is ADA-accessible.

### Site

Property Owner	Randell and Cathleen Gentz
Parcel	52-02-120-014-00
Address	353 Gentz Road
Location	Off County Road 480, near the Beaver Grove Bison farm
Web Site	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/Gentzs-Homestead-Golf-Course-364498104831/">www.facebook.com/Gentzs-Homestead-Golf-Course-364498104831/</a>
Map Coordinates	T.47N, R.24W, Section 20
GPS Coordinates	Elevation: 686 feet N 46°27.36' W 87°20.20'
Access	From County Road 480 turn south on Gentz Road. Clubhouse is at the end of the road.
Parking	Parking area is near the clubhouse at the top of the hill
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADA accessible</li> </ul>



HOMESTEAD GOLF COURSE										
353 Gentz Road Marquette MI 49855 906/249-1002										
Hole No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
Blue Tees	360	145	435	175	370	525	440	495	385	3,330
White Tees	345	130	405	160	350	495	415	465	355	3,120
Gold Tees	320	110	360	145	320	470	390	435	330	2,905
Red Tees	300	100	335	135	270	440	355	415	305	2,680
Par	4	3	4	3	4	5	4	5	4	36



## Lakenenland



### Description

Lakenenland is truly one of the most unique locations in the region. Located approximately six miles from the US 41 South / M-28 intersection, the park features over sixty brightly painted metal sculptures, which are available 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.

### Recreation Opportunities

On-site recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ Bird / wildlife observation
- ❖ Fishing (small ponds on site)
- ❖ Hiking / nature trail (developed)
- ❖ Metal sculptures / artwork
- ❖ Open space
- ❖ Outdoor band shell
- ❖ Picnic location
- ❖ Restroom facilities (pit toilet)
- ❖ Snowshoeing

Nearby recreation opportunities and facilities include:

- ❖ ATV / ORV trail access (DNR trail 417)

- ❖ MDOT Turnout # 2

### Accessibility

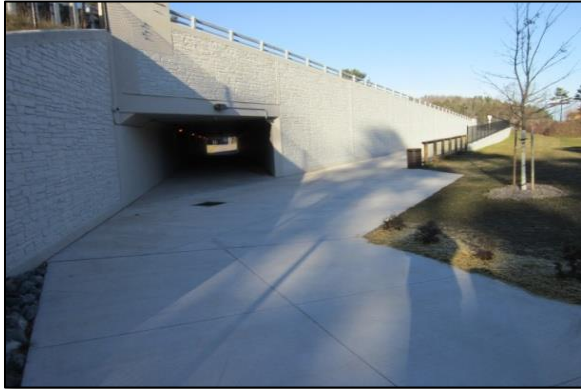
The park is directly accessible from M-28, and sculptures can be viewed by foot or from a vehicle. The site is family-friendly and ADA-accessible.

### Site

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
Web Site	lakenenland.com
Map	T.47N, R.23W, Section 11
Coordinates	
GPS	Elevation: 617 feet
Coordinates	N 46°29.538' W 87°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"><li>• ADA accessible</li><li>• Concert shell</li><li>• Metal art sculptures</li></ul>



## Trails



There are several hard-surfaced developed trails and one water trail located within the Township. These trails (most of which are multi-purpose), serve both those that live in the Township and those that visit.

Trail construction in the Township started with a paved, non-motorized trail that connected the Silver Creek Recreation Area with Cherry Creek Elementary School. This trail was constructed with MDOT funds in 2001.

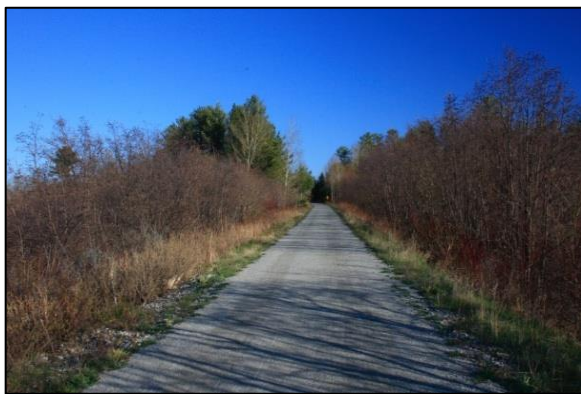
In 2004, The Township received a DNR Trust Fund grant to develop a Chocolay River water trail access site at the Township marina. This project served as a

connecting point to the Hiawatha Water Trail ([www.hiawathawatertrail.org](http://www.hiawathawatertrail.org)) that stretches from Grand Marias to Big Bay.

In 2010, the Township received an MDOT Enhancement Grant of \$1.6 million and a DNR 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 DNR 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, completely separated from the vehicles using the highway. The project included construction of a new bridge to carry trail traffic over the Chocolay River on M-28 and the planting of 200 trees and shrubs along US 41.



Another significant development in 2010 was the DNR 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 wheelchairs. 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.

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. A trailhead was added in 2017 at Lion's Field that provides parking, a restroom, pavilion, picnic tables, water fountain and grills for trail users to enjoy.

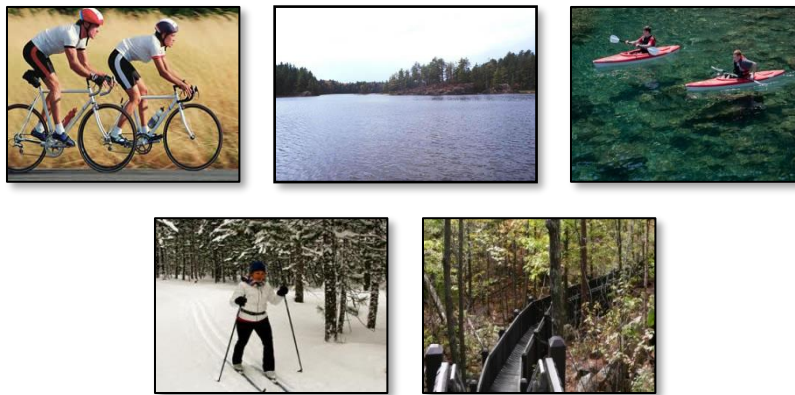


## Township Community Wide Events

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

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

## Regional Recreation Locations



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 C*.

## 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.<sup>1</sup>

### 1988 Recreation Bond Fund

**Table 6** describes the Recreation Bond Fund grants the DNR awarded to the Township.

**Table 6 Chocoley Township Recreation Bond Fund grants**

Project Year	Project Number	Project Title	Grant Amount	Project Status	Project Description
1989	BF89-192	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	\$30,800.00	Closed	Development of soccer field, ball field, parking, access drive, security lighting, irrigation system, ice rink area and horseshoe court

<sup>1</sup>Information extracted from Michigan DNR Grant History for Chocoley Township.





## Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Recreation Bond Fund

**Table 7** describes Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) grants the DNR awarded to the Township.

**Table 7** Chocoley Township Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) grants

Project Year	Project Number	Project Title	Grant Amount	Project Status	Project Description
2000	CM00-043	Beaver Grove Recreation Area Development	\$85,066.00	Closed	Additional development of Beaver Grove Recreation Area, including additional parking, a pavilion, signage and basketball court

## Land and Water Conservation Fund

**Table 8** describes Land and Water Conservation Fund grants the DNR awarded to the Township.

**Table 8** Chocoley Township Land and Water Conservation Fund grants

Project Year	Project Number	Project Title	Grant Amount	Project Status	Project Description
1972	26-00373	Chocoley Twp. Rec. Area	\$27,800.44	Closed	Picnic area, 2 lighted tennis courts, bleachers, fencing, playground, road parking, toilet and warming complex, well bleachers, ball field, lighting ice rink, stairway
1977	26-01006	Chocoley Twp. Tennis Courts	\$6,500.00	Closed	Develop 1 acre: 2 fenced tennis courts, and LWCF sign, graveling entrance road, and site improvements
1978	26-01060 F	Recreation Area II	\$7,000.00	Closed	Acquire 12 acres
1985	26-01357	Chocoley Twp Recreation Area	\$6,500.00	Closed	Develop: roads parking, playground equipment, tables, grills, benches, and LWCF sign

## Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

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

**Table 9** Chocoley Township Michigan Natural Resources Trust grants

Project Year	Project Number	Project Title	Grant Amount	Project Status	Project Description
1986	TF86-301	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	\$12,300.00	Closed	To acquire 14 acres in the central Upper Peninsula for a multi-use recreation area
1988	TF88-103	Beaver Grove Recreation Area	\$29,175.00	Closed	To develop 15-acre park including a playground, picnic area, trails, soccer field and restroom
1998	TF98-041	Chocoley Multi-Use Trails	\$34,846.00	Withdrawn	Acquire in fee simple terms approximately 40.5 acres for planned development of a trailhead and multi-use trail system, providing access to Cherry, Cedar, and Big Creek, which are all significant trout streams.
2004	TF04-102	Chocoley River Water Trail Access Site	\$18,300.00	Closed	Development of a water trail access site on the Chocoley River, including kayak locker, tent platforms, boardwalk through wetlands and a fishing platform



Project Year	Project Number	Project Title	Grant Amount	Project Status	Project Description
2014	TF14-0219	Lion's Field Trailhead Development and Park Improvements	\$50,000.00	Closed	A partnership with the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority established the existing Lion's Field park to be the eastern-most non-motorized trailhead for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. Universally accessible elements included connecting trail, pavilion, picnic tables, benches, drinking water access, vault toilet, sports field access, and expanded parking; other elements including an information kiosk, bike rack, and directional signs to support this 48-mile regional trail system

**Recreation Passport Grant Program**

Table 10 describes the Recreation Passport grant the DNR awarded to the Township.

Table 10 Chocolay Township Recreation Passport Grant

Project Year	Project Number	Project Title	Grant Amount	Project Status	Project Description
2016	RP16-0124	Silver Creek Recreation Area Multisport Court Complex	\$45,000.00	PA Executed	Renovation of four tennis courts into a new multi-sport configuration consisting of two tennis courts lined for both tennis and pickleball





## NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY

### Township Natural Features

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 the Township. Residents enjoy being close to their outdoor “playground”, watching birds, picking wild berries, gardening, sledding, snowshoeing, and relaxing on the beach.

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 Township strives 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.

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.

### Geology

A prominent cliff of exposed bedrock called “the Rock Cut” serves as the northern gateway to the Township. This rock face consists of some of the oldest exposed rocks in North America.

### Natural Vegetation

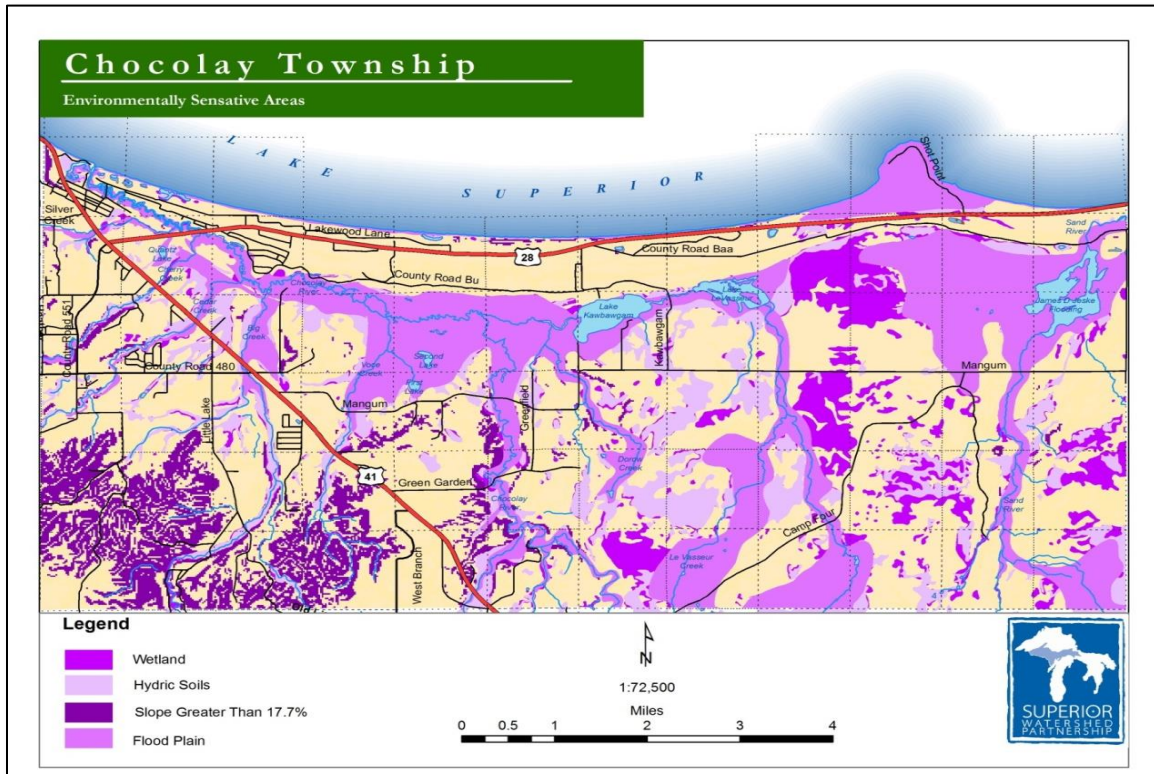
The natural vegetation includes dune grasses, hardwood and conifer forests, wetlands, shrub areas and grasslands. Many different species of animals and birds can be observed in these habitats. Resources meriting special protection include dunes, wetlands, steep slopes, floodplains, and waterways.



## 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 3** illustrates a combination of wetlands, floodplains, areas of hydric soils, slopes greater than 17.7 percent, and waterways.

**Figure 3 Sensitive Natural Areas of Chocolay Township**

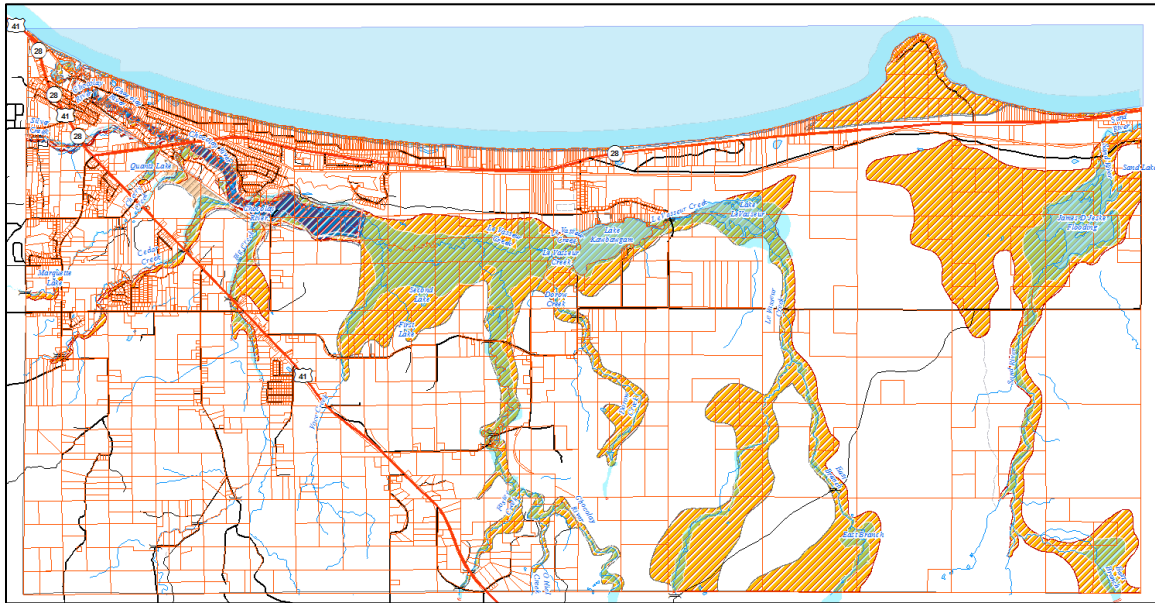


## Floodplains

Chocolay Township floodplains are located along Lake Superior and various watercourses (See **Figure 4** 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 were adopted in 2015 and will result in fewer floodplain restrictions in some areas and more in others.



**Figure 4 Floodplains of Chocolay Township**



*Floodplains map legend*

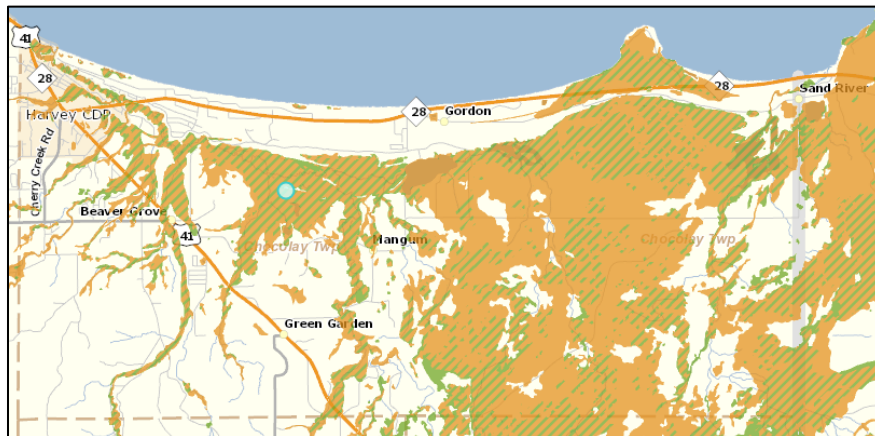
- 100-year floodway area
- 100-year flood
- Other flood areas
- outside 500-year floodplain

**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.”<sup>2</sup> 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, the Township has 10,200 acres of wetlands, and the vast majority of wetlands in the Township are forested. 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 5**.

**Figure 5 Wetlands of Chocolay Township**



*Wetlands map legend*

<sup>2</sup> “Wetlands 101”, <http://michiganwetlands.com/about/wetlands-101/>



- Wetlands as identified on NWI and MIRIS maps
- Soil areas which include wetland soils
- Wetlands as identified on NWI and MIRIS maps and soil areas which include wetland soils

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.

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 was 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, 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.

The map location and detailed map coordinates for these watercourses are found in *Lakes, Reservoirs, and Waterways* 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 four named lakes – Lake Kawbawgam, First Lake, Second Lake and Quantz Lake – that are not impoundments within the Township. None of these lakes provide for public access.

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

## Programs to Preserve the Natural Features

Programs and plans that support the community to preserve natural features have been implemented in the Township. There are others that will benefit the community as the plans are implemented and updated. The programs and plans are:

Chocolay River Watershed Management Plan	Superior Watershed Partnership	Plan was written in 1999, and should be updated to incorporate the changes and practices related to the watershed
Community Rating System	FEMA	FEMA flood plain maps went into effect in 2015 and this program will assist residents to properly maintain their properties, structures and assets in the flood plain
Emergency Management Response	Marquette County	This county-wide plan covers how government entities respond to emergency situations (such as floods and wildfires)
Firewise USA	National Fire Protection Association	This program gives residents the knowledge to help make their properties safer from wildfire
Michigan Shoreline Stewards	Michigan Shoreline Partnership	This program is designed to assist residents that live along the water to find ways to manage their property shorelines to help protect the water resources
StormReady	National Weather Service	This program is designed to give the community the ability to prepare for extreme weather and water events





## DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

### Planning Methods

#### System Approach to Planning

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

- The diversity of users and user groups served by the opportunity
- Consideration for four-season use
- The ability to alter the opportunity to adapt to 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 ongoing support for the life of the project
- The extent to which the opportunity prevents or mitigates risks (such as flood hazards and fire)
- The extent to which the opportunity utilizes renewable resources
- The economic, social, or environmental impact associated with the recreation opportunity
- 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

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 public, cooperative and private recreation areas 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
- Regional public and private recreational opportunities
- User preferences through an opinion survey

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 public access to interactive outdoor and recreational experiences





## DESCRIPTION OF THE 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* and the *2014 – 2018 Recreation & Natural Resource Conservation Plan*.

### Recreation Discussion – Planning Commission

- Planning Commission meetings where recreation was discussed

<b>2008</b>	September 10	March 16	April 16
December 8	November 5	June 15	September 24
<b>2009</b>	December 3	July 20	October 15
February 9	<b>2013</b>	<b>2016</b>	November 26
March 9	March 4	January 18	<b>2019</b>
June 8	May 6	February 15	January 21
October 12	June 3	November 21	March 18
November 2	August 26	December 19	April 15
<b>2011</b>	September 9	<b>2017</b>	August 26
May 2	October 7	January 16	September 16
June 6	December 2	May 15	October 21
<b>2012</b>	<b>2014</b>	December 18	December 16
January 9	January 6	<b>2018</b>	
August 22	<b>2015</b>	February 19	

**Note** Planning Commission meeting minutes from 8.22.12 to present can be found online at [www.chocolay.org/agendasandminutes/planningcommission.php](http://www.chocolay.org/agendasandminutes/planningcommission.php).



## Recreation Discussion – Township Board

- Township Board meetings where recreation was discussed

<b>2005</b>	March 13	July 1	<b>2018</b>
June 6	April 15	August 5	February 12
August 15	May 20	September 2	May 14
<b>2006</b>	August 19	October 7	June 11
June 19	<b>2014</b>	December 2	July 16
November 13	January 20	<b>2016</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>2007</b>	February 17	January 6	January 14
April 16	March 17	March 2	February 18
<b>2008</b>	April 21	April 6	
December 15	June 9	May 4	
<b>2012</b>	September 15	June 1	
February 20	<b>2015</b>	September 7	
April 16	February 4	<b>2017</b>	
August 22	March 4	January 9	
<b>2013</b>	April 1	June 12	
February 18	June 3	August 14	

**Note** Township Board meeting minutes from 2.12.12 to present can be found online at [www.chocolay.org/agendasandminutes/townshipboard.php](http://www.chocolay.org/agendasandminutes/townshipboard.php).

## Regional Recreation Discussions and Surveys

Date	Activity
2006	City of Marquette / Chocolay Township Community Attitude and Interest Survey
April 12, 2012	Public meeting
2010	Public opinion survey of Township residents
2013	Public opinion survey of Township residents
2013	Beaver Grove Softball Survey
2013	Lion's Field Softball Survey
June, 2013	Meeting with DPW and Community Development Coordinator with user groups
February 10, 2014	Public hearing – Planning Commission meeting
2018-2019	Public opinion survey of Township residents



# Plan Availability for Public Review and Comment

## Plan Availability Notice

Figure 6 shows the text that was posted on the Township web site posting that the plan was available for 30 days of review.

Figure 6 Township Web Site Posting

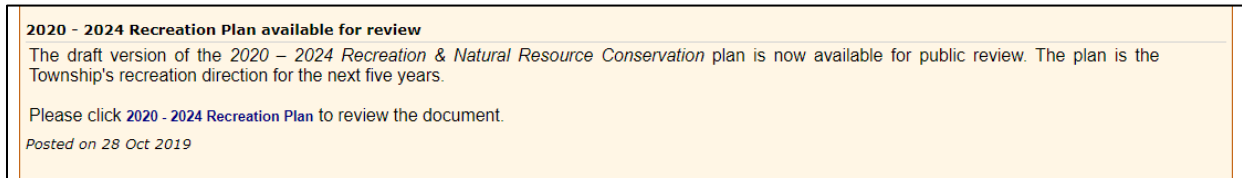
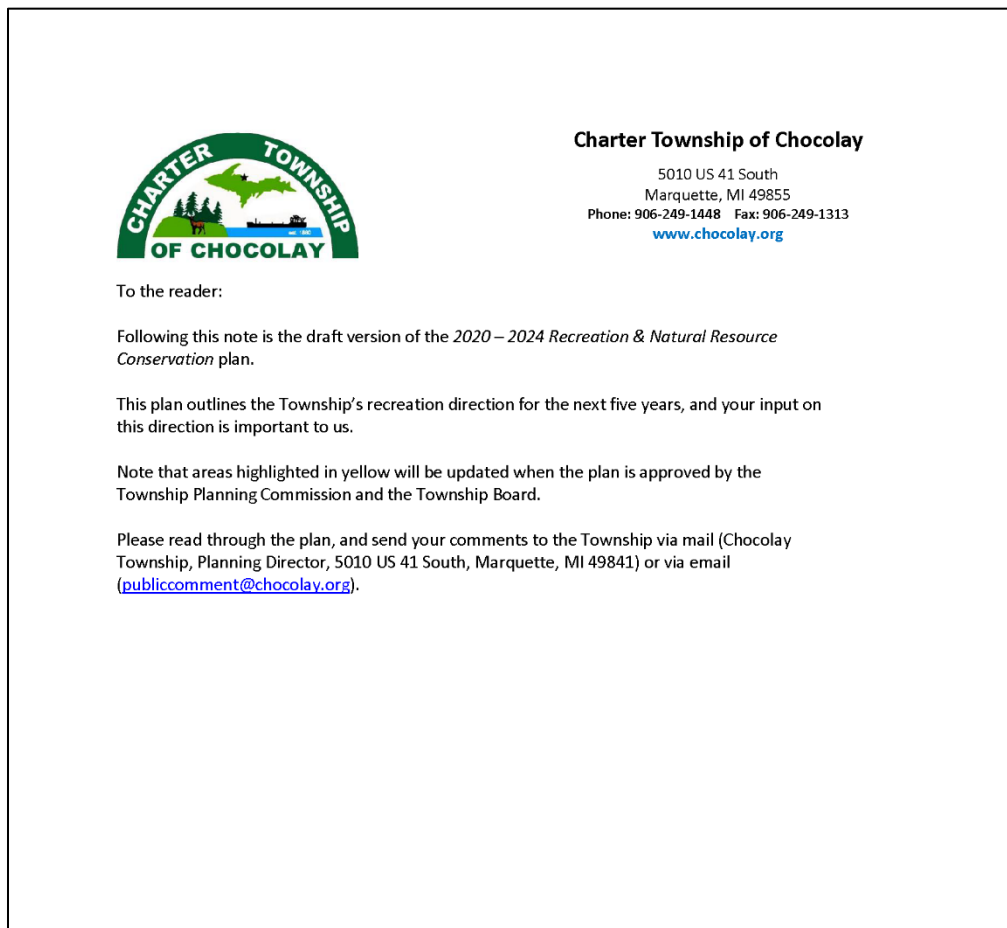


Figure 7 shows the notice that was included in the web document as the cover page for the plan.

Figure 7 Township Web Site Cover Page for Plan



## Notice for Public Hearing for Plan Adoption

Figure 8 shows the newspaper notice that was published to provide notice for the public hearing for plan adoption.

Figure 8 Township Web Site Posting

**The Mining Journal**  
Upper Michigan's Largest Daily Newspaper  
249 W. Washington St., P.O. Box 430, Marquette, Michigan 49855. Phone (906)228-2500. Fax (906)228-3273

---

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

---

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

For the County of **MARQUETTE**

In the matter of: Notice of Public Hearing  
Chocolay Township Board  
Draft Recreation Plan  
January 13, 2020

Size: 2 x 2.5

State of **MICHIGAN**, County of Marquette ss.

**GERALD NEWHOUSE**

being duly sworn, says that he is

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**

of **THE MINING JOURNAL**

a newspaper published and circulated in said county and otherwise qualified according to Supreme Court Rule; that annexed hereto is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date, or dates, to-wit

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CHOCOLAY**


The Chocolay Township Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 5:30 PM at the Chocolay Township Hall at 5010 US 41 South, Marquette, MI to hear public comment on the draft recreation plan for the Township.

The draft recreation plan outlines the Township recreation direction for the next five years.


Copies of the proposed plan are available for review and inspection at the Chocolay Township Hall Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM and can also be viewed at [www.chocolay.org](http://www.chocolay.org). Written comments will be received until 12 PM Wednesday January 8, 2020. Questions or written comments can be directed to Dale Thronle at 249-1448 or to [publiccomment@chocolay.org](mailto:publiccomment@chocolay.org).

Chocolay Township will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon four business day notice to the Chocolay Township Clerk.

December 28, 2019

  
GERALD NEWHOUSE

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 30th day of December 2019.

  
JILLY GASMAN  
Notary Public for Marquette County, Michigan  
Acting in the County of Marquette  
My commission expires: May 25, 2025



## Township Board Minutes

Figure 9 Township Board Minutes extract – page 1

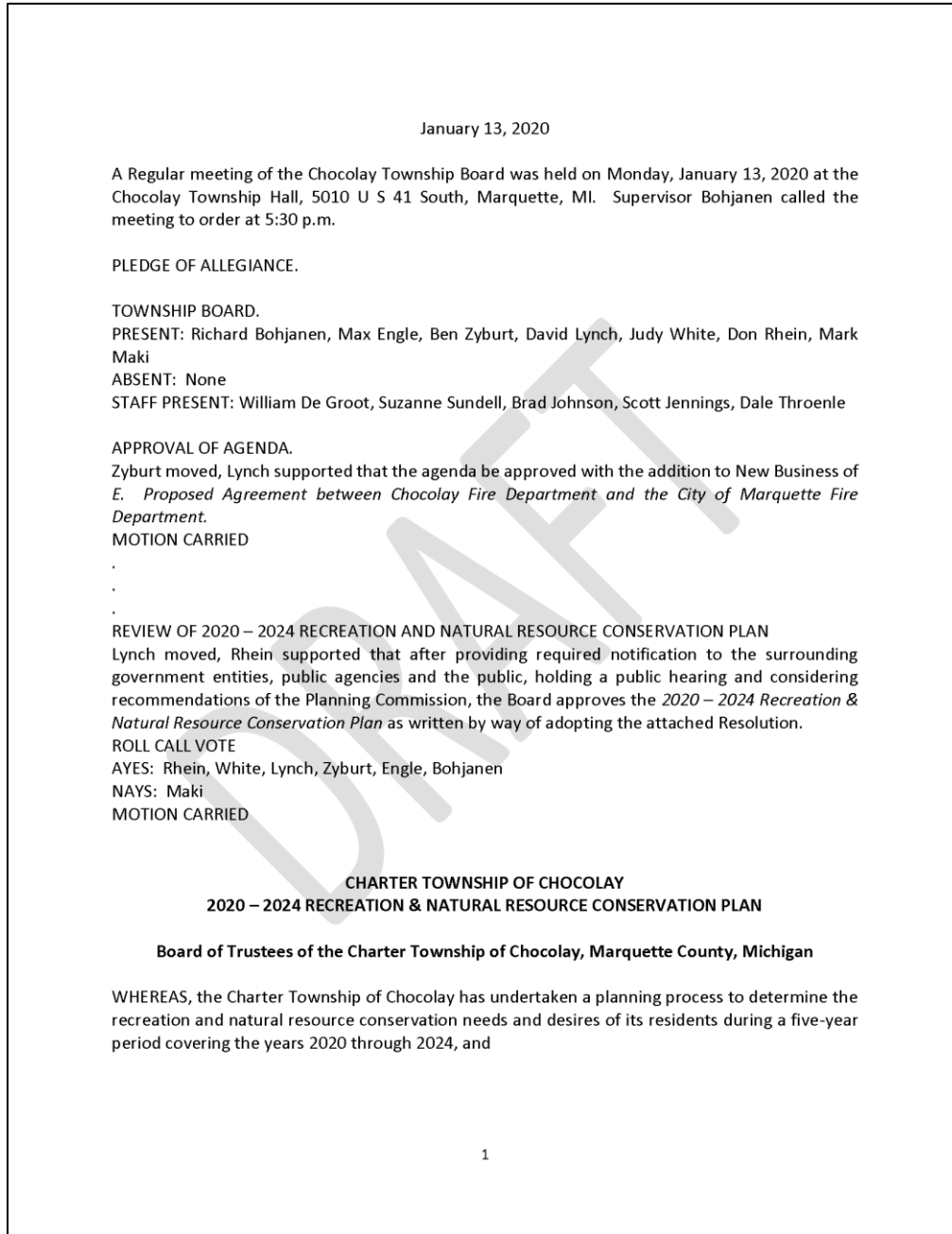


Figure shows an extract of the minutes for the January 13, 2020 meeting where the Township Board adopted the recreation plan.



Figure 9 Township Board Minutes extract – page 1

January 13, 2020

A Regular meeting of the Chocolay Township Board was held on Monday, January 13, 2020 at the Chocolay Township Hall, 5010 U S 41 South, Marquette, MI. Supervisor Bohjanen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

TOWNSHIP BOARD.  
PRESENT: Richard Bohjanen, Max Engle, Ben Zybert, David Lynch, Judy White, Don Rhein, Mark Maki  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF PRESENT: William De Groot, Suzanne Sundell, Brad Johnson, Scott Jennings, Dale Throenle

APPROVAL OF AGENDA.  
Zybert moved, Lynch supported that the agenda be approved with the addition to New Business of *E. Proposed Agreement between Chocolay Fire Department and the City of Marquette Fire Department.*  
MOTION CARRIED  
.  
.  
.

REVIEW OF 2020 – 2024 RECREATION AND NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION PLAN  
Lynch moved, Rhein supported that after providing required notification to the surrounding government entities, public agencies and the public, holding a public hearing and considering recommendations of the Planning Commission, the Board approves the *2020 – 2024 Recreation & Natural Resource Conservation Plan* as written by way of adopting the attached Resolution.

ROLL CALL VOTE  
AYES: Rhein, White, Lynch, Zybert, Engle, Bohjanen  
NAYS: Maki  
MOTION CARRIED

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CHOCOLAY  
2020 – 2024 RECREATION & 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 2020 through 2024, and

1



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, 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 public hearing was held on January 13, 2020 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 *2020 – 2024 Recreation & 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 the Charter Township of Chocolay, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Charter Township of Chocolay voted to adopt said *2020 – 2024 Recreation & Natural Resource Conservation Plan*.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Charter Township of Chocolay Board of Trustees hereby adopts the *2020 – 2024 Recreation & Natural Resource Conservation Plan*.

Yeas: 6      Nays: 1      Absent: 0

Date Approved:      January 13, 2020

State of Michigan

County of Marquette

.

.

.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.







## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This section outlines goals, policies, implementation strategies, and additional responsibilities related to the implementation of the programs outlined in the *Action Program* section.

### Goals

Goals to satisfy the recreation desires and needs for the Township include:

- Providing recreational opportunities for Township residents that reflect their lifestyles, public health, and a sense of place
- Accommodating all age groups and abilities (including universal access and ADA)
- Providing recreation opportunities that will attract visitors to the Township
- Prioritizing recreation opportunities that support economic and environmental sustainability and adaptation
- Establishing risk management policies and procedures for Township recreation properties to ensure a safe recreation environment
- Developing maintenance policies and procedures that will ensure the longevity of recreation facilities and equipment

### Policies

The Township supports a recreation policy that:

- Achieves a geographical balance of recreational opportunities within the Township
- Encourages residents to engage in recreation activities in the Township
- Supports and encourages the vision and goals in the Township 2015 *Master Plan*
- Ranks recreation decisions according to the *Priority Decision Criteria* contained in *Chapter 2* in the Township 2015 *Master Plan*
- Includes public comment regarding recreation-related issues
- Continues to evaluate and develop existing and new recreational programs and facilities
- Provides for adequate land area and equipment for recreation facilities and programs
- Minimizes negative impacts of new development and other land use activities adjacent to trail corridors, unique cultural features, recreation sites, open spaces and conservation areas



- Encourages the development of private recreation facilities and uses
- Develops recreation collaboration with adjacent jurisdictions

## Implementation Strategies

The Township staff operates with a team focus regarding Township recreation. Team members:

- Accomplish, as best as possible, the goals for each recreation property and project within the specified time frames
- Actively promote and encourage participation in the recreation opportunities within the Township

- Assist the Planning Director / Zoning Administrator in presenting recreation direction to the Planning Commission and the Township Board
- Encourage and coordinate 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 ongoing recreation opportunities

## Additional Responsibilities

Project / Responsibility	Department Responsible	Time Frame
Classify all Township-maintained recreation areas according to Michigan Department of Natural Resources' <i>Guidelines for Preparing a Community Recreation Plan</i> so problems can be corrected in those areas	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator	2020
Research the possibility of obtaining grants to fund recreational projects and programs	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, DPW	2020 and ongoing
Assure continued conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and related amendments	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator, DPW	2020 and ongoing
Research and develop programs and activities that stress participation of all age groups and abilities	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator	2020 and ongoing
Develop and conduct a public survey on recreation every two years	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator	2021, 2023
Enforce and strengthen, where necessary, all appropriate land-use controls (such as Township zoning and related ordinances)	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator	2020 and ongoing
Seek the cooperation and participation of private landowners to allow public recreation where appropriate	Planning Director / Zoning Administrator	2020 and ongoing





## ACTION PROGRAM

The action program contains both general and site-specific implementation strategies to address perceived and known issues with recreation in the Township. The action program is split into two categories: general and site-specific. General implementation strategies address recreation needs within a broader scope or context, while site-specific strategies address a plan for each of the Township recreation areas.

### General Issues and Strategies

General issues and strategies cover all recreation possibilities within the Township. Each category in this section addresses a different consideration for recreation that covers risk, maintenance, funding and where to locate recreation in the future, and what type of direction for seasonal recreation. Areas covered in this section are:

- Township Recreation Site Locations
- Risk assessment
- Recreation opportunities
- Organized Recreation Opportunities
- Underutilized watersheds and watershed preservation
- Long-term recreation maintenance
- Long-term trail maintenance
- Recreation easements
- Lack of winter recreation
- Long-term funding for recreation
- Additional non-recreation programs



---

---

## Township Recreation Site Locations

### Issues

Areas of Township-owned recreation are not known to all of its citizens or visitors, either because of lack of proper signage at a site (such as Brower Recreation Area and Voce Creek) or because there are no maps, brochures, or other publications that identify the sites and the available recreational within the area.

### Strategies

Public input, both through the recreation survey and interaction with residents and visitors indicates the largest problem with recreation in the Township is that most do not know what and where recreation opportunities exist. The primary focus then is a strategy of recreation identification for Township recreation that encompasses the following:

- Brochures and maps
- Signs
- Recreation promotion
- Trail Town designation

### Brochures and Map



There are multiple locations for recreation in the Township, and brochures and maps should be provided that includes a map and a description of those locations. These guides should also be provided in an online interactive guide (see [www.chocoday.org](http://www.chocoday.org) – select the *Recreation / Interactive Recreation Directory* tab from the main page for an example of the interactive guide).

### Signs



Directional signs for recreation would be placed in various locations throughout the Township. These signs would be uniform in color and design so that they would be easily recognized as signs providing



direction to recreation opportunities throughout the Township. Along with those signs, “you are here” maps at each location would serve as an additional tool for site visitors to provide a way to navigate throughout the area.

Site signage would be placed at the seven Township recreation areas that do not have signs.

### Recreation Promotion



Promotion of recreation would provide the information necessary to attract local residents and visitors to recreation that is available in the Township. Media promotion would include the Township web site, social media (such as Facebook and Twitter), interactive maps, online video flyovers (from drones), and a potential virtual reality view of each of the Township sites. Programs with local organizations (such as KBIC, Cherry Creek School, 4-H, Boy and Girl Scouts, Lions Club, and others) should be established to continue the promotion theme.

A direct interaction with [Travel Marquette](#) and the [Marquette Chamber of Commerce](#) should be established to promote recreation opportunities and events.

### Trail Town Designation



Additional promotion of Township recreation includes connections with other trails located in Marquette County and Alger County. This would include pursuing a Pure Michigan Trail and Trail Town designation for the Township trails. This project would include promotion of trails, trail signs, activities available along the trails, and would include local business involvement in the project.



## Risk Assessment

### Issues

Severity Rating	Consequence					Disturbance Probability			
	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Low	Medium	High	Very High
1	Minor impact	Minor damage	Minor effect	Minor impact	Minor impact	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur
2	Minor impact	Minor damage	Minor effect	Minor impact	Minor impact	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur
3	Minor impact	Minor damage	Minor effect	Minor impact	Minor impact	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur
4	Minor impact	Minor damage	Minor effect	Minor impact	Minor impact	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur
5	Minor impact	Minor damage	Minor effect	Minor impact	Minor impact	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur	Not expected to occur

A general review of the Township recreation opportunities shows both a need for upgrades and a need for additional recreation prospects

within the community. A recreation site risk assessment needs to be completed to identify areas for replacement of equipment, upgrades to existing equipment and to review potential risks at Township sites.

### Strategies

Risk assessments of each recreation site should be scheduled at least every two years. This assessment should be completed through a coordinated visit from the Township’s insurance provider, Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA). This visit should occur in the early June time frame so that budget decisions can be made prior to the beginning of the Township fiscal budgeting process.

## Recreation Opportunities

### Issues



There is a need to address the aging population, as well as a need to establish recreation opportunities to attract the younger

generation. Planning for community recreation opportunities for seniors is a priority, especially as the trend continues toward an older age bracket within the Township.

### Strategies

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
  - Fishing / fly-fishing instruction at the Township Hall or at the Township Marina either through volunteer or private businesses (such as Switchback in Marquette)
  - Flag football
  - Hockey
  - Ice bowling
  - Kayak / canoe instruction through private businesses (such as Downwind Sports in Marquette)
  - Lacrosse
  - Little League baseball
  - Pickleball
  - Rugby
  - Soccer
  - Tennis

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.



---

---

## Organized Recreation Opportunities

### Issues



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, while other programs, such as Pop Warner football and pickleball do not exist.

### Strategies

Develop sports and recreation programs in the Township with local schools and clubs such as:

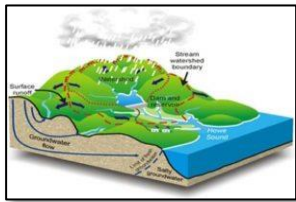
- Cherry Creek School
- Chocoley Co-Ed Softball League
- Lion's Club
- Marquette Little League
- Pop Warner Association
- Professional Disc Golf Association
- Superiorland Soccer
- USA Pickleball

---

---

## Underutilized Watersheds and Watershed Preservation

### Issues



The Chocoley River and Sand River watersheds are underutilized resources for recreation within the Township. Preservation of waterways, trails,

and recreation areas for long-term use is a high priority to ensure that opportunities are available for future generations.

### Strategies

Update the plan for the Chocoley River watershed and establish a plan for the Sand River watershed.

Develop “walk-in” fishing opportunities for the Chocoley River and local streams. Provide detailed maps for this activity. Develop this in conjunction with the DNR, Trout Unlimited, and local fishing groups.

Begin the process with the DNR to establish a “Natural River” designation for portions of the Chocoley River.

---

---

## Long-Term Recreation Maintenance

### Issues



Long-term maintenance programs to facilitate budgeting need to be established as part of the recreation planning process to ensure

ongoing direction, management and extended capabilities for each site.

### Strategies

Five-year maintenance schedules need to be established for each recreation location that the Township maintains. DPW should review these schedules annually for maintenance, budgeting, staffing considerations and additional recreation opportunities that can be provided at the site.

---

---

## Long-Term Trail Maintenance

### Issues



Long-term maintenance programs to facilitate budgeting need to be established as part of the recreation planning

### Strategies

Develop a Township recreation mapping system. Maps should be available to the public via the Internet, mobile devices, mobile apps, and on paper, and should include GPS coordinates.

The mapping system will include maps, brochures, and detailed descriptions of recreation



process to ensure ongoing direction, management and Walking and biking trails have been identified as important in public opinion surveys, and there is a need for continued maintenance on current trails, mapping of those trails, and establishment of new trails for future use.

available in the Township. This information will include:

- Township recreation (see recreation inventory)
- Cooperative facilities (see Recreation Inventory)
- Other public facilities (see Recreation inventory)
- Private facilities (see Recreation Inventory)
- Township recreation (see recreation inventory)
- Trails:
  - ATV / ORV trails
  - Bike trails
  - Canoe / kayak (Chocolay River and Sand River)
  - Canoe / kayak (Lake Superior)
  - Cross country skiing
  - Fishing (along Chocolay River)
  - Snowmobile
  - Snow biking
  - Snowshoeing

## Recreation Easements

### Issues



Identification of easements and access points on Township properties must 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).

### Strategies

Develop site-specific plans for mapping all Township-owned sites.

## Lack of Winter Recreation

### Issues



Improvements should be undertaken to provide for greater opportunity for winter recreation. These opportunities should be reviewed with DPW

involvement as part of the decision process.

### Strategies

Establish a committee to focus on improving winter recreation opportunities for all age groups throughout the Township. 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.





## Long-Term Funding for Recreation

### Issues



Funds are not available to complete all of the recreation requests that are outlined in this plan, and monies are not available to do long-term maintenance

on grant-funded and non-grant-funded projects. Unless funds are budgeted, they are not available for land acquisition for recreation purposes.

### Strategies

Establish a Citizen Action Team consisting of local residents, business owners, non-profits, and educators to look at the goals and directions for recreation in the Township. This team should recommend not only the direction but should look at how funding should be achieved through grant and non-grant activities. Committee recommendations should be given to the Planning Commission and the Township Board for consideration.

## Long-Term Energy Concerns

### Issues



Energy costs are a major concern for the future of the Township and surrounding communities. Control of those costs, especially in relation to

recreation, is essential to the continued use of recreation facilities within the Township

### Strategies

As the trend continues toward electric and hybrid fuels for transportation, charging stations for those vehicles should be established in locations in the Township along the US 41 South and M-28 corridors. Additional solar-powered charging stations for electronic devices (such as cell phones and tablets) should be set up in the recreation areas for visitors to those areas.

Solar-powered units should be used for powering remote devices (such as recreation facility security systems and site lighting (such as solar-powered dusk-to-dawn lighting).

## Additional Non-Recreation Programs

### Issues



Additional health and safety programs that affect all residents of the Township are being considered in the near future. As these programs are

developed, all recreation options must be considered.

### Strategies

Review and implement programs that include:

Program	Agency
Chocoday River Watershed Management Plan	Superior Watershed Partnership
Community Rating System	FEMA
Emergency Management Response	Marquette County
Firewise USA	National Fire Protection Association
Michigan Shoreline Stewards	Michigan Shoreline Partnership
Resilient Coastal Community Planning	Michigan Association of Planning
StormReady	National Weather Service



## Site-Specific Issues and Strategies

Public input, both through the recreation survey and interaction with residents and visitors indicates the largest problem with recreation in the Township is that most do not know what and where recreation opportunities exist. The primary focus then is a strategy of recreation identification for Township recreation that encompasses the following:

- Beaver Grove Agriculture Area
- Beaver Grove Recreation Area
- Brower Recreation Area
- Green Bay Street Park
- Green Garden Site
- Kawbawgam Pocket Park
- Lion's Field
- Marina
- Municipal Complex
- Silver Creek Recreation Area
- Voce Creek Recreation Area
- Wicks Site

---

### Beaver Grove Agriculture Area

#### *Issues*



The Township is keeping this 14-acre former farm site open for ideas related to both agriculture and agri-tourism. In the past, the land was

leased for private agricultural use, but 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 opportunity that would keep the area publicly accessible yet in productive use.

Several ideas have emerged for the use of this property, such as a solar demonstration area, botanical garden, bee and butterfly pollination site, or a combination of those ideas or other ideas.

#### *Strategies*

Strategy for this site:

- 1) Find partner organizations to determine site use, layout and lease arrangements. The intent of this determination is to install projects on the site that will require no or minimal maintenance from the Township DPW staff.
- 2) Install projects as funding and permissions permit, especially those that promote agri-tourism.



---

---

## Beaver Grove Recreation Area

### Issues



This recreation area is one of the three most-used recreation areas in the Township (the others are the Silver Creek Recreation Area and

Lion's Field). 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 dugouts will require continuing maintenance, and the bleachers should be updated or replaced.

Although there are a significant number of visitors in the summer evenings, the daytime hours, winter months and the isolated location of the facility 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, and will require additional maintenance to preserve the wood, picnic benches, and grills that are part of the structure.

The restroom at this location must be replaced. The current restroom does not have a privacy door, nor is the restroom ADA-accessible.

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.

### Strategies

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Establish a five-year maintenance program for the site.
- 2) Upgrade and replace the ball field bleachers.
- 3) Upgrade and replace the playground equipment.
- 4) Replace the existing restroom, ensuring it is ADA-accessible.
- 5) Install an IP-based / wireless security system that can be monitored by Township staff and the Township Police Department.
- 6) Review the landscaping plan, especially the area surrounding the pavilion. Add trees and shrubs as necessary.



---

---

## Brower Recreation Area

### **Issues**



In 2002, Eagle Scout Samuel Ledebuhr designed a plan for the site. This plan included trails, signage, bridges across wetlands,

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.

### **Strategies**

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Determine site boundaries.
- 2) Install site signage to identify the site location.
- 3) Establish a team with the Boy Scouts to revisit the project plan that was designed in 2002.
- 4) Establish a small parking area for visitors to the site.

---

---

## Green Bay Street Park

### **Issues**



This park has the potential to be a destination fishing site. The park is situated along the Chocolay 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.

### **Strategies**

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Determine site boundaries.
- 2) Install site signage to identify the site location.
- 3) Develop partnerships to address bank erosion and upgrades to the stairway to the river.



---

---

## Green Garden Site

### *Issues*



This site is the oldest recreation site in the Township. Deeded to the Township in 1949, the site has long served as fishing and swimming locations 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.

### *Strategies*

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Determine site boundaries.
- 2) Install site signage to identify the two site locations.
- 3) Develop partnerships to develop a potential fishing trail from the Green Garden site to Mangum Road along the Chocoday River.
- 4) Research the possibility of adding a canoe / kayak launch on the site.

---

---

## Kawbawgam Pocket Park

### *Issues*



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 near 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.

### *Strategies*

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Determine site boundaries.
- 2) Install site signage to identify the site location.
- 3) Replace and reposition the playground equipment in the park.
- 4) Establish a Native American garden in the park.
- 5) Replace the existing restroom.
- 6) Expand the parking lot to accommodate vehicles with ATV / snowmobile trailers.
- 7) Consider establishment of a mountain biking trail that exits the park on the east side.



---

## Lion's Field

### Issues



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.

This recreation area is one of the three most-used recreation areas in the Township (the others are the Beaver Grove Recreation Area and Silver Creek Recreation Area).

This recreation area is primarily used for Iron Ore Heritage trail access, adult softball and picnics during the summer months. During the winter months, the site parking is plowed to allow access to the hockey rink.

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.

Bleachers need to be upgraded for safety reasons. Surface materials for bleachers should accommodate winter comfort.

Additional low impact land uses such as a dog park or archery range in the sand pit behind the field should be considered.

With the additional site improvements that were recently installed, security protection of the site has become a priority.

### Strategies

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Provide a winter warming shed for hockey players and visitors.
- 2) Install an IP-based / wireless security system that can be monitored by Township staff and the Township Police Department.
- 3) Upgrade and replace the ball field bleachers.
- 4) Consider low impact land uses such as a dog park or archery range in the sand pit behind the ball field.
- 5) Consider adding a small playground area south of the hockey rink.

---

## Marina

### Issues



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.

The existing boardwalk requires repair. A portion

### Strategies

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Develop a plan for ADA access to the restroom. Plan should include possible replacement of the restroom.
- 2) Install an IP-based / wireless security system that can be monitored by Township staff and the Township Police Department.
- 3) Add low lighting / downcast lighting at the launch ramp.
- 4) Develop a plan for upgrading the existing



over the nearby backwater area needs to be upgraded.

The concrete ramp requires either repair or replacement.

Maps for the nearby Hiawatha Water Trail need to be updated.

Playground equipment at the upper end of the site should be considered.

Consider neighborhood-appropriate lighting near the launch ramp.

ADA issues exist, especially with access to the restroom.

Site security should be considered for this site.

boardwalk and tent platforms.

- 5) Determine the repair / replacement process for the concrete launch ramp.
- 6) Update the message boards with updated water trail and area maps.
- 7) Consider adding a small playground area near the Main Street side of the property.

---

## Municipal Complex

### Issues



In 2013, the Township built a new fire hall on this site. Parking was increased, and access to the facilities in the Township Hall was improved.

Seniors (55 and over) did not have a community space to use within the Township. A senior organization was formed, and the Township Hall serves as the meeting location for their activities.

With larger crowds in the Township Hall meeting room, it is difficult to hear speakers during meetings or presentations.

### Strategies

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Promote more activities for local residents to use the facilities in both the Township Hall and the Fire Hall, especially during the winter months.
- 2) Install a microphone and speaker system that can be utilized for both Township meetings and group activities.

---

## Silver Creek Recreation Area

### Issues



This recreation area is one of the three most-used recreation areas in the Township (the others are the Beaver Grove Recreation Area and Lion's Field).

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

### Strategies

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Implement ongoing snow removal, maintenance operations, and improvement of restrooms and trail lighting to accommodate winter use.
- 2) 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



area which also contains diverse 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 recreation opportunities at the other end of the property.

Location for an additional well and restroom should be considered for the west end of the recreation area, as this also would serve those using the disc golf course and the recreation on the west side of the property.

The ball field is not properly laid out to softball or baseball specifications, thereby presenting potential risks to both players and spectators. 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.

is available. This activity could be coordinated with the neighboring church as a winter version of its popular block party.

- 3) Establish a bike park in the upper level of the park.
- 4) Move playground equipment to increase the size of the parking area near the soccer field.
- 5) Double the size of the parking area near the soccer field by utilizing some of the forested area.
- 6) Open a well on the west end of the property.
- 7) Install and plumb a restroom near the soccer field.
- 8) Install an IP-based / wireless security system that can be monitored by Township staff and the Township Police Department.
- 9) Establish lighted cross-country skiing and snowshoe trails at Silver Creek Recreation Area, utilizing the disc golf areas when possible.
- 10) Add additional bleachers and replace existing bleachers with vinyl-coated aluminum bleachers.
- 11) Update / replace the playground equipment.
- 12) Install parking lot lighting.
- 13) Refurbish benches in the park using winter-friendly materials.
- 14) Design ball field according to specifications for Little League. Install new outfield fence at the 200' mark on the field. Upgrade infield skin.
- 15) Establish a new location for the basketball net and pole.
- 16) Construct a pavilion near the soccer field.
- 17) Pave the parking areas.
- 18) Install fencing at the resident end of the soccer field.





---

---

## Voce Creek Recreation Area

### Issues



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.

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.

Because the central part of the property is a sand "blowout", it was once used to grow beach grasses for transplant to beach areas.

Trails exist throughout this site. This area could serve as a potential bow / shotgun only hunting site.

### Strategies

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Provide mapping and signage for the site, including boundary markers.
- 2) Establish area for bow hunters / small-game hunters (shotgun only).
- 3) Establish small parking area to provide access from US 41.
- 4) Reestablish the area for growing beach grasses in cooperation with NMU and other public entities.
- 5) Consider this as a potential location for a cell tower for the southern portion of the Township.

---

---

## Wick Site

### Issues



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 from LeVasseur Creek and could serve as part of a fishing trail system along the Chocoday River and LeVasseur Creek.

Easement locations for this property have not been determined.

### Strategies

Strategies for this site:

- 1) Establish where existing easements are located that provide access to the property.
- 2) Provide mapping and signage for the site, including boundary markers.
- 3) 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 F).



## Action Tables

### Future Action by Year

**Table 11** shows future recreation actions by recreation site or facility by year. Specific actions for each recreation site or facility can be found in **Appendix B**.

**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	Lions Field	Marina	Municipal Complex	Silver Creek Recreation Area	Voce Creek	Wick Property
2020	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
2021	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	E	A	E	A	A	A
2022	A	A	E	E	E	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	E
2023	A	A	E	E	E	E	E	E	A	E	A	E	E
2024	A	A	E	E	E	E	E	A	E	E	A	E	E

### Table 11 Legend

Action

A – Action item

E – Evaluation and ongoing maintenance

## Post-Completion Self Certification Reports

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 2019, the Township completed self-assessments as shown in **Table 12**.

**Table 12 2019 DNR Grant Self-Certification Documentation**

Location	Grant Number	Document Location
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	BF89-192	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-BF89-192.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-BF89-192.pdf</a>
	CM00-043	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-CM00-043.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-CM00-043.pdf</a>
	TF86-301	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-TF86-301.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-TF86-301.pdf</a>
	TF-88-103	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-TF88-103.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/beavergroverecreationarea-TF88-103.pdf</a>
Lion's Field	TF14-0219	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/lionsfield-TF14-0129.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/lionsfield-TF14-0129.pdf</a>
Silver Creek Recreation Area	26-00373	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-00373.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-00373.pdf</a>
	26-01006	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-01006.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-01006.pdf</a>
	26-01357	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-01357.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/silvercreekrecreationarea-26-01357.pdf</a>
Township Marina	TF04-102	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/townshipmarina-TF04-102.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/townshipmarina-TF04-102.pdf</a>
Voce Creek Recreation Area	26-01060 F	<a href="http://www.chocolay.org/documents/vocecreekrecreationarea-26-0106F.pdf">www.chocolay.org/documents/vocecreekrecreationarea-26-0106F.pdf</a>





## PLAN ADOPTION

### Township Involvement in Planning and Adoption

#### **Township Board**

Richard Bohjanen, Supervisor  
Max Engle, Clerk  
Ben Zybert, Treasurer  
David Lynch, Trustee  
Mark Maki, Trustee  
Don Rhein, Trustee  
Judy White, Trustee

#### **Planning Commission**

Tom Mahaney, Chairperson  
Eric Meister, Vice Chair (retired in 2018)  
Donna Mullen Campbell, Secretary  
Andy Smith, Vice Secretary (retired in 2018)

Cory Bushong, Vice Secretary (appointed in 2018)  
Susan Maynard, member  
Kendall Milton, member  
Don Rhein, Board representative  
Susan Maynard, member  
Ryan Soucy, member (appointed in 2019)

#### **Township Staff**

Bill DeGroot, Township Manager  
Brad Johnson, Department of Public Works  
Supervisor  
Dale Throenle, Township Planning Director and  
Zoning Administrator



## Official Resolution of the Township Board for Plan Adoption

On January 13, 2020 the Chocolay Township Board adopted the Plan with the following resolution:

### Figure 10 Chocolay Township Board Attached Resolution

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CHOCOLAY**  
**2020 – 2024 RECREATION & 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 2020 through 2024, 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, 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 public hearing was held on January 13, 2020 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 *2020 – 2024 Recreation & 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 the Charter Township of Chocolay, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Charter Township of Chocolay voted to adopt said *2020 – 2024 Recreation & Natural Resource Conservation Plan*.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Charter Township of Chocolay Board of Trustees hereby adopts the *2020 – 2024 Recreation & Natural Resource Conservation Plan*.

**Yeas: 6      Nays: 1      Absent: 0**

**Date Approved:                      January 13, 2020**

State of Michigan

County of Marquette

I, Max Engle, Township Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Charter Township of Chocolay at a regular meeting thereof held on the 13th day of January, 2020.

  
Max Engle, Clerk

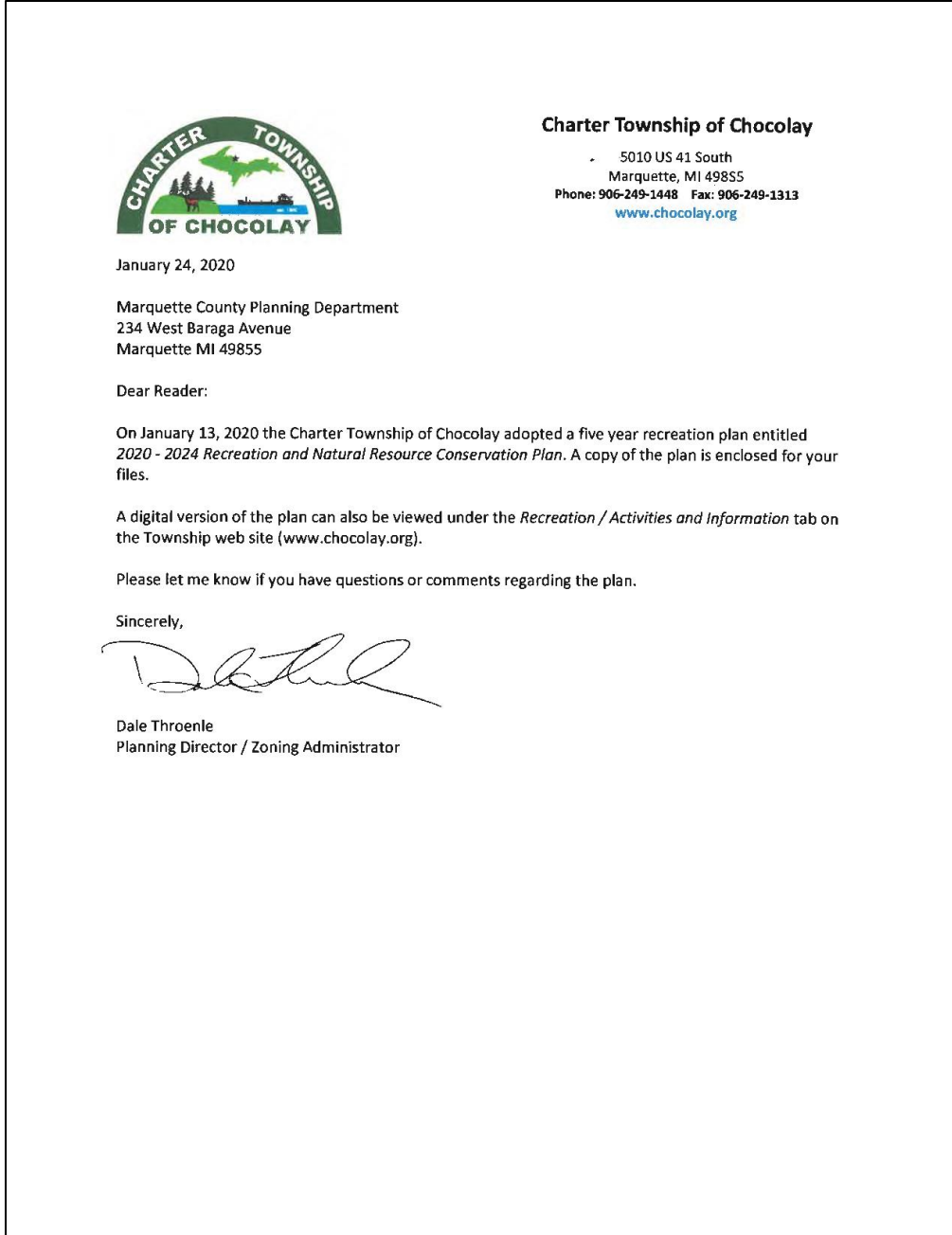




## Letter Transmitting Adopted Plan – Marquette County Planning Department

A letter (see [Figure 11](#)) and a copy of the plan were sent to the Marquette County Planning Department on January 24, 2020.

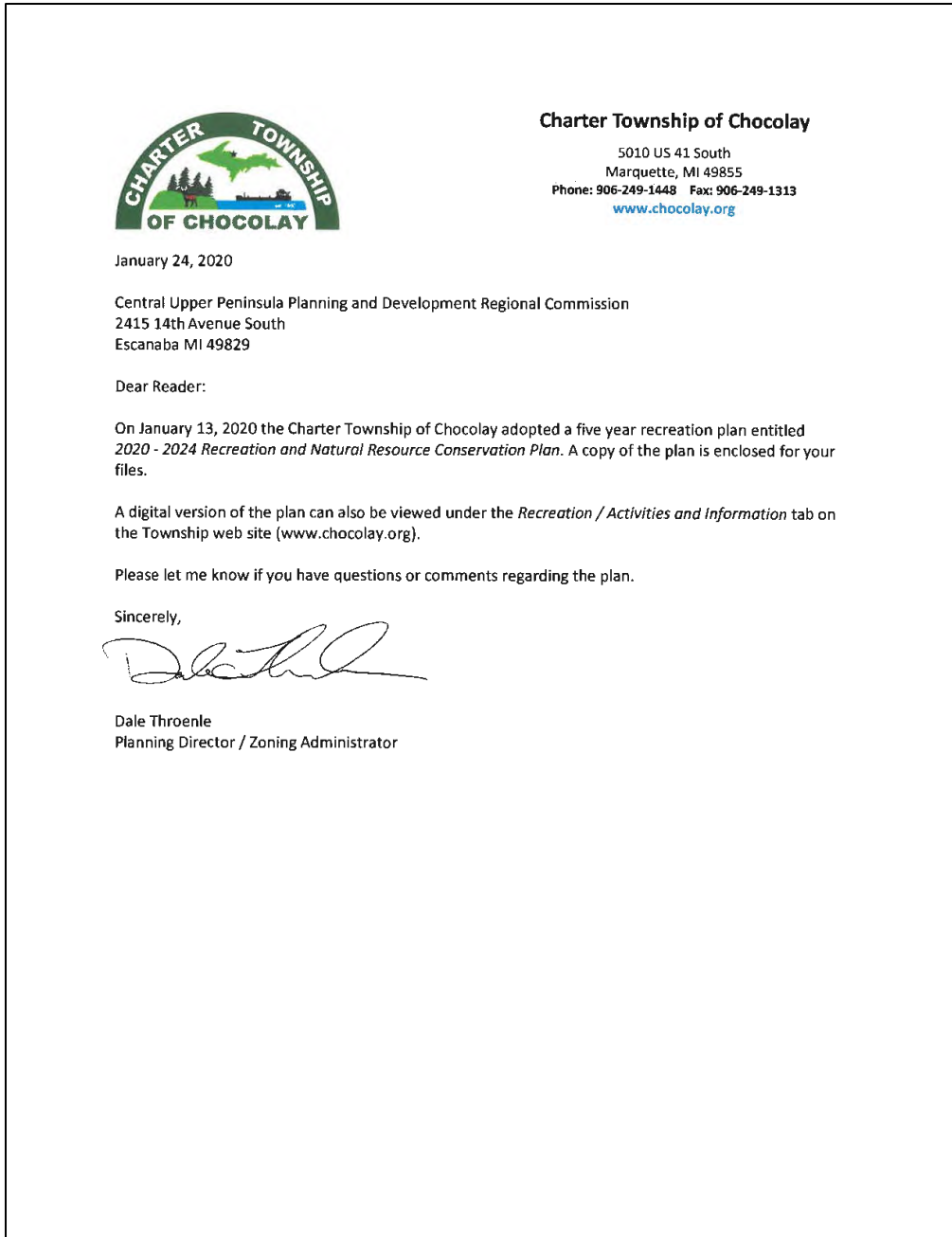
[Figure 11 Marquette County Planning Department Letter](#)



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

A letter (see [Figure 12](#)Figure 12) and a copy of the plan were sent to the Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Regional Commission (CUPPAD) on January 24, 2019.

Figure 12 CUPPAD Letter



# Appendix A Maps and Recreation Locations

## MDOT Map of Township and Surrounding Area

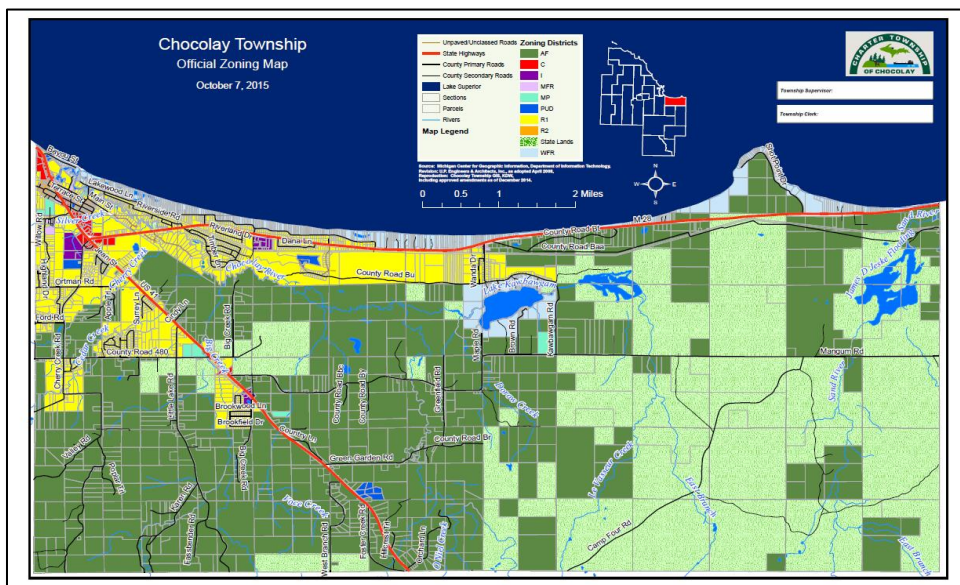
Figure 13 MDOT Map of Township and Surrounding Area



## Township Zoning Maps

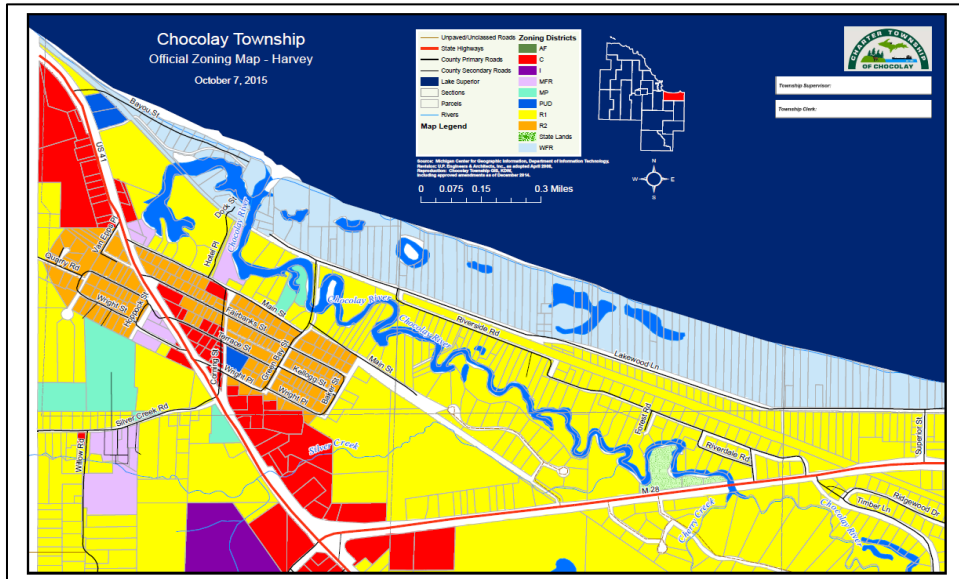
### Township

Figure 14 Township Zoning Map



## Harvey Area

Figure 15 Harvey Area Zoning Map



## Trails – Motorized / Non-Motorized

### ***Iron Ore Heritage Trail***

There are two trailheads for this trail in the Township. Trailhead # 8 is located at the Marquette Welcome Center; information on this trailhead can be found at [ironoreheritage.com/trailhead/trailhead-8](http://ironoreheritage.com/trailhead/trailhead-8).

Trailhead # 9 is located at Lion's Field; information on this trailhead can be found at [ironoreheritage.com/trailhead/trailhead-9](http://ironoreheritage.com/trailhead/trailhead-9).

### ***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>.







## 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 located in Chocolay Township include:

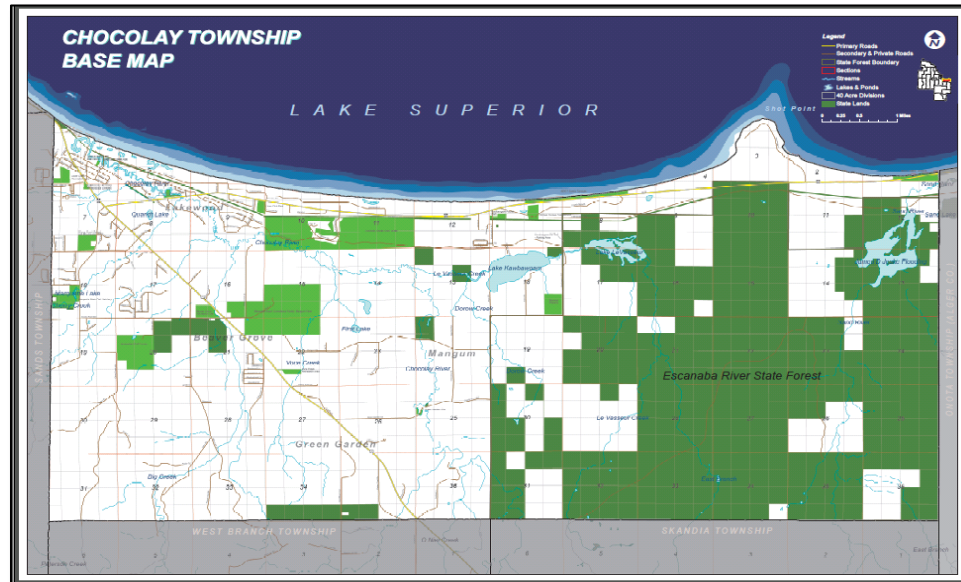
Name	Public Access	Length (in miles)	Townships	Coordinates
Big Creek	Yes	14.1	Chocolay, Sands, West Branch	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 9
Cedar Creek	No	7.4	Chocolay, Sands	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 9
Cherry Creek	Yes	6	Chocolay, Sands	T.47 N, R. 24 W, Sec 5
Chocolay River	Yes	19.4	Chocolay, Skandia, West Branch	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



## Recreation Locations

Additional recreation locations in the Township can be found in the following document ([www.chocolay.org/documents/recreationmap.pdf](http://www.chocolay.org/documents/recreationmap.pdf)).

Figure 18 Recreation Map



## Proposed Recreation Locations

### ***Kawbawgam Lake Canoe / Kayak Access***

Property Owner	Private
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 feet 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"> <li>• Canoe / kayak access only</li> <li>• No restroom facilities available</li> </ul>



# Appendix B Recreation Costing Plan

The proposed plan for costing and budget purposes for the Township recreation portion of this plan can be found at [www.chocolay.org/documents/2020-2024recreationcostingplan.pdf](http://www.chocolay.org/documents/2020-2024recreationcostingplan.pdf).



# Appendix C Recreation Coordination

## Area Recreation Plans

### City of Ishpeming

<https://ishpemingcity.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/draft-2018-2022-city-of-ishpeming-five-year-recreation-plan/>

### City of Marquette

<https://www.marquettemi.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2019-Five-Year-Recreation-Master-Plan-10.pdf>

### City of Munising

<http://www.cuppad.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/MunisingRecPlan2010-2014FinalAmended2012.pdf>

### City of Negaunee

Contained in the city's Master Plan, found at <http://cityofnegaunee.com/2016/10/21/10212016-public-review-period-city-master-planrecreation-plan/>

### Ely Township

[http://www.cuppad.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Ely\\_Township\\_2016\\_RecPlan\\_Appvd.pdf](http://www.cuppad.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Ely_Township_2016_RecPlan_Appvd.pdf)

### Forsyth Township

<https://www.forsythtwpmi.org/2018%20Forsyth%20Township%20Rec%20Plan%20Final.pdf>

### Marquette County

[http://www.co.marquette.mi.us/departments/planning/docs/Adopted\\_Rec\\_Plan\\_with\\_Appendices.pdf](http://www.co.marquette.mi.us/departments/planning/docs/Adopted_Rec_Plan_with_Appendices.pdf)

### Marquette Township

[https://marquettetownship.org/?wpfb\\_dl=119](https://marquettetownship.org/?wpfb_dl=119)

### Negaunee Township

[http://www.negauneetownship.org/community\\_center\\_board/docs/Negaunee%20Township%20Rec%20Plan%201-2018.pdf](http://www.negauneetownship.org/community_center_board/docs/Negaunee%20Township%20Rec%20Plan%201-2018.pdf)

### Onata Township (Alger County)

[http://www.onatatownship.org/wp-content/uploads/onota\\_recreation\\_plan\\_2013-17.pdf](http://www.onatatownship.org/wp-content/uploads/onota_recreation_plan_2013-17.pdf)

### Sands Township

<http://www.cuppad.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/SandsTownshipRecreationPlan2011-2015.pdf>

### Skandia Township / West Branch Township

<http://www.westbranchtwp.org/documents/JointRecreationPlan.pdf>



## Cooperative Projects

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

### 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.

## Nearby Recreation

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

### City of Negaunee

Recreation Area	Recreation Description
Iron Town Field	City owned baseball field with concessions, restrooms, and storage building
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

Recreation Area	Recreation Description
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



Recreation Area	Recreation Description
	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

Recreation Area	Recreation Description
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

Recreation Area	Recreation Description
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

Recreation Area	Recreation Description
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

Recreation Area	Recreation Description
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 D Summary of Survey Questions

## 2020 – 2024 Recreation Plan Survey

### Question 1 Which of the following best describes your residency?

Respondents 112

Answer Choices	Responses	
Property Owner -- year round resident	81.25%	91
Property owner -- seasonal resident	11.61%	13
Do not live in the Township	4.46%	5
Not a property owner or renter, but live in the Township	1.79%	2
Renter	0.89%	1

### Question 2 How long have you been a resident of the Township (either year round or seasonal)?

Respondents 112

Answer Choices	Responses	
Over 20 years	42.86%	48
1 to 5 years	17.86%	20
16 to 20 years	12.50%	14
11 to 15 years	10.71%	12
6 to 10 years	9.82%	11
Do not live in the Township	3.57%	4
Less than one year	2.68%	3

### Question 3 Please indicate your age group.

Respondents 112

Answer Choices	Responses	
60 and over	39.29%	44
51 to 59	23.21%	26
20 to 40	17.86%	20
41 to 50	17.86%	20
under 20	0.89%	1
Prefer not to say	0.89%	1





**Question 4 Which of the following best describes your employment?**

Respondents 112

Answer Choices	Responses	
Employed outside the Township	48.21%	54
Retired	40.18%	45
Employed in the Township	8.93%	10
Not employed	2.68%	3

**Question 5 Reasons you live in or visit Chocolay Township (please check all that apply)**

Respondents 112

Answer Choices	Responses	
Rural character	56.25%	63
Access to recreation	43.75%	49
Friendly community	43.75%	49
Nice neighborhoods	40.18%	45
Friends / family nearby	30.36%	34
Convenience (close to employment)	27.68%	31
Value of property	27.68%	31
Other (please specify) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ married into family-owned</li> <li>■ clean water and air. not over commercialized</li> <li>■ rural character in small community adjacent to a city like MQT - very rare + special</li> <li>■ St. Louis the King Church community</li> <li>■ recreation and nature lover</li> <li>■ Lake Superior</li> <li>■ Access to Lake Superior - drive by every day</li> <li>■ didn't have much of a choice, much too busy and noisy!</li> <li>■ Found a home on property we liked.</li> <li>■ Acreage close to Marquette</li> <li>■ this is where I was raised starting in the 40's</li> <li>■ Retired here from Chicago</li> <li>■ Purchased parents home</li> <li>■ UP rural character but close to big city conveniences</li> <li>■ Elementary School</li> <li>■ father built the place as our "camp"</li> <li>■ I grew up here, live elsewhere, inherited a cottage, and love to return to my roots in the warmer weather when my cottage is habitable.</li> <li>■ Waterfront</li> <li>■ Close to kid's school</li> </ul>	16.96%	19
Changed jobs / relocated	9.82%	11
Wanted a second home / vacation location	7.14%	8
Wanted additional property	7.14%	8



**Question 6 I own or use: (check all that apply). Enter your choice in Other if your choice is not listed. Check I do not have any of these if you do not own or use any of those listed and do not have a choice that could be listed as Other.**

Respondents 112

Answer Choices	Responses	
car	83.04%	93
bicycle	75.89%	85
snowshoes	65.18%	73
kayak / canoe	61.61%	69
truck / SUV	60.71%	68
fishing equipment	58.04%	65
cross country skis	48.21%	54
mountain bike	47.32%	53
hunting gear	37.50%	42
boat	30.36%	34
ATV / ORV	26.79%	30
snowmobile	17.86%	20
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Hiking boots</li> <li>■ Motorcycle</li> <li>■ Scuba diving equipment, and drone flying recreation</li> <li>■ Down hill skis</li> <li>■ Hiking boots</li> <li>■ RV</li> </ul>	5.36%	6
I do not have any of these listed	0.89%	1

**Question 7 Outdoor activities I participate in: (check all that apply)**

Respondents 112

Answer Choices	Responses	
walking the beach	75.00%	84
walking the trails	72.32%	81
biking	67.86%	76
hiking	65.18%	73
kayaking / canoeing	63.39%	71
gardening	57.14%	64
fishing	55.36%	62
swimming	54.46%	61
snowshoeing	52.68%	59
camping	44.64%	50
cross country skiing	42.86%	48



Answer Choices	Responses	
mountain biking	42.86%	48
bird / wildlife observation	41.96%	47
boating	36.61%	41
picnics	34.82%	39
hunting	32.14%	36
photography / videography	28.57%	32
ATV / ORV riding	26.79%	30
playgrounds	25.89%	29
running / jogging	24.11%	27
paddle boarding	18.75%	21
ice skating	17.86%	20
snowmobiling	17.86%	20
soccer	13.39%	15
fat tire biking	12.50%	14
hockey	12.50%	14
disc golf	11.61%	13
tennis	9.82%	11
basketball	8.04%	9
pickleball	7.14%	8
geocaching	6.25%	7
horseshoes	6.25%	7
baseball	5.36%	6
softball	5.36%	6
football	4.46%	5
Little League	4.46%	5
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Scuba diving, drone flying recreation</li> <li>■ Ultimate Frisbee</li> <li>■ any and all outdoor activities</li> <li>■ Horse riding</li> <li>■ Golf</li> </ul>	4.46%	5
surfing	3.57%	4
I do not participate in any recreation activities	0.00%	0



**Question 8 Township Recreation Sites - The site is easy to find. Finding a site includes the use of maps, Internet, and other ways of determining the location of a recreation site. If you do not know where the site is, or the name is not familiar to you, check "Don't know where the site is."**

Respondents 93

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure	Don't Know Where the Site Is	Total
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	8.70%	21.74%	7.61%	1.09%	6.52%	54.35%	
	8	20	7	1	6	50	92
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	38.04%	34.78%	0.00%	0.00%	7.61%	19.57%	
	35	32	0	0	7	18	92
Brower Recreation Area	4.40%	7.69%	3.30%	2.20%	4.40%	78.02%	
	4	7	3	2	4	71	91
Green Bay Street Park	12.09%	23.08%	7.69%	0.00%	8.79%	48.35%	
	11	21	7	0	8	44	91
Green Garden Site	10.75%	5.38%	6.45%	2.15%	7.53%	67.74%	
	10	5	6	2	7	63	93
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	17.39%	27.17%	5.43%	0.00%	5.43%	44.57%	
	16	25	5	0	5	41	92
Lion's Field	50.00%	34.09%	0.00%	0.00%	4.55%	11.36%	
	44	30	0	0	4	10	88
Silver Creek Recreation Area	36.26%	35.16%	2.20%	1.10%	1.10%	24.18%	
	33	32	2	1	1	22	91
Township Marina	41.30%	31.52%	5.43%	1.09%	7.61%	13.04%	
	38	29	5	1	7	12	92
Township Municipal Complex	50.55%	31.87%	3.30%	0.00%	3.30%	10.99%	
	46	29	3	0	3	10	91
Voce Creek Recreation Area	5.43%	3.26%	4.35%	2.17%	4.35%	80.43%	
	5	3	4	2	4	74	92
Wick Site	4.30%	3.23%	4.30%	3.23%	3.23%	81.72%	
	4	3	4	3	3	76	93

**Comments**

- 1 Signage and improvements planned in the presentation will be most helpful for finding some of these places.
- 2 Haven't heard of many of these. I think newsletters should be mailed to homes informing residents of these and what is available.
- 3 I know where some sites are, but not because of any signs or maps, mostly by word of mouth or exploring on own.... such as Kawbawgam Pocket park, did not know it was there until decided to try walking dogs there and saw it. Same with the marina, Lions Field, etc.
- 4 I have beach property of my own, and I don't typically need to go elsewhere for fun. I do realize that visitors and others who are more adventuresome than I make use of these facilities, but I don't actually know where they are.
- 5 I'm new but an outdoor enthusiast



**Question 9 Township Recreation Sites - The site is easy to access. Access to a site is related to getting on a recreation site once you arrive at a site. This includes vehicle, non-motorized (such as a bicycle) and walking to the site. If you do not know where the site is, or the name is not familiar to you, check "Don't know where the site is."**

Respondents 89

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure	Don't Know Where the Site Is	Total
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	13.48%	20.22%	5.62%	0.00%	8.99%	51.69%	
	12	18	5	0	8	46	89
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	37.08%	35.96%	1.12%	0.00%	6.74%	19.10%	
	33	32	1	0	6	17	89
Brower Recreation Area	5.68%	7.95%	3.41%	1.14%	3.41%	78.41%	
	5	7	3	1	3	69	88
Green Bay Street Park	18.39%	18.39%	3.45%	1.15%	9.20%	49.43%	
	16	16	3	1	8	43	87
Green Garden Site	13.64%	3.41%	10.23%	0.00%	6.82%	65.91%	
	12	3	9	0	6	58	88
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	23.53%	24.71%	0.00%	0.00%	7.06%	44.71%	
	20	21	0	0	6	38	85
Lion's Field	51.69%	31.46%	0.00%	0.00%	4.49%	12.36%	
	46	28	0	0	4	11	89
Silver Creek Recreation Area	37.08%	38.20%	0.00%	0.00%	4.49%	20.22%	
	33	34	0	0	4	18	89
Township Marina	42.70%	37.08%	1.12%	0.00%	2.25%	16.85%	
	38	33	1	0	2	15	89
Township Municipal Complex	47.73%	31.82%	3.41%	0.00%	3.41%	13.64%	
	42	28	3	0	3	12	88
Voce Creek Recreation Area	5.75%	3.45%	4.60%	2.30%	6.90%	77.01%	
	5	3	4	2	6	67	87
Wick Site	4.60%	2.30%	5.75%	3.45%	5.75%	78.16%	
	4	2	5	3	5	68	87

**Comments**

- 1 I did not know the township managed the Green Bay st. park. no real place to park.
- 2 Need better access for atv users
- 3 I'm new but an outdoor enthusiast



**Question 10 Township Recreation Sites - The site has excellent parking. Parking is related to the parking available for motorized vehicles on a recreation site. This includes the number of parking spaces available. If you do not know where the site is, or the name is not familiar to you, check "Don't know where the site is."**

Respondents 87

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure	Don't Know Where the Site Is	Total
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	12.20%	18.29%	6.10%	0.00%	9.76%	53.66%	
	10	15	5	0	8	44	82
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	32.14%	35.71%	0.00%	0.00%	13.10%	19.05%	
	27	30	0	0	11	16	84
Brower Recreation Area	3.57%	7.14%	4.76%	2.38%	4.76%	77.38%	
	3	6	4	2	4	65	84
Green Bay Street Park	5.95%	11.90%	14.29%	8.33%	7.14%	52.38%	
	5	10	12	7	6	44	84
Green Garden Site	5.95%	8.33%	3.57%	2.38%	9.52%	70.24%	
	5	7	3	2	8	59	84
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	19.05%	21.43%	3.57%	0.00%	8.33%	47.62%	
	16	18	3	0	7	40	84
Lion's Field	35.29%	42.35%	0.00%	0.00%	10.59%	11.76%	
	30	36	0	0	9	10	85
Silver Creek Recreation Area	30.95%	41.67%	1.19%	0.00%	7.14%	19.05%	
	26	35	1	0	6	16	84
Township Marina	25.58%	36.05%	11.63%	2.33%	6.98%	17.44%	
	22	31	10	2	6	15	86
Township Municipal Complex	28.24%	47.06%	4.71%	0.00%	7.06%	12.94%	
	24	40	4	0	6	11	85
Voce Creek Recreation Area	4.76%	1.19%	8.33%	1.19%	5.95%	78.57%	
	4	1	7	1	5	66	84
Wick Site	3.57%	1.19%	4.76%	4.76%	4.76%	80.95%	
	3	1	4	4	4	68	84

**Comments**

- 1 Better parking at the marina needed. I like the potential kayak launch.
- 2 I'm new but an outdoor enthusiast



**Question 11 Township Recreation Sites - The site is ADA-accessible. ADA- accessible is related to those requiring ADA accommodations at a recreation site. This includes all areas of the site, not just parking. If you do not know where the site is, or the name is not familiar to you, check "Don't know where the site is."**

Respondents 82

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure	Don't Know Where the Site Is	Total
Beaver Grove Agriculture Area	5.00%	7.50%	6.25%	2.50%	32.50%	46.25%	
	4	6	5	2	26	37	80
Beaver Grove Recreation Area	13.58%	19.75%	2.47%	1.23%	38.27%	24.69%	
	11	16	2	1	31	20	81
Brower Recreation Area	3.70%	3.70%	3.70%	2.47%	20.99%	65.43%	
	3	3	3	2	17	53	81
Green Bay Street Park	3.70%	13.58%	2.47%	9.88%	25.93%	44.44%	
	3	11	2	8	21	36	81
Green Garden Site	3.75%	3.75%	3.75%	3.75%	22.50%	62.50%	
	3	3	3	3	18	50	80
Kawbawgam Pocket Park	9.88%	14.81%	1.23%	1.23%	29.63%	43.21%	
	8	12	1	1	24	35	81
Lion's Field	13.41%	35.37%	1.22%	0.00%	36.59%	13.41%	
	11	29	1	0	30	11	82
Silver Creek Recreation Area	11.11%	30.86%	1.23%	2.47%	32.10%	22.22%	
	9	25	1	2	26	18	81
Township Marina	13.41%	23.17%	7.32%	2.44%	37.80%	15.85%	
	11	19	6	2	31	13	82
Township Municipal Complex	25.32%	31.65%	0.00%	0.00%	26.58%	16.46%	
	20	25	0	0	21	13	79
Voce Creek Recreation Area	3.70%	1.23%	2.47%	3.70%	22.22%	66.67%	
	3	1	2	3	18	54	81
Wick Site	2.47%	1.23%	2.47%	3.70%	22.22%	67.90%	
	2	1	2	3	18	55	81

**Comments**

- 1 Green Bay Street park could be accessible if disabled person in wheelchair had assistant for very shallow steps
- 2 I'm new but an outdoor enthusiast



**Question 12 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area.**

Respondents 78

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Agriculture area	3.90%	6.49%	1.30%	0.00%	1.30%	35.06%	51.95%	
	3	5	1	0	1	27	40	77
Bird / wildlife observation	6.67%	5.33%	5.33%	2.67%	0.00%	34.67%	45.33%	
	5	4	4	2	0	26	34	75
Imagination playground (near the soccer field)	5.26%	3.95%	10.53%	1.32%	1.32%	35.53%	42.11%	
	4	3	8	1	1	27	32	76
Open space	9.46%	8.11%	5.41%	0.00%	0.00%	33.78%	43.24%	
	7	6	4	0	0	25	32	74

**Comments**

- 1 Use hill for sledding!?

**Question 13 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Beaver Grove Recreation area.**

Respondents 76

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Baseball / softball field	12.00%	20.00%	8.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.67%	13.33%	
	9	15	6	0	0	35	10	75
Basketball court	2.74%	10.96%	8.22%	2.74%	0.00%	54.79%	20.55%	
	2	8	6	2	0	40	15	73
Bird / wildlife observation	4.17%	12.50%	8.33%	4.17%	0.00%	51.39%	19.44%	
	3	9	6	3	0	37	14	72
Covered pavilion	9.46%	22.97%	12.16%	0.00%	0.00%	41.89%	13.51%	
	7	17	9	0	0	31	10	74
Fishing (Big Creek)	1.35%	10.81%	5.41%	2.70%	0.00%	58.11%	21.62%	
	1	8	4	2	0	43	16	74
Horseshoe court	1.37%	4.11%	8.22%	0.00%	0.00%	64.38%	21.92%	
	1	3	6	0	0	47	16	73
Open space	5.48%	19.18%	19.18%	0.00%	0.00%	42.47%	13.70%	
	4	14	14	0	0	31	10	73
Picnic locations	5.48%	17.81%	17.81%	0.00%	0.00%	43.84%	15.07%	
	4	13	13	0	0	32	11	73
Playground	5.48%	13.70%	19.18%	5.48%	0.00%	42.47%	13.70%	
	4	10	14	4	0	31	10	73





	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Restrooms (pit toilets)	2.74%	6.85%	17.81%	9.59%	5.48%	42.47%	15.07%	
	2	5	13	7	4	31	11	73
Soccer field	11.27%	18.31%	7.04%	0.00%	0.00%	47.89%	15.49%	
	8	13	5	0	0	34	11	71
Trail (along Big Creek)	4.11%	10.96%	8.22%	2.74%	0.00%	46.58%	27.40%	
	3	8	6	2	0	34	20	73

**Comments**

- 1 We were told by the recreational soccer people that that part of the area was only for the recreational soccer people so we don't use it.

**Question 14 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Brower Recreation Area.**

Respondents 76

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Bird / wildlife observation	5.26%	5.26%	3.95%	0.00%	0.00%	23.68%	61.84%	
	4	4	3	0	0	18	47	76
Snowshoeing	2.70%	6.76%	4.05%	0.00%	0.00%	24.32%	62.16%	
	2	5	3	0	0	18	46	74
Trails (undeveloped)	1.35%	9.46%	1.35%	1.35%	0.00%	22.97%	63.51%	
	1	7	1	1	0	17	47	74

**Comments**

None



**Question 15 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Green Bay Street Park.**

Respondents 75

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Bird / wildlife observation	8.11%	16.22%	6.76%	1.35%	0.00%	22.97%	44.59%	
	6	12	5	1	0	17	33	74
Boat / canoe / kayak launch (carry-down)	6.76%	10.81%	2.70%	4.05%	1.35%	29.73%	44.59%	
	5	8	2	3	1	22	33	74
Fishing (Chocolay River)	5.41%	18.92%	8.11%	1.35%	0.00%	27.03%	39.19%	
	4	14	6	1	0	20	29	74
Open space	8.11%	10.81%	6.76%	4.05%	1.35%	27.03%	41.89%	
	6	8	5	3	1	20	31	74
Swimming (no lifeguard)	6.67%	9.33%	6.67%	2.67%	0.00%	30.67%	44.00%	
	5	7	5	2	0	23	33	75

**Comments**

- 1 rope swing excellent
- 2 Very popular. Very close to most heavily populated area of Township. Could use more rec park areas close in to Harvey.
- 3 is this the corner of Lakewood lane and green bay?!
- 4 Better markings needed.

**Question 16 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Green Garden Site.**

Respondents 75

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Bird / wildlife observation	4.00%	9.33%	2.67%	0.00%	0.00%	28.00%	56.00%	
	3	7	2	0	0	21	42	75
Boat / canoe / kayak launch (carry-down only)	4.05%	4.05%	6.76%	1.35%	0.00%	29.73%	54.05%	
	3	3	5	1	0	22	40	74
Fishing (Chocolay River)	5.41%	5.41%	8.11%	1.35%	0.00%	28.38%	51.35%	
	4	4	6	1	0	21	38	74
Open space	4.05%	8.11%	2.70%	2.70%	0.00%	27.03%	55.41%	
	3	6	2	2	0	20	41	74
Swimming (no lifeguard)	4.11%	2.74%	1.37%	2.74%	0.00%	35.62%	53.42%	
	3	2	1	2	0	26	39	73

**Comments**

None



**Question 17 Please rate your recreation experiences at Kawbawgam Pocket Park.**

Respondents 76

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Basketball court	2.63%	6.58%	5.26%	3.95%	0.00%	40.79%	40.79%	
	2	5	4	3	0	31	31	76
Bird / wildlife observation	8.11%	8.11%	2.70%	4.05%	0.00%	35.14%	41.89%	
	6	6	2	3	0	26	31	74
Native American garden	2.74%	5.48%	4.11%	1.37%	0.00%	36.99%	49.32%	
	2	4	3	1	0	27	36	73
Open space	5.41%	12.16%	8.11%	1.35%	0.00%	31.08%	41.89%	
	4	9	6	1	0	23	31	74
Playground (swing set only)	2.70%	5.41%	6.76%	2.70%	1.35%	41.89%	39.19%	
	2	4	5	2	1	31	29	74
Restroom facility (pit toilet)	1.35%	5.41%	8.11%	2.70%	2.70%	39.19%	40.54%	
	1	4	6	2	2	29	30	74
Snowshoeing	5.41%	16.22%	4.05%	0.00%	1.35%	32.43%	40.54%	
	4	12	3	0	1	24	30	74
Trail (North Country Trail)	10.81%	16.22%	6.76%	0.00%	0.00%	29.73%	36.49%	
	8	12	5	0	0	22	27	74

**Comments**

- 1 This parking area and access to the trails was really great. Unfortunately much of the trail was lost to bulldozing the forest and this wrecked the trails. Really sad that happened. Those trails were really great for hiking, running, snowshoeing etc. The bird watching there was really great too and now lots of their habitat is lost.
- 2 Trail needs to be groomed during winter for fat tire biking and easier use for walkers skiers snowshoer's

**Question 18 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Lion's Field Recreation Area.**

Respondents 76

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Baseball / softball field	13.33%	18.67%	9.33%	0.00%	0.00%	48.00%	10.67%	
	10	14	7	0	0	36	8	75
Basketball (inside the hockey rink)	4.11%	10.96%	8.22%	0.00%	0.00%	61.64%	15.07%	
	3	8	6	0	0	45	11	73
Bird / wildlife observation	4.17%	11.11%	6.94%	4.17%	0.00%	55.56%	18.06%	
	3	8	5	3	0	40	13	72
Covered pavilion with grill	10.96%	16.44%	4.11%	0.00%	0.00%	54.79%	13.70%	
	8	12	3	0	0	40	10	73



	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Hockey rink	15.07%	13.70%	2.74%	0.00%	0.00%	54.79%	13.70%	
	11	10	2	0	0	40	10	73
Ice skating (on the ball field during the winter)	6.76%	12.16%	5.41%	1.35%	1.35%	58.11%	14.86%	
	5	9	4	1	1	43	11	74
Open space	6.76%	20.27%	9.46%	1.35%	0.00%	50.00%	12.16%	
	5	15	7	1	0	37	9	74
Picnic location / grills	8.11%	18.92%	8.11%	0.00%	0.00%	52.70%	12.16%	
	6	14	6	0	0	39	9	74
Restroom (pit toilet)	10.67%	13.33%	13.33%	2.67%	0.00%	48.00%	12.00%	
	8	10	10	2	0	36	9	75
Trail (Iron Ore Heritage Trail connector)	20.27%	20.27%	5.41%	1.35%	0.00%	36.49%	16.22%	
	15	15	4	1	0	27	12	74

**Comments**

- 1 Do not like huge switch-back curve built into connector trail -- not necessary. Not a moto-cross trail so I don't believe they are necessary -- it is an access trail.
- 2 This is so good that we have this parking area and connector to the IOHT for biking and hiking. It provides safe access to trails away from traffic. Very family friendly! Love the service station for adding air to bike tires etc.
- 3 Didn't know it was a trail connector. Better access to trans needed.
- 4 Use the tennis court to play pickleball.

**Question 19 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Silver Creek Recreation Area.**

Respondents 75

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Baseball field (Little League)	8.00%	25.33%	5.33%	0.00%	0.00%	44.00%	17.33%	
	6	19	4	0	0	33	13	75
Basketball (half court inside the tennis)	4.17%	11.11%	5.56%	5.56%	1.39%	54.17%	18.06%	
	3	8	4	4	1	39	13	72
Bird / wildlife observation	6.94%	11.11%	6.94%	1.39%	0.00%	47.22%	26.39%	
	5	8	5	1	0	34	19	72
Cross-country skiing (not groomed)	2.78%	5.56%	4.17%	2.78%	2.78%	56.94%	25.00%	
	2	4	3	2	2	41	18	72
Disc golf (eighteen holes)	6.94%	9.72%	2.78%	0.00%	0.00%	59.72%	20.83%	
	5	7	2	0	0	43	15	72
Open space	8.33%	19.44%	15.28%	1.39%	0.00%	33.33%	22.22%	
	6	14	11	1	0	24	16	72



	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Picnic location	2.74%	13.70%	10.96%	2.74%	0.00%	46.58%	23.29%	
	2	10	8	2	0	34	17	73
Playground	2.78%	8.33%	15.28%	8.33%	0.00%	45.83%	19.44%	
	2	6	11	6	0	33	14	72
Restrooms (with running water and changing area)	6.94%	9.72%	18.06%	5.56%	0.00%	36.11%	23.61%	
	5	7	13	4	0	26	17	72
Snowshoeing	2.78%	12.50%	4.17%	2.78%	0.00%	54.17%	23.61%	
	2	9	3	2	0	39	17	72
Soccer field	8.22%	20.55%	5.48%	1.37%	0.00%	45.21%	19.18%	
	6	15	4	1	0	33	14	73
Tennis courts (four)	2.74%	4.11%	8.22%	5.48%	8.22%	50.68%	20.55%	
	2	3	6	4	6	37	15	73
Trails (undeveloped)	2.82%	8.45%	11.27%	2.82%	0.00%	49.30%	25.35%	
	2	6	8	2	0	35	18	71

**Comments**

- 1 Use hill for sledding!??!
- 2 Trail link to high ground scenic overlook at Rock Cut would be awesome
- 3 Because of the existing infrastructure, Silver Creek Recreation area would be a perfect place to mimic what Marquette Township did at Vandeenboom. We could fix up two of the tennis courts, include pickleball lines (it's an up and coming activity), put batting cages and a nice b-ball court on the other two, move the Lion's Field Ice Rink to the huge green space next to the soccer field or on 1/2 of the tennis courts, replace the old playground equipment with a modern piece (like Vandeenboom or Ohio St.), and spruce up the trails for mountain biking or put a little pump track in. A centralized recreation site with updated facilities would be great. Some kind of a roof over the ice rink would be top notch, but also a dream.
- 4 The park isn't that appealing, especially to smaller children. I've heard lots of rumors about people hiding out in the area... We have watched friends baseball and soccer games - parking gets a little crazy that way. Didn't know the bathrooms were open? We do like to sled behind the church in the winter.
- 5 We have used the soccer fields for games and even playing football. So nice to have these fields. Also really love having access to tennis courts and ball fields.
- 6 Wish to play tennis and pickleball. Also would like a quality board to practice hitting when alone. I play tennis a lot!!! .No one can really play here. The tennis courts have gone to waste. You could have summer leagues and tournaments.
- 7 The courts need to be maintained. They were getting cracks. Bathrooms are great! I will snowshoe there this year as I didn't realize it was available
- 8 tennis courts should be converted to pickleball courts
- 9 The tennis courts are in terrible condition, wish they would fix the courts, and include pickleball lines. Pickleball is growing leaps and bounds and courts are very hard to come by. I believe the courts could be used by both the tennis community and also the pickleball community.



**Question 20 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Township Municipal Complex.**

Respondents 72

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Meeting rooms (Township Hall and Fire Hall)	19.44%	29.17%	9.72%	1.39%	0.00%	30.56%	9.72%	
	14	21	7	1	0	22	7	72
Restrooms (with running water)	22.54%	33.80%	1.41%	0.00%	0.00%	32.39%	9.86%	
	16	24	1	0	0	23	7	71

**Comments**

- 1 Twp. Hall is small --- can't do much about that but limits use as a community activity center.
- 2 No improvements needed
- 3 have only been there for voting/community days. Nice facility!
- 4 Lousy being able to hear conversation at meeting

**Question 21 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Township Marina.**

Respondents 77

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Bird / wildlife observation	12.00%	24.00%	9.33%	0.00%	0.00%	44.00%	10.67%	
	9	18	7	0	0	33	8	75
Boat / canoe / kayak launch (concrete ramp with rolling pier -- deep enough for motorized boats)	18.18%	27.27%	15.58%	3.90%	0.00%	28.57%	6.49%	
	14	21	12	3	0	22	5	77
Fishing (Chocalay River, with access by boat to Lake Superior from the launch site)	15.79%	19.74%	17.11%	1.32%	0.00%	38.16%	7.89%	
	12	15	13	1	0	29	6	76
Fishing pier	6.67%	25.33%	12.00%	2.67%	0.00%	45.33%	8.00%	
	5	19	9	2	0	34	6	75
Kayak / canoe storage locker (for four kayaks or canoes for Heritage Water Trail use)	13.33%	14.67%	2.67%	1.33%	0.00%	54.67%	13.33%	
	10	11	2	1	0	41	10	75
Open space	11.84%	28.95%	10.53%	1.32%	0.00%	36.84%	10.53%	
	9	22	8	1	0	28	8	76
Picnic location / grill	10.67%	16.00%	6.67%	2.67%	0.00%	52.00%	12.00%	
	8	12	5	2	0	39	9	75



	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Primitive camping (two raised wooden platforms)	6.67%	14.67%	0.00%	4.00%	0.00%	53.33%	21.33%	
	5	11	0	3	0	40	16	75
Restroom (pit toilet)	5.19%	12.99%	20.78%	9.09%	3.90%	38.96%	9.09%	
	4	10	16	7	3	30	7	77
Swimming (no lifeguard)	3.95%	7.89%	7.89%	9.21%	1.32%	56.58%	13.16%	
	3	6	6	7	1	43	10	76
Trail (developed boardwalk)	10.53%	26.32%	15.79%	2.63%	0.00%	32.89%	11.84%	
	8	20	12	2	0	25	9	76

**Comments**

- 1 I appreciate that this area is NOT lighted at night. Most if not all kayakers + fishermen use head lamps for after sunset or before dawn activities. Keep it this way! This type of lighting if much more efficient and targeted for each individual's activities and doesn't trespass onto neighboring properties.
- 2 I answered I don't know what this is earlier, but now I remember!
- 3 I rally think this is a gem to our township. Improvements can always be made to this area.

**Question 22 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Voce Creek Recreation Area.**

Respondents 75

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Bird / wildlife observation	1.33%	4.00%	1.33%	0.00%	0.00%	26.67%	66.67%	
	1	3	1	0	0	20	50	75
Cross country skiing (not groomed)	1.37%	0.00%	4.11%	0.00%	0.00%	28.77%	65.75%	
	1	0	3	0	0	21	48	73
Fishing (Voce Creek)	1.39%	0.00%	1.39%	1.39%	0.00%	30.56%	65.28%	
	1	0	1	1	0	22	47	72
Open space	1.37%	2.74%	2.74%	0.00%	0.00%	27.40%	65.75%	
	1	2	2	0	0	20	48	73
Snowshoeing	1.37%	2.74%	1.37%	0.00%	0.00%	28.77%	65.75%	
	1	2	1	0	0	21	48	73
Trails (undeveloped)	1.37%	2.74%	1.37%	0.00%	0.00%	28.77%	65.75%	
	1	2	1	0	0	21	48	73

**Comments**

- 1 Don't even know where it is located.



**Question 23 Please rate your recreation experiences at the Wick Site.**

Respondents 73

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Bird / wildlife observation	1.37%	2.74%	0.00%	1.37%	0.00%	24.66%	69.86%	
	1	2	0	1	0	18	51	73
Fishing (Chocolay River)	1.39%	2.78%	0.00%	1.39%	0.00%	26.39%	68.06%	
	1	2	0	1	0	19	49	72
Hunting (deer / small game / upland birds)	1.41%	1.41%	0.00%	1.41%	0.00%	26.76%	69.01%	
	1	1	0	1	0	19	49	71
Open space	1.41%	2.82%	0.00%	1.41%	0.00%	25.35%	69.01%	
	1	2	0	1	0	18	49	71

**Comments**

None

**Question 24 Listed below are current recreation opportunities available at all Township-owned recreation locations. Rate your level of satisfaction with the opportunity. If you have not used a recreation opportunity but you knew it was available, check "Do not use". If you did not know an opportunity was available as part of the Township-provided recreation, check "Did not know this was available"**

Respondents 74

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Baseball / softball fields	12.12%	18.18%	4.55%	0.00%	0.00%	62.12%	3.03%	
	8	12	3	0	0	41	2	66
Basketball courts	7.69%	4.62%	16.92%	1.54%	0.00%	63.08%	6.15%	
	5	3	11	1	0	41	4	65
Biking / walking trails	19.40%	44.78%	17.91%	0.00%	0.00%	13.43%	4.48%	
	13	30	12	0	0	9	3	67
Boat launch – motorized boat	9.09%	15.15%	16.67%	3.03%	0.00%	51.52%	4.55%	
	6	10	11	2	0	34	3	66
Boat / canoe / kayak launch (no motor)	10.45%	25.37%	23.88%	4.48%	1.49%	31.34%	2.99%	
	7	17	16	3	1	21	2	67
Cross-country ski trails	7.69%	10.77%	7.69%	9.23%	3.08%	50.77%	10.77%	
	5	7	5	6	2	33	7	65
Covered pavilions	10.77%	18.46%	12.31%	1.54%	0.00%	50.77%	6.15%	
	7	12	8	1	0	33	4	65
Disc golf	6.25%	10.94%	3.13%	0.00%	0.00%	67.19%	12.50%	
	4	7	2	0	0	43	8	64
Fishing / ice fishing	9.38%	17.19%	21.88%	0.00%	0.00%	46.88%	4.69%	
	6	11	14	0	0	30	3	64





	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Do Not Use	Did Not Know This Was Available	Total
Fishing pier (marina)	6.06%	16.67%	10.61%	3.03%	0.00%	59.09%	4.55%	
	4	11	7	2	0	39	3	66
Hockey rink	12.12%	7.58%	7.58%	0.00%	0.00%	62.12%	10.61%	
	8	5	5	0	0	41	7	66
Horseshoe courts	4.69%	6.25%	4.69%	1.56%	0.00%	64.06%	18.75%	
	3	4	3	1	0	41	12	64
Hunting	3.13%	3.13%	9.38%	1.56%	0.00%	70.31%	12.50%	
	2	2	6	1	0	45	8	64
Ice skating	4.62%	7.69%	9.23%	1.54%	0.00%	64.62%	12.31%	
	3	5	6	1	0	42	8	65
Kayak locker	6.25%	7.81%	4.69%	1.56%	0.00%	68.75%	10.94%	
	4	5	3	1	0	44	7	64
Meeting rooms	10.94%	20.31%	7.81%	1.56%	0.00%	50.00%	9.38%	
	7	13	5	1	0	32	6	64
Open space	14.29%	25.40%	20.63%	0.00%	0.00%	34.92%	4.76%	
	9	16	13	0	0	22	3	63
Picnic locations / grills	7.69%	21.54%	13.85%	1.54%	0.00%	50.77%	4.62%	
	5	14	9	1	0	33	3	65
Playgrounds	6.25%	15.63%	20.31%	6.25%	1.56%	46.88%	3.13%	
	4	10	13	4	1	30	2	64
Primitive camping	3.13%	1.56%	6.25%	3.13%	1.56%	68.75%	15.63%	
	2	1	4	2	1	44	10	64
Restroom facilities	7.69%	13.85%	29.23%	13.85%	0.00%	32.31%	3.08%	
	5	9	19	9	0	21	2	65
Soccer fields	9.23%	18.46%	6.15%	1.54%	0.00%	60.00%	4.62%	
	6	12	4	1	0	39	3	65
Snowshoeing	6.35%	22.22%	11.11%	3.17%	0.00%	46.03%	11.11%	
	4	14	7	2	0	29	7	63
Swimming areas	4.69%	14.06%	15.63%	3.13%	1.56%	45.31%	15.63%	
	3	9	10	2	1	29	10	64
Tennis courts	4.69%	0.00%	9.38%	10.94%	6.25%	59.38%	9.38%	
	3	0	6	7	4	38	6	64
Trails - hiking / non-motorized	18.46%	33.85%	13.85%	3.08%	0.00%	24.62%	6.15%	
	12	22	9	2	0	16	4	65
Trails - ATV / ORV / snowmobile	8.20%	8.20%	9.84%	1.64%	4.92%	60.66%	6.56%	
	5	5	6	1	3	37	4	61

### Comments

- 1 The township needs a better larger meeting place for 200 to 250 people - Weddings + Receptions. Better accondations like Sands + Mqt Township Halls.
- 2 Do NOT allow ATV's ORV's on Chocolay trails -- STRONGLY OPPOSE



- 3 In general we need more non motorized trails throughout Township Less emphasis on developed sites especially remote from Harvey.
- 4 Do not own a snowmobile but would love the opportunity for ATV/ORV use! 2/20/2019 8:26 AM
- 5 Our family cross country skis at Blueberry Ridge XC ski trails which are groomed and nearby. Love ski area with warming hut.
- 6 Reestablishment of beach access on M28 across from Gitchee Gumee campground must be a top priority. It was the best place to swim in the township and removing the stairs without replacing them was a poorly thought out idea.
- 7 A mailing would help with all of the recreational opportunities. I have not seen the baseball fields used. A map of where you can and can't hunt would be nice.
- 8 Tennis courts are trash.
- 9 I would use the cross-country ski trails at Lake Kawbawgam and Lake LeVasseur more often if I could get a trail report that included current snow conditions and recent grooming history.
- 10 CAN'T PLAY TENNIS ON THESE COURTS.THEY ARE DISGUSTING.
- 11 We really miss skiing and hiking by Lake Lavasseur since the trees were cut down.
- 12 More atv access is a must, I must travel out of twp to access atv trails which will ultimately be the primary reason I will probably move.
- 13 The tennis courts should be converted to pickleball courts.
- 14 No Pickle ball
- 15 Need orv trail through township and some roads open to orv use.
- 16 Ok for snowmobiles, but very lacking for ORV/ATV. Can't legally operate off private property.

**Question 25 Listed below are currently funded recreation opportunities in the Township. Check your support level for each opportunity listed.**

Respondents 75

	Continue Funding	Maybe Continue Funding if Right Opportunity	Do Not Continue Funding	I Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
Baseball / softball fields	64.38%	21.92%	4.11%	6.85%	2.74%	
	47	16	3	5	2	73
Basketball courts	53.52%	25.35%	5.63%	9.86%	5.63%	
	38	18	4	7	4	71
Biking / walking trails	78.38%	16.22%	0.00%	2.70%	2.70%	
	58	12	0	2	2	74
Boat launch - motorized boat	60.27%	21.92%	8.22%	5.48%	4.11%	
	44	16	6	4	3	73
Boat / canoe / kayak launch (no motor)	79.73%	13.51%	0.00%	4.05%	2.70%	
	59	10	0	3	2	74
Cross-country ski trails	62.50%	20.83%	4.17%	8.33%	4.17%	
	45	15	3	6	3	72
Covered pavilions	65.28%	18.06%	2.78%	9.72%	4.17%	
	47	13	2	7	3	72
Disc golf	37.84%	31.08%	10.81%	14.86%	5.41%	
	28	23	8	11	4	74
	50.70%	32.39%	7.04%	7.04%	2.82%	



	Continue Funding	Maybe Continue Funding if Right Opportunity	Do Not Continue Funding	I Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
Fishing / ice fishing	36	23	5	5	2	71
Fishing pier (marina)	62.50%	22.22%	5.56%	4.17%	5.56%	
	45	16	4	3	4	72
Hockey rink	61.64%	21.92%	2.74%	9.59%	4.11%	
	45	16	2	7	3	73
Horseshoe courts	30.99%	29.58%	18.31%	16.90%	4.23%	
	22	21	13	12	3	71
Hunting	30.00%	27.14%	17.14%	20.00%	5.71%	
	21	19	12	14	4	70
Ice skating	56.94%	26.39%	5.56%	8.33%	2.78%	
	41	19	4	6	2	72
Kayak locker	40.85%	25.35%	18.31%	9.86%	5.63%	
	29	18	13	7	4	71
Meeting rooms	61.11%	20.83%	8.33%	4.17%	5.56%	
	44	15	6	3	4	72
Open space	71.01%	14.49%	2.90%	5.80%	5.80%	
	49	10	2	4	4	69
Picnic locations / grills	69.01%	22.54%	0.00%	4.23%	4.23%	
	49	16	0	3	3	71
Playgrounds	78.38%	12.16%	2.70%	4.05%	2.70%	
	58	9	2	3	2	74
Primitive camping	31.94%	31.94%	16.67%	9.72%	9.72%	
	23	23	12	7	7	72
Restroom facilities	78.38%	12.16%	2.70%	2.70%	4.05%	
	58	9	2	2	3	74
Snowshoeing	54.93%	25.35%	7.04%	7.04%	5.63%	
	39	18	5	5	4	71
Soccer fields	68.49%	16.44%	5.48%	5.48%	4.11%	
	50	12	4	4	3	73
Swimming areas	54.29%	24.29%	4.29%	7.14%	10.00%	
	38	17	3	5	7	70
Tennis courts	55.56%	25.00%	9.72%	5.56%	4.17%	
	40	18	7	4	3	72
Trails - hiking / non-motorized	77.46%	9.86%	5.63%	4.23%	2.82%	
	55	7	4	3	2	71
Trails - ATV / ORV / snowmobile	50.00%	12.86%	20.00%	14.29%	2.86%	
	35	9	14	10	2	70



**Comments**

- 1 I can't make a judgement without knowing amounts spent. Maintenance of existing facilities -- sure, but if facilities aren't being used, discontinue? Provide space but individuals provide their equipment.
- 2 No ATV ORV's on Chocelay recreation areas or trails!!!
- 3 Fund ORV/ATV use. Misleading to categorize these with snowmobiles when they are not allowed!
- 4 Maybe assist Sands Twp and The DNR with funding Blueberry Ridge for ensuring XC skiing.
- 5 How much are the soccer fields used in Beaver Grove?
- 6 i don't mind the township maintaining and pursuing outdoor recreation activities that involve non motorized; softball, hockey rink, restrooms, trails, tennis & basketball courts, fishing opportunities, etc.. I DO NOT want to see the Township spend money on ORV/ATV trails. People that can afford these can certainly trailer their equipment to designated trails. ORV & ATV's are a disruption to our township's character.
- 7 I DID NOT KNOW THAT THERE WAS ANY FUNDING?! SEE NOTHING DONE FOR TENNIS.
- 8 More funding and attention is needed for atv access and trails.
- 9 The tennis courts should be converted to pickleball courts.
- 10 If funding is available, why are the tennis courts in such bad shape??
- 11 I own land on both the south and the north sides of Lakewood Lane. ATV or snow mobile traffic has damaged my property across from my cottage on the south side of Lakewood Lane. I have tried to preserve the natural woodland there, and people ignore my "keep out" signs. I finally dropped a tree across the "trail", and I hope this keeps motorized traffic out! Foot traffic is fine by me. I'm not there during the winter to patrol my land, and it is being ruined by trespassers. I also object to the noise caused to this residential area. Motorized traffic should be restricted to the trails and not spill over onto private property.
- 12 I am at an age where I don't utilize most of the recreation opportunities but I'm willing to help with financial support to keep them going or improve them.

**Question 26 Listed below are possible future recreation opportunities in the Township. Check your support level for each opportunity listed.**

Respondents 78

	Yes - Support	Maybe if Right Opportunity	No - Do Not Support	I Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
Additional motorized ATV / ORV / snowmobile connections	36.00%	22.67%	29.33%	9.33%	2.67%	
	27	17	22	7	2	75
Additional non-motorized trails	68.42%	15.79%	7.89%	5.26%	2.63%	
	52	12	6	4	2	76
Additional community gardens	43.42%	34.21%	9.21%	10.53%	2.63%	
	33	26	7	8	2	76
Additional geocaching locations	21.33%	36.00%	14.67%	18.67%	9.33%	
	16	27	11	14	7	75
Additional Little League fields	28.00%	40.00%	12.00%	10.67%	9.33%	
	21	30	9	8	7	75
Additional picnic locations / grills	29.73%	39.19%	16.22%	10.81%	4.05%	
	22	29	12	8	3	74
Additional soccer fields	27.40%	34.25%	19.18%	12.33%	6.85%	
	20	25	14	9	5	73
Adult fitness - outdoor trail	35.14%	28.38%	17.57%	13.51%	5.41%	
	26	21	13	10	4	74



	Yes - Support	Maybe if Right Opportunity	No - Do Not Support	I Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
Aerobics / weight training	19.18%	32.88%	28.77%	12.33%	6.85%	
	14	24	21	9	5	73
Bike polo	9.59%	23.29%	30.14%	21.92%	15.07%	
	7	17	22	16	11	73
BMX biking	19.18%	32.88%	21.92%	16.44%	9.59%	
	14	24	16	12	7	73
Bocce ball courts	21.62%	39.19%	18.92%	14.86%	5.41%	
	16	29	14	11	4	74
Community events	55.41%	31.08%	4.05%	9.46%	0.00%	
	41	23	3	7	0	74
Community recreation center	60.27%	23.29%	5.48%	8.22%	2.74%	
	44	17	4	6	2	73
Equestrian trails	17.57%	40.54%	21.62%	10.81%	9.46%	
	13	30	16	8	7	74
Historic sites / museums	33.78%	43.24%	12.16%	8.11%	2.70%	
	25	32	9	6	2	74
Indoor public spaces for community / private gatherings	44.59%	36.49%	12.16%	4.05%	2.70%	
	33	27	9	3	2	74
Inline skating / roller blade trails	20.55%	30.14%	30.14%	12.33%	6.85%	
	15	22	22	9	5	73
Lacrosse	12.33%	32.88%	34.25%	13.70%	6.85%	
	9	24	25	10	5	73
Mountain biking trails	54.67%	20.00%	12.00%	9.33%	4.00%	
	41	15	9	7	3	75
Off-lease dog park	39.47%	28.95%	19.74%	5.26%	6.58%	
	30	22	15	4	5	76
Outdoor swimming pool	17.57%	28.38%	41.89%	8.11%	4.05%	
	13	21	31	6	3	74
Pickleball courts	22.67%	36.00%	21.33%	10.67%	9.33%	
	17	27	16	8	7	75
Pop Warner football	24.66%	27.40%	26.03%	10.96%	10.96%	
	18	20	19	8	8	73
Pre-school or early childhood recreation programs	44.59%	32.43%	10.81%	8.11%	4.05%	
	33	24	8	6	3	74
Senior citizen recreation programs	57.14%	31.17%	3.90%	3.90%	3.90%	
	44	24	3	3	3	77
Skateboarding area	22.97%	37.84%	22.97%	9.46%	6.76%	
	17	28	17	7	5	74
Sledding hill	52.63%	30.26%	5.26%	7.89%	3.95%	
	40	23	4	6	3	76
Small neighborhood parks	43.84%	32.88%	9.59%	9.59%	4.11%	
	32	24	7	7	3	73



	Yes - Support	Maybe if Right Opportunity	No - Do Not Support	I Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
Summer programs for youth (such as art, biking, dance, fishing, gymnastics, hiking and sports)	61.04%	27.27%	7.79%	2.60%	1.30%	
	47	21	6	2	1	77
Using school facilities for basketball / volleyball	64.47%	26.32%	3.95%	3.95%	1.32%	
	49	20	3	3	1	76
Youth programs (such as dance, art and gymnastics)	54.67%	32.00%	8.00%	2.67%	2.67%	
	41	24	6	2	2	75
Water splash park or area	27.63%	23.68%	31.58%	7.89%	9.21%	
	21	18	24	6	7	76

**Comments**

- 1 BMX Track by Lions Field just behind field
- 2 sledding hill -- minimal cost
- 3 Too many options will eat up funding, keep options to the basic. Anything involving a pool is going to be very costly and should be avoided. Non motorized trails are great but we also need to include motorized trails. Why can't we share space? Include more funding for law enforcement if there is a concern regarding trail abuses.
- 4 Many of the proposed activities would be great to have in the Township. However, I don't believe the Township should be spearheading many of those activities. The "community" needs to lead.

**Question 27 In your opinion, which of the following are appropriate uses for Township-owned recreation property?**

Respondents 77

	Yes	Yes, As Long as It Doesn't Cost the Taxpayers Money	Depends on the Opportunity	No	Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
Develop more parks and improve recreation equipment	45.21%	19.18%	20.55%	8.22%	1.37%	5.48%	
	33	14	15	6	1	4	73
Harvest timber on Township property and manage for future sales	34.67%	8.00%	28.00%	14.67%	4.00%	10.67%	
	26	6	21	11	3	8	75
Install or repair pedestrian and bicycle pathways	78.95%	14.47%	3.95%	1.32%	1.32%	0.00%	
	60	11	3	1	1	0	76
Lease land for alternative energy (wind, thermal,	28.38%	13.51%	24.32%	22.97%	1.35%	9.46%	
	21	10	18	17	1	7	74



	Yes	Yes, As Long as It Doesn't Cost the Taxpayers Money	Depends on the Opportunity	No	Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
geothermal, etc.)							
Lease land for commercial use	8.33%	11.11%	38.89%	31.94%	0.00%	9.72%	
	6	8	28	23	0	7	72
Lease land for communication	17.33%	17.33%	41.33%	13.33%	1.33%	9.33%	
	13	13	31	10	1	7	75
Lease land for public use for food production (such as a community garden or public greenhouse)	45.33%	22.67%	20.00%	9.33%	1.33%	1.33%	
	34	17	15	7	1	1	75
Provide incentives to preserve natural features (such as floodplains, woodlands, trees and open space)	61.11%	18.06%	6.94%	6.94%	4.17%	2.78%	
	44	13	5	5	3	2	72
Sell excess land	24.32%	5.41%	37.84%	20.27%	4.05%	8.11%	
	18	4	28	15	3	6	74

**Comments**

- 1 Some of the properties are little used perhaps selling some with goal of expanding park space in equal or greater acreage closer to population centers.
- 2 If the township cannot is not using land they own or have no interest in it, then it should be sold.
- 3 Should use/repurpose existing properties before going to new properties/land
- 4 The trouble with adding trails for bicycles is that motorized ATV or snow mobile traffic tends to claim the right to use them. We don't have the policing ability necessary to prevent this.

**Question 28 Would you support a solar array farm at the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area?**

Respondents 76

Yes	No	Maybe	I Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
44.74%	6.58%	22.37%	6.58%	19.74%	
34	5	17	5	15	76

**Comments**

- 1 Township property belongs to the people of the township, utilize for the benefit of these citizen whether it be development, leasing or sale.
- 2 Especially if no trees cut!



**Question 29 Would you support a botanical garden at the Beaver Grove Agriculture Area?**

Respondents 74

Yes	No	Maybe	I Don't Know	I Need More Information	Total
44.59%	8.11%	22.97%	5.41%	18.92%	
33	6	17	4	14	74

**Comments**

None

**Question 30 Trails are one of the most important recreation activities in the Township; however, much of the Township trail system is "hidden" from the public. Please rate the following ideas for future trail development.**

Respondents 75

	Good Idea	Good Idea with External	I Need More Information	No Interest	Total
Arrows / directional signs on paved trail pavement	65.28%	18.06%	11.11%	5.56%	
	47	13	8	4	72
Artwork on tunnel walls	22.97%	32.43%	8.11%	36.49%	
	17	24	6	27	74
Directional signs on the trails to area businesses, City of Marquette and points of interest	60.27%	24.66%	10.96%	4.11%	
	44	18	8	3	73
Printed and online brochures for all Township recreation and trails	74.32%	18.92%	4.05%	2.70%	
	55	14	3	2	74
Site signage for existing Township recreation that does not have entrance signs	83.78%	6.76%	8.11%	1.35%	
	62	5	6	1	74
Solar lighting on the Iron Ore Heritage Trail (summer only - May through October)	46.58%	21.92%	9.59%	21.92%	
	34	16	7	16	73
River signage for directions to and from the marina for boaters and Hiawatha Water Trail users	59.46%	21.62%	8.11%	10.81%	
	44	16	6	8	74

**Comments**

- 1 Too much lighting and signage distract from the natural world experience and are actually a downgrade not an upgrade for most people seeking an unspoiled natural experience.
- 2 No printed maps. On line only
- 3 A motorized and non motorized trail going from our township to the Crossroads area partnering with Sands township.
- 4 Cross-country skiers really appreciate and depend on trail reports that include current snow conditions and recent grooming history. This is especially true if you want to attract people from out of town. The trails out at Lake Kawbawgam and LeVasseur could be excellent skiing under the right conditions.





**Question 31** Trail extension ideas have been proposed, with the intent of expanding the existing Township trail system to other locations in the Township. Please rate the following ideas for new trails and trail extensions in the Township.

Respondents 75

	Good Idea	Good Idea with External	I Need More Information	No Interest	Total
ATV / ORV trail access for the eastern portion of the Township - Sand River Road and gravel portions of Kawbawgam Road and Mangum Road	40.00%	10.67%	10.67%	38.67%	
	30	8	8	29	75
Develop bike route trail with route markings throughout the Township connecting all Township recreation sites	67.57%	14.86%	4.05%	13.51%	
	50	11	3	10	74
Establish bike path from the US 41 bike path through the Silver Creek Recreation Area to connect to Silver Creek Road	71.23%	20.55%	1.37%	6.85%	
	52	15	1	5	73
Establish fishing trails along the Chocoy River (near the Green Garden Site and the DNR site on Mangum Road)	44.59%	29.73%	6.76%	18.92%	
	33	22	5	14	74
Establish west side trail on US 41 from tunnel north to businesses on west side of US 41	54.05%	22.97%	9.46%	13.51%	
	40	17	7	10	74
Extend Iron Ore Heritage Trail to US 41 bike path via Green Bay Street and Main Street (new Green Bay Street bridge coming in 2020)	61.33%	14.67%	12.00%	12.00%	
	46	11	9	9	75
Provide water access to Wick Site via Kawbawgam Lake from proposed Kawbawgam Road launch site	30.14%	23.29%	26.03%	20.55%	
	22	17	19	15	73

**Comments**

- 1 Bike path from sand river road to kawbawgam
- 2 No need to spend ANY monies on ATV/ORV access. Not having them in our township IS Not hurting us. I have asked several neighbors regarding this and none of them care to have them accessing our township.
- 3 ATV access is needed through entire township, not just eastern part.
- 4 I knew of a new Green Bay Street bridge in the future. While this does not reflect on your recreational areas, in planning for the renewed bridge, it would be wonderful if it was wide enough to have a separate "sidewalk" to separate us from the cars. Especially in the dark, walking directly over the river spot is extremely dangerous if met with cars. Thanks.
- 5 Fear of motorized traffic claiming the trails is what is preventing my support.



**Question 32 How important are the following potential new public improvements and amenities? Please select your choice for each item listed.**

Respondents 75

	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Need More Information	No Opinion	Total
Art mural / art work in pedestrian tunnel	4.17%	4.17%	26.39%	56.94%	4.17%	4.17%	
	3	3	19	41	3	3	72
Benches along trails	11.11%	20.83%	47.22%	16.67%	2.78%	1.39%	
	8	15	34	12	2	1	72
Expanded sewer supply area	10.96%	20.55%	15.07%	30.14%	15.07%	8.22%	
	8	15	11	22	11	6	73
Four season bus stop shelter	13.51%	29.73%	24.32%	20.27%	6.76%	5.41%	
	10	22	18	15	5	4	74
More attractive landscaping in public areas	12.33%	32.88%	28.77%	17.81%	1.37%	6.85%	
	9	24	21	13	1	5	73
More public transportation options	24.66%	20.55%	30.14%	16.44%	4.11%	4.11%	
	18	15	22	12	3	3	73
Public water supply in selected growth areas	19.18%	21.92%	20.55%	24.66%	9.59%	4.11%	
	14	16	15	18	7	3	73
Security systems protecting the recreation areas	15.28%	22.22%	34.72%	13.89%	11.11%	2.78%	
	11	16	25	10	8	2	72
Township newsletter / information flyers about recreation and activities in the Township	33.80%	25.35%	28.17%	9.86%	0.00%	2.82%	
	24	18	20	7	0	2	71
Trash cans / pet refuse bags along trails	33.33%	44.44%	18.06%	4.17%	0.00%	0.00%	
	24	32	13	3	0	0	72
Underground utilities (electric, cable, telephone) along US 41	26.03%	19.18%	21.92%	15.07%	12.33%	5.48%	
	19	14	16	11	9	4	73
Underground utilities (electric, cable, telephone) with new	34.29%	27.14%	17.14%	8.57%	5.71%	7.14%	
	24	19	12	6	4	5	70
Visitor maps of local attractions	38.36%	28.77%	23.29%	9.59%	0.00%	0.00%	
	28	21	17	7	0	0	73
Wayfinding signs for local recreation	40.85%	19.72%	26.76%	5.63%	5.63%	1.41%	
	29	14	19	4	4	1	71

**Comments**

- 1 The concept of pet refuse Plastic bags is problematic because the waste is biodegradable but the plastic bags are not. What happens in the real world is the waste is placed in a plastic bag and LEFT on the trail. --> Crows tear it apart leaving plastic fragments litter coated # 2. Why people do this? Unknown but the truth.
- 2 Better marketing to residents as to amenities
- 3 In regards to "More public transportation options", I would more likely take a bus into town if the return trip did not involve going all the way to Gwinn first. In regards to "Township newsletter" while postage is costly, I dread getting online mostly because it never takes "just a couple minutes" of reading a newsletter. (It is taking way more than the estimated 20 minutes to fill out this questionnaire.) Those couple minutes can end up being 1/2 hour or more. Having a printable newsletter, either with tax statements or in the newspaper, can be carried and set down to finish reading if interrupted at any locality in the home. (Our internet is at a fixed location due to wires.) In regards to "Trash cans / pet refuse bags along trails", I pick up other peoples' litter when walking my dogs as well as



my dogs' wastes. I was disappointed when the Green Bay Street pet waste center was removed. While there wasn't a trash can, I did lay large garbage found on my walks near it for removal or inside the dog waste can if it was small enough to not take up much room.

- 4 It is sad that there is one bus stop in the Chocoday Township area. PLEASE work to encourage/facilitate/beg to have more frequent buses and more bus stops that will serve a larger area of Chocoday.

**Question 33 Additional services, issues and improvements must be considered for a good recreation plan to occur. Listed below are considerations for both the near and distant future. Please select your choice for each item listed.**

Respondents 75

	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Need More Information	No Opinion	Total
Anticipate risks due to climate changes	20.83%	26.39%	30.56%	19.44%	1.39%	1.39%	
	15	19	22	14	1	1	72
Area flooding	27.78%	43.06%	20.83%	5.56%	1.39%	1.39%	
	20	31	15	4	1	1	72
Attract more residents to the Township	9.72%	29.17%	34.72%	23.61%	0.00%	2.78%	
	7	21	25	17	0	2	72
Attract more small businesses to the Township	31.51%	38.36%	19.18%	8.22%	2.74%	0.00%	
	23	28	14	6	2	0	73
Attract young families to the Township	30.56%	30.56%	25.00%	9.72%	0.00%	4.17%	
	22	22	18	7	0	3	72
Control nuisance activities (noise, accumulation of junk / rubbish /	59.46%	28.38%	8.11%	4.05%	0.00%	0.00%	
	44	21	6	3	0	0	74
Create more job opportunities in the Township	33.80%	36.62%	18.31%	9.86%	0.00%	1.41%	
	24	26	13	7	0	1	71
Electric car / electronic device charging stations in the Township	11.11%	12.50%	36.11%	31.94%	4.17%	4.17%	
	8	9	26	23	3	3	72
Inadequate water drainage	16.67%	34.72%	16.67%	13.89%	16.67%	1.39%	
	12	25	12	10	12	1	72
Improve curbside recycling services	47.30%	31.08%	10.81%	8.11%	1.35%	1.35%	
	35	23	8	6	1	1	74
Improve or provide new public facilities	12.86%	30.00%	37.14%	10.00%	10.00%	0.00%	
	9	21	26	7	7	0	70
Improve police and fire services	20.83%	25.00%	27.78%	16.67%	6.94%	2.78%	
	15	18	20	12	5	2	72
Keep taxes at or near present levels	43.24%	25.68%	22.97%	2.70%	4.05%	1.35%	
	32	19	17	2	3	1	74
Limitations for development because of water supply issues	25.00%	29.41%	19.12%	4.41%	19.12%	2.94%	
	17	20	13	3	13	2	68
Locate alternate funding for desired public improvements	42.65%	29.41%	20.59%	1.47%	4.41%	1.47%	
	29	20	14	1	3	1	68
Lower taxes and decrease public services	8.70%	8.70%	7.25%	55.07%	14.49%	5.80%	
	6	6	5	38	10	4	69
Maintain curbside recycling services	54.93%	28.17%	8.45%	7.04%	1.41%	0.00%	
	39	20	6	5	1	0	71



	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Need More Information	No Opinion	Total
Maintain existing police and fire services	59.15%	26.76%	5.63%	5.63%	2.82%	0.00%	
	42	19	4	4	2	0	71
Maintain existing public facilities	40.85%	43.66%	8.45%	5.63%	1.41%	0.00%	
	29	31	6	4	1	0	71
Maintain or improve road conditions	62.16%	27.03%	8.11%	2.70%	0.00%	0.00%	
	46	20	6	2	0	0	74
Preserve agricultural lands for farming activities	18.31%	33.80%	32.39%	9.86%	1.41%	4.23%	
	13	24	23	7	1	3	71
Preserve public access to water resources	44.44%	41.67%	5.56%	5.56%	1.39%	1.39%	
	32	30	4	4	1	1	72
Preserve wildlife habitat	43.06%	31.94%	15.28%	5.56%	4.17%	0.00%	
	31	23	11	4	3	0	72
Protect and enhance the local food supply	23.19%	34.78%	26.09%	10.14%	5.80%	0.00%	
	16	24	18	7	4	0	69
Protect environmentally sensitive areas (wetlands, steep slopes,	49.28%	28.99%	14.49%	5.80%	1.45%	0.00%	
	34	20	10	4	1	0	69
Protect water resources	68.06%	22.22%	6.94%	2.78%	0.00%	0.00%	
	49	16	5	2	0	0	72
Provide affordable housing	25.71%	30.00%	32.86%	8.57%	1.43%	1.43%	
	18	21	23	6	1	1	70
Provide community health services	19.12%	29.41%	25.00%	14.71%	8.82%	2.94%	
	13	20	17	10	6	2	68
Provide more senior services	18.57%	31.43%	30.00%	7.14%	8.57%	4.29%	
	13	22	21	5	6	3	70
Raise taxes for new / improved public facilities or services	5.56%	8.33%	15.28%	37.50%	33.33%	0.00%	
	4	6	11	27	24	0	72

### Comments

- 1) Take lead in repurposing glass recycling for whole county as road aggregate. Minnesota has successful program.  
2) Take strong protective stance to avoid the growth sprawl abomination happening in Marquette Twp. This will be an important challenge going forward with the new casino being developed.
- We built the friggin TajMahal for the fire department and they are volunteer. Improved fire service please
- Need Post Office
- Property taxes are unreasonably high. We are not rich--we can barely afford our place as it is. Please work on ways to lower property taxes.
- Many of these suggestions for improvement of facilities sound great, but I feel that, because I am not a year-round resident, that my taxes are already out of proportion to the benefits I receive personally. It especially bothers me that I still don't have access to the city water/sewer system out where I am on Lakewood Lane. Part of protecting our beautiful Lake Superior is in making sure sewage systems are functioning properly. Run-off from farms and especially golf courses damages our water! We need to expand services responsibly, and yer-round residents should shoulder more of the cost than those of us who make only seasonal use of facilities.
- Improve garbage and recycling as current system is a mess. Just look at what blows around when stuff is not in enclosed containers.



**Question 34** Beginning in 2019, five additional programs will be considered for Township residents. The intent of the programs is to gain certification through these programs to protect the natural environments that are present in the Township. Although these programs are not directly related to recreation, they will have a direct impact on recreation direction. Please review the following programs and select the response that most closely fits your knowledge about the program.

Respondents 74

	I Am Very Familiar with This Program	I Am Somewhat Familiar with This Program	I Have No Idea What This Program Is All About	Total
Chocolay River Watershed Plan - Chocolay Township / Superior Watershed Partnership	8.11%	45.95%	45.95%	
	6	34	34	74
Community Rating System - FEMA	8.11%	29.73%	62.16%	
	6	22	46	74
Firewise - National Fire Protection Association	5.41%	24.32%	70.27%	
	4	18	52	74
Michigan Shoreline Stewards program - Michigan Shoreline Partnership	6.76%	32.43%	60.81%	
	5	24	45	74
StormReady - National Weather Service	6.76%	33.78%	59.46%	
	5	25	44	74

**Comments**

- 1 Be aware that the recent rezoning of R1 to WFR will force many homeowners who have a bank mortgage to purchase Flood Insurance. This will be in effect a tax on these families.
- 2 Good to see that the Township will be participating in these.

**Question 35** How do you get information on what is happening in the Township? (check all that apply)

Respondents 74

Answer Choices	Responses	
Word of mouth	58.11%	43
Township web site (www.chocolay.org)	64.86%	48
Township Hall message sign	41.89%	31
Television	22.97%	17
Talk to an elected or appointed official	18.92%	14
Social media (such as Facebook)	28.38%	21
Radio	17.57%	13
Newspaper	50.00%	37
Contact Township staff	47.30%	35



**Comments**

- 1 mail from township
- 2 Please avoid putting important information on social media, many of us do not like or use it
- 3 Mailings
- 4 I don't do social media or have television, and as stated earlier, avoid getting onto the township web site to read about happenings due to time constraints.
- 5 we don't unless we need something
- 6 I like the Township web site but I think it could be improved on. A quarterly newsletter would be nice.
- 7 An active Township Facebook site would be beneficial to me.

**Question 36 The following ideas are suggested for promoting recreation in the Township. Please rate the importance of each selection listed**

Respondents 73

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Total
Flyovers of recreation areas (drones) with video posted on the web and social media	12.33%	43.84%	43.84%	
	9	32	32	73
Newspaper and other papers (such as Action Shopper and Marquette Monthly)	23.29%	50.68%	26.03%	
	17	37	19	73
Promotion through the Welcome Center	41.10%	49.32%	9.59%	
	30	36	7	73
Promotion through Travel Marquette and Marquette Chamber of Commerce	50.68%	35.62%	13.70%	
	37	26	10	73
Sharing recreation programs with local organizations (KBIC, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Lions Club and others)	42.47%	52.05%	5.48%	
	31	38	4	73
Social media (such as Facebook or Twitter)	44.44%	36.11%	19.44%	
	32	26	14	72
Virtual reality of Township recreation on the web	23.94%	40.85%	35.21%	
	17	29	25	71
Web site	67.61%	29.58%	2.82%	
	48	21	2	71

**Comments**

- 1 We need to keep technology current as this is definitely the future.
- 2 web site needs work
- 3 Please just remember that just because you can do something doesn't mean you should. NO DRONES. Favor making our township DRONE FREE Area except for Emergency use by Police / Fire by ordinance.
- 4 The current web-site looks awful and is hard to navigate. I think something cleaner and more professional looking, easier to use and navigate is very important!
- 5 Website needs much improvement it is outdated and not responsive design
- 6 Regarding the newspaper, depending on the length of our subscription, we might not get it at all except for the



Sunday paper, so if ads were to be in the paper, Sunday would be our best option of seeing it.

- 7 It appears that a marketing plan that will identify and promote the existing programs is in order.

**Question 37 Please add your additional recreation plan comments or concerns.**

Respondents 19

- 1 1) Chocoy needs to be a DRONE FREE township. 2) Rock Cut needs to be incorporated into township attraction TRAIL. Could be linked to IOHT, North Country Trails, NMU (Sands, Marquette also) WORK on This!
- 2 Township should buy up land currently for sale at the foot of the Rock Cut to lock that piece in for potential Rock Cut Hiking trail / observation deck park in the future. This currently available commercial parcel is not appropriate for commercial development and curb cut on US 41 / 28 -- short site distance BUT is perfect for trail head area for Rock Cut Summit trail. Development of this as a new park would bring more economic activity into our Twp than any commercial development of this key piece of land that is currently for sale.
- 3 While developing plans Michigan's wild country is wonderful. Should not let this area get commercialized.
- 4 I didn't know about lots of the recreations spots - the playgrounds could use a boost or two in our town - the river is great, but lets not pollute it with tourists ;)
- 5 Dog park and NON motorized trails. We are not a dog friendly community
- 6 I don't know most of those recreation areas existed. Would be nice to see updates on recreation area conditions on the web.
- 7 Need expanded atv and snowmobile trails. Letting dollars slip away from township
- 8 I really like the small town atmosphere, low traffic, lower taxes, the Chocoy river with access to Lake Superior and all other recreation areas the makes Chocoy Township special. Hopefully we can attract more businesses to our area.
- 9 I support the idea of more areas accessible to people with disabilities. However, the accessible kayak launches that have been installed in areas around the U.P. have some difficulties and may not be the best option. I am a kayak instructor who teaches individuals with disabilities and also teaches other instructors how to adapt for disabilities. There are several problems with the EZ Launch systems that are in Munising, Marquette and other locations. Another option is BoardSafe Adaptive Dock Systems. I have not used these, but they have been recommended to me by other instructors who have used them. Here is a link to information.  
<http://boardsafedocks.com/adaptive/adaptive-boat-launch>. I can be contacted at [nancy@seakayakspecialists.com](mailto:nancy@seakayakspecialists.com). Thanks!
- 10 THE TENNIS COURTS ARE MY MAIN INTEREST.
- 11 It's very important to me that the Township support and encourage "quiet" recreational activities like biking, hiking, kayaking/canoeing, rather than activities like snowmobiling, ATV riding and power boating. Quiet recreation is healthier for humans and for our environment.
- 12 I cannot express it enough that ATV access is very much needed throughout this township. There are many responsible atv users that cannot ride from their homes. Provide access, limit use to whatever rules you deem necessary, provide extra law enforcement to enforce those rules and lets get it done.
- 13 Easily identified and easily located trail systems need to be advertised. Currently, my family goes out to Blueberry Ridge or into town. If we have the trails, get the word out!
- 14 Pickleball courts should be installed. Like Sands Township Indoor and Outdoor.
- 15 I think the tennis courts at Silver Creek need to be replaced, maybe even expanded. They could be multi-use courts. It would really be nice to have an indoor venue to include tennis, pickleball, basketball, etc. Sands township has an excellent gym/multi-use area. That would be really nice. More senior activities would be nice also.
- 16 All of this would be very nice, but our residents are middle class at best. It is beautiful the way it is--please do not get carried away with expensive plans we cannot afford.
- 17 Part of what I love about the UP is its natural beauty and lack of pretense. I'm for anything that preserves the health of the environment and encourages respectful, intelligent use of the land. I'm against Disney-Land-Like expansion in all its forms. More traffic means more revenue, but it also threatens the beauty and health of our community. We would be wise to make it easy for people to do the right thing. Placing garbage cans along trails is an example of this. Those who visit may not be as invested as those who live here. We need to consider the long-



term effects of the decisions we make so that we can improve our economic situation without sacrificing the natural wealth that surrounds us.

- 18 I feel that a lot of community members have easy access to in town activities already and do not need the extra expense of increased taxes to develop some of these areas.
- 19 We are a bedroom community with a lot of recreational activity. If you don't live in Harvey, access is mostly limited to automobile. However, even Harvey does not have sidewalks. The existing non- motorized trail system is a significant asset. We need to diversify the trails throughout the Township and maintain the recreation areas we have. Some of the undeveloped sites serve no significant purpose to me but may to others? Perhaps those sites could be divested?



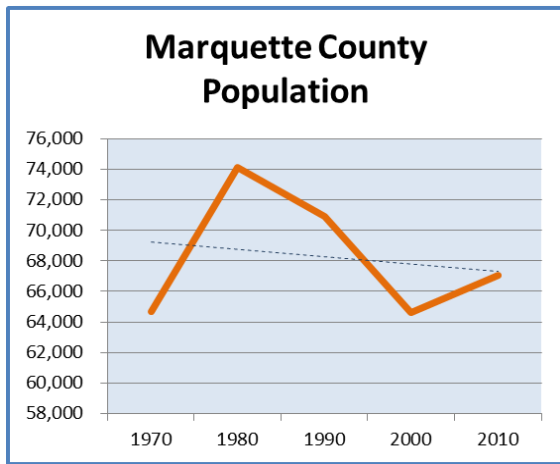


# Appendix E Civic Features

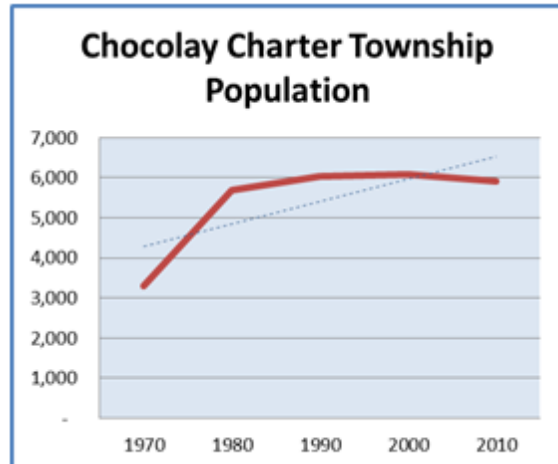
## Population Characteristics

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 19](#)). 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 20](#)). This plan is based on projections for a stable population base in Chocolay Township.

**Figure 19 Marquette County Population**



**Figure 20 Chocolay Charter Township Population**



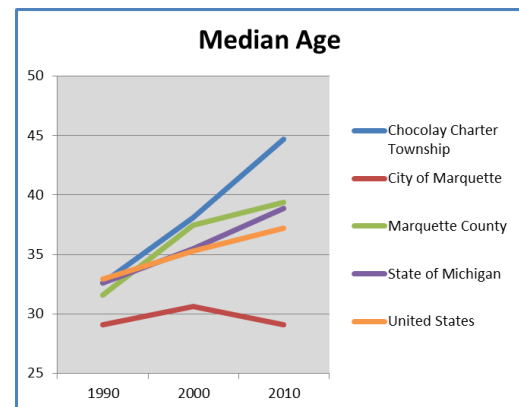
The median age of the populations of Chocolay Charter Township, Marquette County, the State of Michigan, and the United States have continued to rise since 1990, although the median age in the City of Marquette declined between 2000 and 2010 (see [Figure 21](#)).

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. 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

**Figure 21 Median Age**



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 follows:

- 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 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 Chocolay Township are estimated to live below the poverty level.

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 13](#).

**Table 13 Retirement Income**

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

### Township Residential Influence

Because of the close proximity to Marquette, it has often been assumed that Chocolay Township is a bedroom community for the city. It is true that Chocolay Township is a particularly prominent place of residence for workers in Marquette County (3rd among all County subdivisions) and workers in the City of Marquette (second among all County subdivisions). However, Chocolay Township also figures prominently in supplying jobs within the County, ranking fourth among all County subdivisions (first among all jurisdictions other than cities).<sup>1</sup>

Chocolay Township ranks second in the County for jobs supplied in the retail sector. Most residents would probably find this information to be surprising since Chocolay Township does not contain any visibly prominent employers or a congested highway corridor. The top industry sectors in Chocolay Township are retail trade (average of 762 jobs) and accommodation and food services (average of 245 jobs).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Extracted from Township *Master Plan, 2015 Edition*, page 23, with additional referenced material at the bottom of the same page.

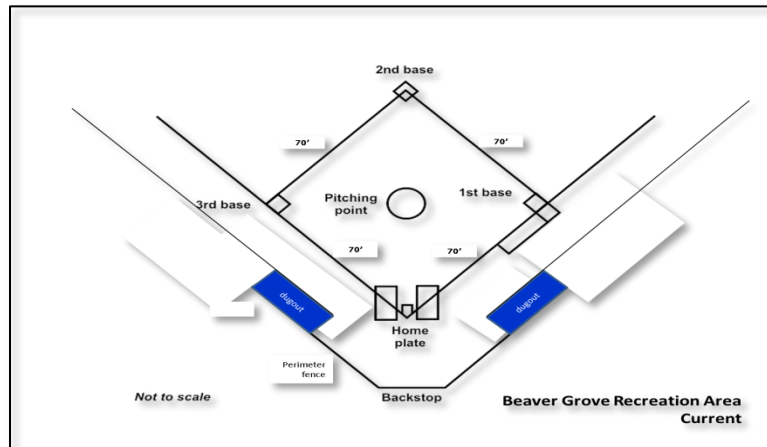
<sup>2</sup> Extracted from Township *Master Plan, 2015 Edition*, page 23, with additional referenced material at the bottom of the same page.



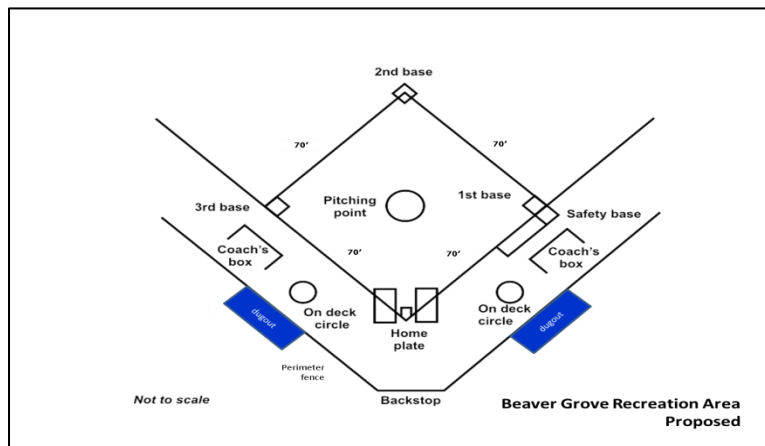
# Appendix F Site Information

## 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

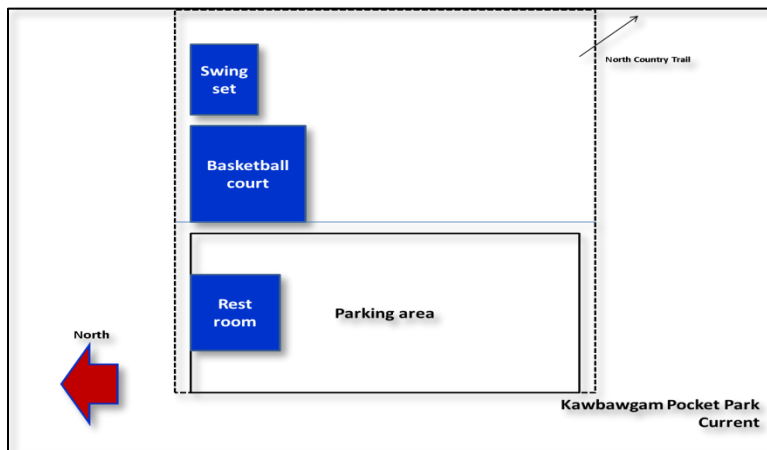
### Brower Recreation Area Assessment

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

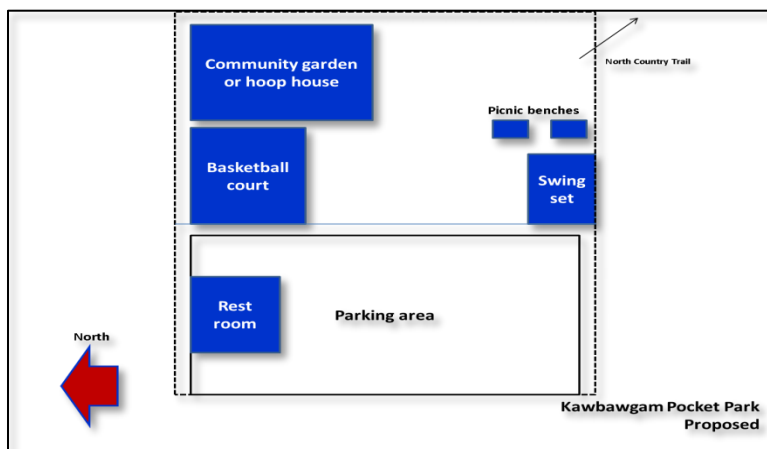


# Kawbawgam Pocket Park

## 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

## 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

