

Mecosta County – 5 Year Parks & Recreation Master Plan Survey

The Mecosta County Parks Commission is currently in the process of updating our five-year master plan and would appreciate your input. The five-year master plan is important for outlining the goals and objectives of the county and is needed to apply for any state or federal grants. The State of Michigan prioritizes investment in the creation of non-motorized trails and water trails for public recreation. A water trail is a marked route on navigable waterways such as rivers, lakes, canals, and coastlines for recreational use.

Mecosta County Parks Commission maintains eight county parks that are primarily used for camping, boating, fishing, swimming, trails, ball fields, playgrounds, and picnic areas. Mecosta County Parks currently operates on generated revenue and receives no tax money. Please help us by filling out this survey and letting us know what is important to you.

1. When considering non-motorized trail investment priorities for the next five years, rank the following in importance to you.
 - Provide trail head improvements such as parking, bike racks, and wayfinding signage.
 - Providing more access to regional trails.
 - Construct More Trails
 - Additional Paved Trails
 - Equestrian Trails
 - Winter Sports Trails
 - ADA Accessible Trails

2. Are you in support of the expansion of the county parks system, including the acquisition of new park properties?
 - Yes
 - No

3. How important is the creation of a designated Muskegon River “Water Trail” in Mecosta County to you?
 - Very Important
 - Moderately Important
 - Undecided
 - Not that important
 - Not a priority at all!

4. Which parks/recreation facilities have you visited?
 - Brower Park
 - Davis Bridge Park
 - Haymarsh Lake Campground
 - Merrill-Gorrel Park
 - Paris Park
 - School Section Lake Veteran’s Park
 - Tubbs Lake State Forest Campground
 - White Pine Valley Recreation Area

5. Please rank the county parks from most to least desirable.

- Brower Park
- Davis Bridge Park
- Haymarsh Lake Campground
- Merrill-Gorrel Park
- Paris Park
- School Section Lake Veteran's Park
- Tubbs Lake State Forest Campground
- White Pine Valley Recreation Area

6. What activities do you participate in most at the parks? (provide comments)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Sports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult & Family Programs/
Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming | <input type="checkbox"/> Trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Group Camp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic Fields | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court Games | |

7. Why do you visit parks? Check all that apply

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Close to home | <input type="checkbox"/> Active/Fun |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural setting | <input type="checkbox"/> Socializing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Activity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safe | <input type="checkbox"/> Barrier Free Accessibility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet/Peaceful | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Activities | |

8. What type of event spaces would you like to see more of? (Select All That Apply)

- Fishing Tournament
- Arts/Crafts Festival
- Farmers Market
- Amphitheater/ concert
- Large race event space
- Nature education facilities
- Concessions/ Food Truck
- Other

9. Select all active recreation activities that you would want to see more of in Mecosta County

Parks. (provide comments)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sledding/Tubing | <input type="checkbox"/> Badminton |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Horseshoe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disc Golf | <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer | <input type="checkbox"/> Softball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball | <input type="checkbox"/> Crew (rowing) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BMX Course or Pump Track | <input type="checkbox"/> Football |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Fitness Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Mini-Golf |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Pool |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Splash Pad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball | <input type="checkbox"/> Gaga Ball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bocce Ball | |

10. Select all passive recreation activities that you would want to see more of in Mecosta County

Parks. (provide comments)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Hiking Trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline/ Dock Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paved Trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoeing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Biking | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Skating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife/Birdwatching | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Art |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized Access | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Lawn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cross Country Skiing | <input type="checkbox"/> Horse Trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Geo Caching |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kayak/Canoe Launch | <input type="checkbox"/> Festivals & Concerts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beach Swimming | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat Fishing | |

11. Rate the importance of the following campground amenities/services.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modern Restrooms | <input type="checkbox"/> Tent Camping Availability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Hook-up | <input type="checkbox"/> Rental Cabins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Hook-up | <input type="checkbox"/> Pull-through RV Spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity Hook-up | <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry Facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programmed Activities (Craft
Barn, Guided Nature Hike, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved Boat Launch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food/Drink/Camping Supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paved Roads and Sidewalks | <input type="checkbox"/> Wi-fi |

12. Do you enjoy having dogs/pets while visiting county campgrounds/parks?

- Yes
- No

13. Boating is a very popular activity within Mecosta County Parks. Rate the importance of the following boating amenities that could be added in the future.

- Day Use Docking
- Seasonal Docking Slips
- Shoreline Mooring Areas
- Larger Parking Areas
- Paved Parking Areas
- Additional Boat Launches
- Upgraded Boat Launches
- Paved Boat Launches
- Improved "ADA" Launch Docks
- Fueling Stations

14. Please rate the overall cleanliness and appearance of the Mecosta County Parks system.

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Excellent

15. Would/How do you prefer to be contacted about park related activities and services? Check those that you use. (provide email if you want to receive updates)

- Website
- Email/E-Newsletter
- Facebook/ Twitter/ Instagram
- Direct Mail
- Flyers
- Text Message

16. If you have anything you'd like to add that we haven't touched on, please include your thoughts and ideas below.

17. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75 or older

18. How many years have you been a Mecosta County resident?

- 0-5
- 6-10
- 11-20
- 21-30
- 31-50
- 50+
- Not a resident of Mecosta County

19. How many children under age 18 live in your household?

20. Is there anyone living with you who are elderly, disabled, or with special needs?