

GENESEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

2025
ACTION PLAN



GENESEE COUNTY
— MICHIGAN —

2025 PLANS

NEW EVENTS & PROGRAMS

CROSSROADS VILLAGE & HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD

- **Wild West Weekend-** Saddle up for frontier fun at Crossroads Village with cowboy-inspired activities for the whole family.
- **Dog Days-** Celebrate your furry friends with canine-themed activities and attractions designed for dogs and their humans.
- **Jurassic Weekend-** Step into the world of dinosaurs with inflatables, live reptiles, a baby dino experience, and more!
- **Play Day with PBS Kids** Join us for family fun with PBS characters, storytime, crafts, and interactive activities.
- **Fairytale Weekend–** Step into a storybook adventure with princes, princesses, dragons, and magical activities for the whole family!–





2025 PLANS

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Mud Girl (E.A. Cummings Center)
- 3rd Annual UAW Local 659 Get Youth Outdoors Day (Bluegill Boat Launch)
- First Try Triathlon (Linden County Park)
- Mott Lake Regatta Hydroplane Boat Races (Marine Prop Riders Hydroplane Club)
- Noseworks Competition (Crossroads Village)
- 45th Annual Bass Tournament (Walleye Pike Boat Launch)
- Midwest Invitational Rodeo (E.A. Cummings Center)
- Chili Nights and Village Lights
- Halloween Hustle

2025 PLANS

BOAT LAUNCHES

- Installation of a CD3 invasive species stations to improve boater knowledge and education at Bluegill.
- Installation of improved boater safety signage at all launches.
- Construction of a 30'x40' pavilion donated by UAW and Union Sportsmen Alliance at Bluegill.
- Explore potential of a fishing dock/walkway at Bluegill. Suggestion from UAW/future donation.



2025 PLANS

E.A. CUMMINGS CENTER & ELBA EQUESTRIAN COMPLEX AND CAMPGROUND

- Update dump station signage. (Cummings Center)
- Plant shade trees in fall near improved campsites. (Elba)
- Work with the customers to establish Adopt-a-park group related to volunteer cleanups and trail improvements. (Elba)
- Finish final area of day use parking which requires brush removal and signage. (Elba)



2025 PLANS

FOR-MAR NATURE PRESERVE & ARBORETUM

Expand Adaptive Recreation Program

- Offer classroom & group educational opportunities.
- Representation on the Business Advisory Council (BAC) & other local groups.
- Provide volunteer and worksite opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

For-Mar Development & Infrastructure

- Continue to implement For-Mar Master Plan and address facility needs.
- Prioritize infrastructure improvements (bollard lighting, dock replacement, etc.)
- Identify funding sources to implement master plan with the help of Friends of For-Mar.



2025 PLANS

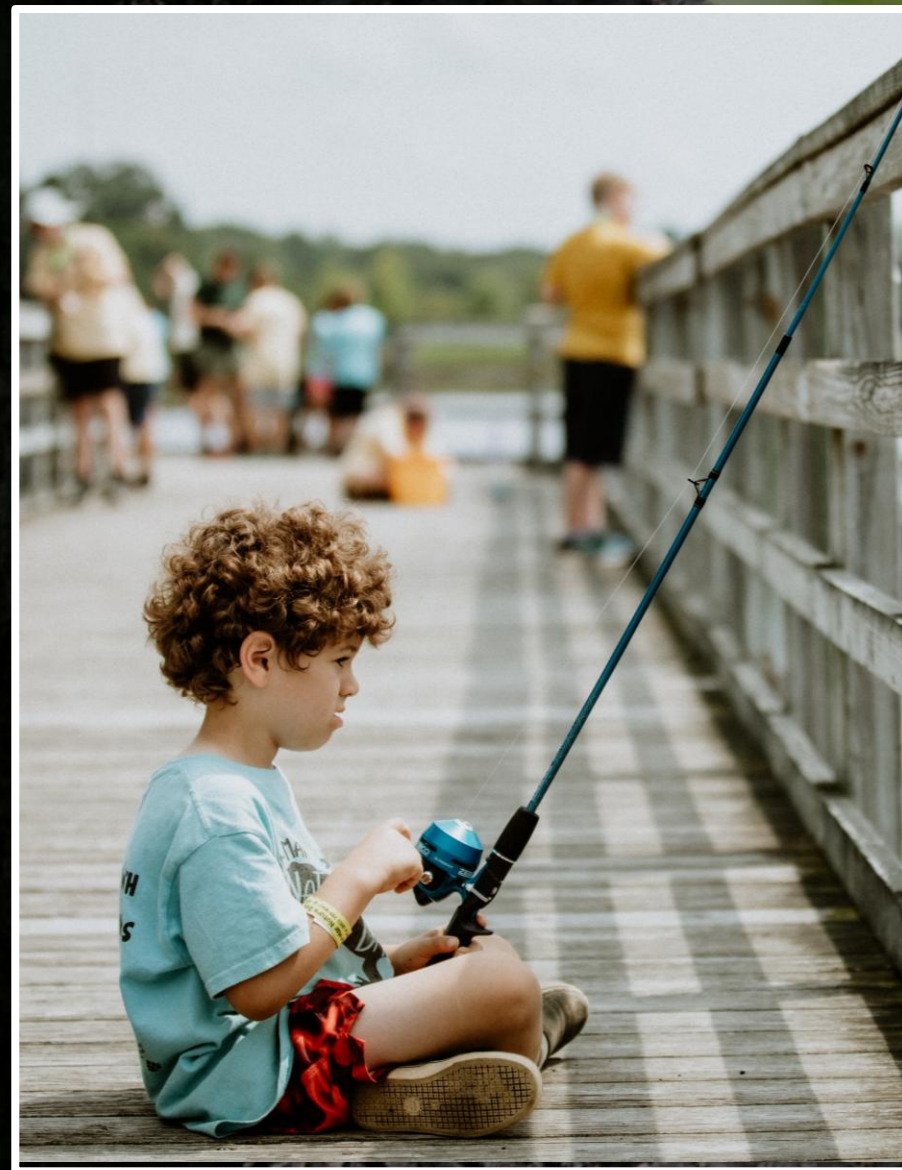
FOR-MAR NATURE PRESERVE & ARBORETUM

Professional Development Programs

- Develop offerings for local schools, groups, and organizations.

Sponsorship & Fundraising Initiatives

- Collaborate with marketing team to create sponsorship program.
- Secure sponsorships for large events, parks projects, camps, and animal care.
- Partner with Friends of For-Mar to support fundraising efforts.



A close-up photograph of a butterfly with black, orange, and white patterned wings feeding on a yellow flower. The butterfly is positioned on the left side of the image, facing right. The flower is bright yellow and has a green stem with small green leaves. The background is blurred, showing other green plants and flowers.

2025 PLANS

FOR-MAR NATURE PRESERVE & ARBORETUM

2025 Outreach & Education Initiatives

- Revise Outreach Programming for Genesee County Teachers.
- Integrate Community Science into In-School Programs.
- Refine “Assembly”-Style In-School Programs for Grades 3-5.
- Professional Development- Create three professional development topics on MiRegistry.
- Highlight Invertebrates in Outreach Programming-Focus on the conservation needs of insects and incorporate them into educational outreach.



2025 PLANS

FOR-MAR NATURE PRESERVE & ARBORETUM

Invasive Species Removal

- Continued herbicide application and tree removal of Black Locust.

Parks Admin Building Garden

- Landscape beautification along the south side facing Stanley Rd. Removal of old materials and installation of native plants.

Native Plant Nursery

- Purchase seed germination room and greenhouse.
- Grow plants for garden beds, plant sales, and county-wide use.

For-Mar Amphitheatre Enhancements

- Install accessible benches and picnic tables.
- Add cement pad and asphalt pathway connecting to existing paths and create small garden beds

2025 PLANS

CROSSROADS VILLAGE

- Increase Attendance.
- Sponsorships for Halloween.
- New Events.
- Brick Repair on the Colwell Opera House.
- Building Maintenance-Roof repairs and paint assessment to be completed.
- Staff Retention-Planning ahead for earlier postings of summer programs during holiday seasons.
- Prepare for Crossroads 50th Anniversary: 50th Year Planning (2026)
 - CRV opened July 4, 1976.
 - Hold Monthly meetings.
 - Continue to identify photos, articles, artifacts to create special displays.
 - Develop 50th Year Logo.
 - Seek out guest speakers.
 - Create History of CRV photo book that can be sold in gift shop.



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

CROSSROADS VILLAGE & HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD

- May 8: Paint and Pour
- May 16: Head Start Day
- May 21: Senior Power Day
- May 22-23 & 29-30: School Days
- May 24-25: Honoring American Vets (Opening Weekend)
- May 31-June 1: Wild West Weekend
- June 7: Genesee County Day (Free Admission)
- June 14: Dog Days (NEW EVENT)
- June 21-22: Curious at Crossroads Oddities Festival
- June 28-29: Mystery Weekend
- July 4: Independence Day Celebration Ice Cream Social
- July 12-13: Touch-A-Truck (Discounted Admission)
- July 19-20: Jurassic Weekend (NEW EVENT)
- July 26-27: Playday with PBS Kids (NEW EVENT)
- August 2-3: Railfans Weekend
- August 9-10: Fairytale Weekend
- August 15-17: Day Out With Thomas
- August 22-24: Day Out with Thomas
- August 30 -September 2: End of Summer (Closing Weekend)
- October 2: Chili Nights & Village Lights
- Halloween Ghost & Goodies: Oct 4-5, 10-12, 17-19, 22-26 & 29-31
- October 25: Halloween Hustle with the Crim
- Ladies Night Out: November 22
- Christmas at Crossroads: Nov 28-30, Dec 5-7, 12-14, 17-21 & 26-28





2025 PLANS

HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD

- Replace 200-300 railroad ties.
- Continue tamping ties & leveling rail.
- Start on ditch clean up with new tie crane, picking up dead trees along track from east loop to west loop.
- Install new 115# switch on main line to straighten track 5.
- Major restoration work to car 40.
- Start installing new couplers on cars.
- Build new berm, start laying new rail for track 5.
- Repair water tower.



2025 PLANS

THE MOUNDS

- Apply for Trail ORV grant for main roadway stone material.
- Improve trail conditions with winter, summer, and fall trail maintenance. Use of general staff labor, forestry mulcher, and brush hogging.
- Explore sponsorship opportunities.

2025 PLANS

WOLVERINE CAMPGROUND

- Completion of 1 ADA campsite.
- Complete final portion of Wi-Fi in Walker Way section.
- Installation of backup generators for registration and restroom facilities.
- Installation of a dock at the boat launch for easier lake access.
- Completion of a 30'x40' programming and recreation pavilion.
- Complete availability of campsite images during the online booking process.



2025 PLANS

WOLVERINE CAMPGROUND

- 2 ADA beach parking spaces with walkway to beach.
- Plant additional trees in park.
- Installation of 4 new shadow boxes at restrooms to better meet state posting requirements.



2025 PLANS

WOLVERINE CAMPGROUND

- Update toilet paper and foaming hand soap dispensers for quality and efficiency.
- Update floors with textured epoxy where needed.
- Continue improving walking trail system with additional trails and directional signage.
- Update no hunting and park boundary signage around Wolverine property adjacent to Mt Morris, Baxter and pleasant view roads.
- Misc. painting of site posts, restroom trim, and dump station bollards.
- Update dump station signage.
- Installation of dock at boat ramp.



2025 PLANS

PARK RANGERS

- Ensure park safety through effective hiring, ongoing training, and strong leadership.
- Develop clear policies for the Park Ranger Division at Flint State Park, addressing unique challenges of an urban park.
- Improve nighttime security with visible patrols to deter vandalism and trespassing.
- Increase marine patrol operations and safety through training and effective hiring.





2025 PLANS

KEEP GENESEE COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

- Assist the City of Flint with the planning and implementation of capital improvement projects, park management, and long-term maintenance solutions.
- Collaborate and partner with local funders, community organizations, and residents to increase the use of Flint's public spaces through programming and events
- Plan and implement large scale cleanup events, including Stewardship Day in partnership with the Flint River Watershed Coalition
- Hire staff to take on City of Flint parks reservations and special event procedures
- Continue to recruit, train, and support volunteers working on public space projects

2025 PLANS

FLINT RIVER WATERSHED COALITION

- Continue integration of FRWC into the Genesee County Parks systems, including website, RecTrac, marketing, and finance.
- Assist the Friends of the Flint River Watershed with their transition to becoming a supporting organization.
- Increase connections to and relationships with the community with specific intent toward increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Seek additional funding for general operating and program support.
- Collaborate with GCP staff, departments, and programs on grants, construction projects, programs, and the State Park project.



2025 PLANS

MARKETING

- Develop park sign library and map to aid in sign replacement.
- Work with DNR/State of Michigan to establish communication plans for the Flint State Park.
- Create Sponsorship opportunities/packets for Crossroads Village, For-Mar, and the Mounds.
- Invite large scale events to take place at Crossroads Village, and E.A. Cummings Center, as well as other park locations.
- Work with Explore Flint and Genesee to market our facilities.



2025 PLANS

- Replace Bluebell Beach bathhouse roof.
- Switch water service at Stepping Stone Falls from well to township water.
- Finish Richfield Park improvements along the Iron Belle Trail grant.
- Applied for grant to revisit pickleball courts at Linden County Park.
- Installation of back up generators at Administration office and garage.
- Connect missing section of trail at Bluebell Beach.
- Replacement of HVAC (multiple facilities).
- Continue LED light upgrades.





2026 & BEYOND PLANS

- Refurbishment of Richfield Bridge and Pavilions.
- Refurbishment of Flushing Pavilions.
- Refurbishment of Linden Pavilion 1.

2026 & BEYOND PLANS

- Open concession stand at Walleye Pike Boat Launch.
- Update and compile departmental policies and standards into a master document.
- Create business plans for all revenue generating facilities.
- Create a set of maintenance standards.



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



GENESEE COUNTY
— M I C H I G A N —