

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2019
Organization: Oakland Charter Township
Section A: Applicant Site and Project Information: Bear Creek Nature Park

TF19-0081

*Is the application for site development <u>or</u> land acquisition? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development Acquisition				
*Name of Applicant (Government Unit) Oakland Charter Township		*SIGMA VSS	*SIGMA Address Code	*County Oakland County
*Name of Authorized Representative Melinda Milos-Dale		*Title Parks and Recreation Director		
*Address 4393 Collins Road		*Telephone (248) 651-7810		
*City Rochester		*State MI	*ZIP 48306	*E-mail mmdale@oaklandtownship.org
*State House District District 46		*State Senate District District 12		*U.S. Congress District District 8

*Proposal Title (Not to exceed 60 characters) Bear Creek Nature Park Restroom Improvements
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*Proposal Description Development to provide restroom facilities for an increasing number of Bear Creek Nature Park visitors. Portable toilets will be replaced with two environmentally sustainable and universally accessible flushable vault toilets. These all-season restrooms will support the increasing use of this park's trails and wetland overlooks, picnic pavilion, and play structure during warmer seasons as well as an ice skating rink during the winter. In addition these restrooms will help better support programs and special events held at this park including nature and fitness programs, outdoor concerts, and a winter carnival. This type of restroom is well matched to this site, which has adjacent wetland areas, as it does not require a connection to a septic field.
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*Address of Site 740 West Snell Road	*City, Village or Township of Site Rochester	*Zip 48306
*County in which Site is located Oakland	*Town, Range and Section Numbers of Site Location <i>Letters must be upper-case: (examples: T02N, R13E, 22)</i> (Town) T04N (Range)R11E (Section)27	*Latitude/Longitude at park entrance 42.731485 -83.152559
*Park Name Bear Creek Nature Park		

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Section B: Project Funding and Explanation of Match Sources

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<u>SOURCES OF MATCHING FUNDS</u>	<u>PROJECT COST AMOUNTS</u>
*Grant amount requested (round to the nearest hundred dollars)	\$50,000
Total Match	\$75,400
Total Project Cost	\$125,400
Percentage of match commitment (Must be at least 25% of total project cost)	60%
a) General Funds or Local Restricted Funds (Applicant's own cash)	\$75,400
b) Force Account Labor/Materials (Applicant's own paid labor or materials)	
c) Federal or State Funds	
d) Cash Donations	
e) Donated Labor and/or Materials	
f) Donated Land Value (acquisition applications only)	

Section C2: Project Details

Development Applications ONLY

*Applicant's current control of the site:

- Fee Simple
- Lease
- Easement
- Other (describe)

*Age of Park 42 Years

*Acres 107

Project Cost Estimate Table

<u>SCOPE ITEM</u>	<u>DNR ONLY</u> <u>Accessibility Guidelines</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>TOTAL ESTIMATED</u> <u>COST</u>
Restroom Building		1	\$115,600.00
Access Pathway 6' wide or more		162 square feet	\$3,000.00
Recycle Bin(s)		1	\$1,500.00

(New rows will appear as rows are completed and Saved)

Other:

Do not list the aspects of project execution, such as labor, construction equipment, contingency or raw materials. (New rows will appear as rows are completed and Saved)

	Permit Fees	\$1,000.00
	MNRTF Sign	\$300.00
	Subtotal	\$121,400.00
Engineering (These fees may not exceed 15% of subtotal)		\$4,000.00

Total Estimated Cost (Must equal Total Project Cost amount on Section B page.) **\$125,400.00**

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Section D: Justification of Need

*1) If you are submitting multiple acquisition or development applications, what is the priority for this application? (1 = highest) 2

*2) What page(s) of your recreation plan is the need for the proposed project discussed? From: 90 To: 90
If proposed project is on only one page, please enter the page number in both boxes

*3) What was the date(s) of public meeting to discuss submission of the grant application? 3/13/2019
Additional dates: March 26, 2019

*4) Did you gather public input from individuals with disabilities, their families, or advocates? No Yes

*5) Are you the primary provider of recreation services to any surrounding communities, as documented in your recreation plan? No Yes

List Communities:

*6) Explain how you plan to address safety considerations and crime prevention in the project area?

The proposed restroom building will be visible from Bear Creek Nature Park's main parking lot, located on Snell Road, which is a main east-west collector road in Oakland Township frequently traveled by the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. This location supports surveillance by Oakland County deputies. Oakland Township Park rules and regulations, including hours of operation (dusk to dawn), are posted at all park entrances. The restrooms will have both interior and exterior lighting.

*7) Explain how you will make the public aware of the project, as well as the efforts you will use to publicize and promote your project. Include marketing methods that will effectively communicate with persons with disabilities.

The opening of these new facilities will be celebrated with a ribbon-cutting event at this park. Our events, which offer free entertainment, activities, and food, are widely advertised in the media across the region. In addition, these new facilities will be highlighted in our local newspaper; the Rochester Post, Oakland Township municipal newsletter, on the Oakland Township website, in our park map brochures, and in conjunction with any programming or events that are offered at this park.

*8) Does the applicant have a formal recreation department or committee? Please explain below. For park committees, describe how members are appointed, their roles and responsibilities. List of members and meeting schedule.

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation department's 10 employees report to a 7-member elected Parks and Recreation Commission which meets on the second Wednesday of every month. Commissioners include Colin Choi, Hank Van Agen, Cathy Rooney, Emily Barkham, Dan Bukowski, Daniel Simon, and Craig Blust. Both the Commission and Department are described on pages 18 and 19 of the 2015 - 2019 5-year Master Plan.

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Section E: Application History and Stewardship

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NO **YES**

1) Questions 1 is for acquisition applications only - for development projects, leave blank and move to question 2.

Will the applicant have adequate funds on hand to complete the acquisition transaction without any third party assistance (i.e. loans, lines of credit, etc.) **until partial reimbursement and final audit is completed** (approximately 180 days after closing)?

* 2) Has applicant received DNR recreation grant(s) in the past? ✓

 If yes, does applicant currently have an open, active grant? ✓

*3) Has applicant closed, sold, or transferred any parkland or recreation facilities in the past 5 years? ✓

*4) Does applicant have a known unresolved conversion of grant-assisted parkland? (a conversion is a change from public outdoor recreation use to some other use) ✓

*5) Does applicant have a "residents only" policy for this park or other parks or recreation facilities? ✓

*6) Do you now or do you intend in the future to charge an entrance fee to the project site? ✓

 If yes, fee schedule and policy for reduced entrance fees for low-income users included with application?

If yes, attach supporting Documentation on Required Attachments page.

*7) What is the applicant's current year budget for parks and recreation? \$2,130,000.00

*8) What are the estimated operation and maintenance costs associated with the project? \$4,900.00

Comments:

Regarding Question 2, Oakland Township has an executed project agreement for TF 16-0009 to acquire 208 acres for the expansion of Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park. The DNR has approved the market value of this property and Oakland Township is in process of drafting and assembling the escrow closing package for approval by the DNR.

Regarding Question 7, \$1,066,000 is the operations and maintenance portion of Oakland Township's 2019/2020 Parks and Recreation Millage budget . The remaining \$1,064,000 is for capital projects.

Regarding Question 8, the attached maintenance plan includes details regarding the restroom structure's annual \$4,900 maintenance cost and projected total life cycle costs.

Section F: Site Conditions

	<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>
*1) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any portion of the property is or has been used for industrial purposes, including manufacturing and/or minerals' processing or extraction (sand, gravel, oil, or gas) at this time or in the past?	✓		
*2) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any portion of the property is currently being used or has been used in the past for a gas station, motor vehicle service or repair facility, commercial printing facility, dry cleaners, photo developing lab, junkyard, landfill, waste treatment, storage, processing or recycling or disposal facility?	✓		
*3) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any of the following are or have in the past been stored, discarded, or used on the property – automotive or industrial batteries, pesticides or other chemicals used in agricultural practices, paints, industrial waste, or other chemicals in drums or other containers?	✓		
*4) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that fill dirt or other fill material of unknown origin is on this property or has in the past been placed on the property?	✓		
*5) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge of any evidence of leaks, spills, or stains from a substance other than water at this time or in the past?	✓		
*6) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that there are or have in the past been waste disposal pits, lagoons, or ponds on the property?	✓		
*7) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that there are at this time or have in the past been registered or unregistered storage tanks on the property?	✓		
*8) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that contaminated groundwater lies below the property?	✓		
*9) If there is a water well on the property, does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that contaminants have been identified in the well that exceeded legal standards or has the well been identified as contaminated by a government agency?	✓		

Section F: Site Conditions

- *10) Has the landowner been notified about any current violations of environmental laws pertaining to activities on the property or does applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge about past violations? ✓
- *11) Has the landowner been notified of any environmental assessments of the property that identified a) the presence of hazardous substances, petroleum products, or contamination; or b) the need for further assessment? ✓
- *12) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any hazardous substances, unidentified waste materials, tires, or automotive or industrial batteries have been dumped above ground, buried, or burned on the property? ✓
- *13) Is the property listed on any federal or state list of contaminated sites, including the site of a leaking underground storage tank? ✓
- *14) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any of the adjoining properties are currently being used or have been used in the past for the purposes listed in the previous questions 1-13? ✓
- *15) Has an environmental assessment been completed for the site?
If yes, provide the most current on the Required Attachments page. ✓
- *16) Are permits required for the development of the site?
If yes, please complete the following table: NO YES UNKNOWN

TYPE OF PERMIT	PERMITTING AGENCY	EFFORTS TAKEN TO OBTAIN PERMIT OR DETERMINING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS
Building Permit	Charter Township of Oakland	Review with Building Director
Onsite Wastewater Treatment	Oakland County Health Department	Review with County Sanitarian

If 'Yes' or 'Unknown' was selected for any of the questions on this page, please explain here:
Regarding Onsite Wastewater Treatment permit, please see attached review letter from Oakland County Health Division concerning this grant

Section F: Site Conditions

application's type of Outdoor Flush Restroom.

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Section G: Natural Features of The Project Site

To the best of your knowledge, does the project site include:

*Great Lakes shoreline or Great Lakes connecting water frontage? No Yes

If yes, name of Great Lake or Great Lakes connecting water:

How many linear feet of shoreline or frontage?

*Inland lake frontage? No Yes

If yes, name of water body:

What is the size of the total water body in acres?

How many linear feet of frontage are on site?

*River and/or tributary frontage? No Yes

If yes, name of water body:

How many linear feet of frontage?

Is the river or tributary a state natural river or a federally dedicated wild and scenic river? No Yes

*Wetland acreage or frontage? No Yes

If yes, please list the number of acres of the type(s) of wetland(s) on site:

Marsh	3	Bog		Dune and swale complex
Prairie		Forest	6	Boreal Forest
Fen		Shrub	3	Type unknown

Is documentation of type and quality with application? No Yes

If yes, source of information:

Park's Comprehensive Management Plan

*Other water acreage or frontage? No Yes

If yes, name of other water body:

Is the entire water body completely within the site boundaries? No Yes

How many linear feet of frontage or acres of water are on site?

*Sand dunes? No Yes

If yes, list the number of acres of sand dunes on the site:

Critical Not designed as critical, or designation unknown

Is documentation of type and quality provided with application? No Yes

If yes, source of information:

*Dedicated state or federal listed wilderness or dedicated natural area or No Yes

Pigeon River County State Forest land or inholding?

If yes, name of area:

How many acres on site?

Section G: Natural Features of The Project Site

***Rare species or any other significant feature as defined by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory?** No Yes

If yes, list species or feature and status.

24 acres of Dry-mesic southern forest; MNFI element occurrence, protected within park by conservation easement held by Six Rivers Land Conservancy.

if too many to list here, include in the application narrative.

Population/range locations denoted on site plan or other map? No Yes

Will the proposed park or park development:

*** Protect wildlife habitat** (for example, breeding grounds, winter deeryards, den sites)?

No Yes

If yes, list species:

Blandings Turtles,
Wood & Leopard
Frogs

How many acres of habitat does the site provide?

13.00

*** Act as a wildlife corridor between existing protected areas or buffer an existing protected area?**

No Yes

If yes, name the existing park(s) or protected area(s):

How many acres are currently in protected status?

Is documentation of the ecological value of adjacent protected areas and/or the ability of the project site to act as a corridor/buffer provided with application?

No Yes

If yes, source of information:

Section I: Natural Resource Recreation Opportunities

Will the proposed park or park development provide new or additional:

*Water recreation opportunities?

No Yes

*Motorized recreation opportunities (ORV and/or Snowmobile)?

No Yes

*Hunting Opportunities?

No Yes

If yes, what seasons will be available? (for example, deer/firearm)

How many acres will be available for hunting?

*Fishing opportunities?

No Yes

If yes, what type of fishing opportunities will be provided? (species/methods)

*Bird watching or other nature viewing opportunities?

No Yes

If yes, what species can be viewed?

See attached documentation

*Nature interpretation or education opportunities?

No Yes

If yes, how are the interpretation or education opportunities provided? (check all that apply)

Interpretive signage

Part time or volunteer naturalist

Interpretive brochures

Full time naturalist

Nature center

Have you formed a partnership with another organization to provide interpretive/educational services?

No Yes

If yes, name of organization

Provided examples of interpretive materials, descriptions of classes, and other documentation on the interpretive/educational services provided with application:

Please find attached two editions of the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Newsletter that include nature programs which we currently offer for children, families and adults. There are also pages of Natural Areas Stewardship programs and volunteer workday opportunities which include workshops regarding Prescribed Fire, invasive plant removal workdays and weekly bird walks.

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Section J: Public Access Opportunities

* Will the site be open to the general public?

No Yes

List the hours open to the public:

	From	To	Closed
Sunday	Sunrise	Sunset	
Monday	Sunrise	Sunset	
Tuesday	Sunrise	Sunset	
Wednesday	Sunrise	Sunset	
Thursday	Sunrise	Sunset	
Friday	Sunrise	Sunset	
Saturday	Sunrise	Sunset	
Holidays	Sunrise	Sunset	

Comment:

How will the public reasonably be able to access this site?

Automobile

Boat

Public Transportation

Motorized Trail

Non-Motorized Trail including Mountain Bike and Hiking Trails

Sidewalk or Pathway

Other (describe)

Section K: Trails

* Is the proposed site a trail?

No Yes

Who is the primary intended user? (Check one)

- Hikers/Pedestrians
- Mountain Bicyclists
- Other motorized vehicle users
- Road Bicyclists
- Cross-Country Skiers
- Other, explain:
- Equestrians
- Snowmobilers

Who are the secondary users?

- Hikers/Pedestrians
- Mountain Bicyclists
- Other motorized vehicle users
- Road Bicyclists
- Cross-Country Skiers
- Other, explain:
- Equestrians
- Snowmobilers

Is the trail connected to another trail(s) or part of a larger trail network?

No Yes

If yes, what is the name of the network?

How long is the trail?

- Total linear feet
- Linear feet bituminous (paved)
- Linear feet boardwalk (if applicable)
- Linear feet sidewalk
- Linear feet other hard surface

What is the width of the trail?

Linear feet

* Is this proposed project part of the Iron Belle Trail (Governor's Showcase Trail)?

Yes No

Application Narrative

*I. Project Justification and Support:

Need for Project: Restrooms topped the list of desired park improvements in the results of the 2014 Township-wide Parks and Recreation resident survey (Appendix B – Community Input, 2015 – 2019 OTPRC Master Plan). The 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (p. 90, OTPRC Master Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Plan) lists the Bear Creek Nature Park Restroom facility development as one of the highest 2017 priorities. The results of this same survey showed that Bear Creek Nature Park is the Oakland Township park used by the highest percentage of survey respondents.

During the last seventeen years this park has operated with ADA portable restrooms. Portable toilets will be replaced with two environmentally sustainable and universally accessible flushable vault toilets. These all-season restrooms will support the increasing use of this park's trails and wetland overlooks, picnic pavilion, and play structure during warmer seasons as well as an ice skating rink during the winter. In addition these restrooms will help better support programs and special events held at this park including nature and fitness programs, outdoor concerts, and a winter carnival. This type of restroom is well matched to this site, which has adjacent wetland areas, as it does not require a connection to a septic field.

Alignment with SCORP and MNRTF Priorities: This project aligns with the MNRTF goals for resource protection, community recreation and urban recreation. Bear Creek Nature Park protects significant forest and wetland areas while offering outdoor recreation facilities. These recreation facilities support the greater Rochester area's needs for outdoor recreation opportunities in this rapidly developing suburban area.

Public Input: Input was received on this grant application at two Oakland Township meetings held March 13 and March 26 after it was made available for review on the Township website, social media, and at three public locations.

Public Support: This project is supported by instructors and students of programs held at Bear Creek including the Tai Chi, ice skating, and nature programs which are lead by Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve; organizations that rent the picnic pavilion, play structure users including Oakland County Moms, the Music in the Meadows outdoor concert committee, and the Oakland County Trails, Water & Land Alliance,

Accessibility Review: Oakland Township Parks and Recreation hosted an Accessibility Workshop on September 10, 2018 to receive public comments and input from disability advocates and individuals on the addition of a Greenflush restroom to an Oakland Township Park. The list of 20 invitees, workshop invitation, media release, notes of workshop attendance and suggestions, and letter documenting incorporation of accessibility suggestions is attached. The improvement suggested at the workshop; providing an adult changing table in at least one of the unisex restrooms is included in the attached restroom plan.

*II. Project Description:

This development project is focused on the following universally accessible and environmentally friendly support facilities. All three project scope items will provide universal accessibility including the restroom building, the 9' by 18' concrete access walk, and the recycle bin.

Restroom Building: The proposed Durango II double unisex restroom building will provide a universally accessible restroom that will feature accessible door pulls and push-type faucets on the sinks and one adult changing table. There will be a sign indicating which unisex restroom contains the adult changing table. These flush-vault toilets are a good match to this site which is not serviced by a sewer system and does not have an

Application Narrative

appropriate area for a septic field. The only open lawn area located near the park's recreation facilities cannot be used for a septic field because large events and overflow parking in this area require vehicles of all sizes to travel across it. Moreover, there are forested wetlands located immediately east of the proposed restroom location. These restrooms will be connected to potable pressurized water which will supply both the hand wash sink and the flush toilet. From the floor up these models look and function as flush toilets, keeping sewage odors out of the inside and outside environments. From the floor down, a flush-vault is the same as a vault toilet; built over coated and sealed precast concrete vaults that contain sewage until it is pumped and hauled away.

Environmentally friendly features of these restrooms will include: 1. interior and exterior LED lighting on sensors and 2. waterless urinals. Moreover the installation requires minimal ground disturbance due to a small excavation footprint.

Aesthetically, the restroom exterior will be in the same color scheme as other structures at Bear Creek Nature Park. These restrooms will be located near the parking, picnic, and play structure areas on a concrete-surfaced 9' x 18' accessible concrete path that connects the restrooms with an existing accessible 8' wide path leading to the accessible picnic pavilion and play structure. This location maximizes the visibility of these restrooms which will be monitored from the Snell Road main parking lot by deputies from the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. Park rules and regulations, including hours of operation (dusk to dawn), are posted at all park entrances. The restrooms will have both interior and exterior lighting.

9' x 18' Concrete Access Walk: This walk will connect the universally accessible restrooms with the existing 8' wide accessible path leading to the accessible picnic pavilion and play structure areas.

Recycle Bin: 3. The third environmentally friendly feature of this project is a recycle bin constructed of composite wood material which will be located on the existing 8' wide accessible route adjacent to the 9' x 18' proposed concrete path.

***III. Natural Resource Access and Protection:**

The 2014 survey of Township residents showed that one of the significant reasons that residents may not use Township parks is the lack of facilities/amenities. Coupling that with our residents' number one desired park improvement, which is restrooms, indicates that visitor usage will increase when permanent flushable restrooms are added to this park.

These proposed improvements to Bear Creek Nature Park's facilities will encourage increased visitation to this park's natural habitats including 24 acres of Dry-mesic southern forest; an MNFI element occurrence, two other forest plant communities and six different wetland plant communities.

These plant communities are described in the attached 2010 Comprehensive Management Plan and in Oakland County's Green Infrastructure Vision. Additional attached surveys document the mammals, amphibians, and reptiles that occur on this project site. Oakland Township's natural areas stewardship staff actively manages this park's natural habitats – removing invasive species such as phragmites and buckthorn and supporting natural processes through prescribed burning.

Application Narrative

These new restroom facilities will support additional resource-based recreation opportunities including wildlife observation and nature interpretation and hiking/bicycling/skiing. Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve (DHNP) provides educational enrichment and outdoor recreation programs at Bear Creek Nature Park through a partnership with the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission. Many of these programs include families with small children. Adequate, permanent restroom facilities are extremely desirable for families. DHNP believes that the addition of permanent restroom facilities would enhance their ability to offer programs for a range of users and attract a greater number of participants.

*IV. Other Information: