



## Recreation Station Newsletter

### A Message from Parks Director Brian Keenan-Lechel

Saginaw County was quickly transformed into a winter wonderland this December, with one of the coldest winter starts in recent memory in your Saginaw County Parks. A few inches of snow resulted in one final snow day of 2025 for schools across the County and provided that perfect snow globe feel for our annual Santa's Holiday Hike event at Imerman Memorial Park (see picture on the right). Park patrons are already taking to the trails for cross-country skiing, one of the many popular winter activities across our parks system.



Despite the wintery conditions, work continued in December on two exciting capital development park projects. First, a slate of accessibility improvements at Imerman Memorial Park including a kayak launch, renovation of our restroom building, accessible pathways, and more. Second, a long-awaited trailhead at the southern end of the BayZil Trail is also taking shape. Although construction will pause at some point this winter, both projects anticipate a completion date prior to Memorial Day 2026 and we look forward to welcoming these fantastic additions to our parks system. Saginaw County Parks has much more in store for 2026 and we're grateful for your support and patronage.

Sincerely wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year.

## Winter 2026 Volume 19 Issue 1



Did you know Saginaw County dogs star in their own calendar each year? We host multiple dog events every year & capture photos of your furry friends. Visit the parks office to see if your pal made the cut this year! Cash or check accepted.



## Park Hours:

Imerman Memorial Park and Price Nature Center, 8:00 A.M. to dusk. (Sept 2- May 22) 8:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. (May 23-Sept 7)

Ringwood Forest 9:00 A.M. to dusk. (Sept 2- May 22) 8:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. (May 23-Sept 7)

William H. Haithco Recreation Area, 9:00 A.M. to Dusk. (Sept 2- May 22) 8:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. (May 23-Sept 7)

The Saginaw Valley Rail Trail, Veterans Memorial Park and Headwaters Rec. Area are only open during daylight hours.

Park Office: 111 S. Michigan Ave, Saginaw, MI 48602. Contact us: 989-790-5280. On the web @ [www.saginawcounty.com/parks](http://www.saginawcounty.com/parks)



Apply online at:  
[www.saginawcounty.com/parks](http://www.saginawcounty.com/parks)

Applications accepted through March 9, 2026

# 2026 Summer Employment Opportunities

**Booth Attendant (6)** - \$15/hour. Greets public upon entering the parks, collects fees, answers questions and maintains financial data. Requires good mathematical skills and strong customer service skills. (15-30 hours per week).

**Lifeguard (12)** - \$15.50/hour (LGI – \$16/hour). Provides a safe and clean aquatic facility. Enforces rules, assists park patrons, operates boat rental and responds to emergency situations. Applicants must be a certified American Red Cross Lifeguard. (20-40 hours per week).

**Office Clerk (1)** - \$15/hour. Performs general office duties including typing, making copies, answering telephones, filing, etc. Also interacts with customers and conducts cash transactions for reservations and programs. Must be familiar with computer word processing and be able to operate common office equipment. Requires high school diploma or its equivalent (20-40 hours per week).

**Park Ranger (8)** - \$16/hour. Provides safety, comfort, and convenience for park users. Enforces rules, cleans parks and performs light maintenance duties. Must be 18 or older and requires a valid Michigan driver's license with good driving record. (30-40 hours per week).

**Park Supervisor (2)** - \$20/hour (Rate negotiable). Supervises staff and assists with the management of county parks. Interacts with the public on a daily basis, enforcing rules and policies. Requires valid Michigan driver's license with good driving record, high school diploma (or equivalent). College graduate preferred with supervisory and aquatics experience. Applicants must be a certified American Red Cross Lifeguard. (30-50 hours per week).

**Program Coordinator (2)** - \$16/hour (Rate negotiable). Facilitate, promote and evaluate summer Playdate programs as well as leagues, tournaments, youth, and family events at Hoyt Park. Program experience and high school diploma (or equivalent) required. Flexible schedule (15-30 hours per week).

*All individuals selected for positions are subject to, and must successfully pass a post offer pre-employment physical, criminal background check and drug screening. All applicants will be required to attend training sessions before working, including American Red Cross First Aid and CPR courses.*

**Work Season:**  
May 11 through Sept. 7

Questions? Call 989-790-5280

# 2026 Winter Programs

## Night Hike

**Wednesday, January 14**

**Price Nature Center**

**5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

Join Saginaw County Parks staff for a wintery jaunt through the beautiful trails at Price Nature Center. Make sure to dress warm for this event. Flashlights are welcome.

**Register at [www.saginawcounty.com/parks](http://www.saginawcounty.com/parks). Cost: Free**

## Friends of Hoyt Park – Bringing Back the Ice! Winter Schedule:

**Hoyt Park**

**Saturday, January 17th** 4 - 7 pm (Night Skate)

**Saturday, January 24th** 12 - 4 pm

**Saturday, January 31st** 12 - 4 pm

**Saturday, February 7th** 12 - 4 pm (*Broomball from 1-3 pm*)

**Saturday, February 14th** 12 pm-Sled Giveaway. 1 pm-Outhouse Races. **No skating**-Pond Hockey Tourney

**Saturday, February 21st** 12 - 4 pm

Hoyt Park is the place to be in Saginaw for outdoor winter fun. The Friends of Hoyt Park transform the park into a winter wonderland with a skating surface the size of three hockey rinks and hills for sledding. A warming house complete with skate rentals and hot chocolate is open during skate times. \$2 skate rental.

## Dog Days Winter Romp

**Imerman Memorial Park**

**Wednesday, February 4**

**5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

Who's ready for some extended-time of wintry romping in the snow & pure dog-playing bliss in the Steven A. Kirshenbaum Memorial Dog Park? We are keeping the front of the park open longer to allow you and your furry friend some extra time to romp. This event is bound to be cold so dress for the weather. Patio heaters will be lit to help take off the chill. The 2026 Dog Calendars will be available on site for \$15. The Park will close for the night immediately following the event.

**No registration required. Cost: Free**

## Outhouse Races (Sled Giveaway at 12:00)

**Hoyt Park**

**Saturday, February 14**

**1:00 PM**

Saginaw's Outhouse Race, now in its 12th year, is easily the most unique competition in Saginaw. Teams of up to 5 construct an outhouse, complete with a toilet seat, and race it head-to-head down a track until a winner is crowned. Consider participating or come down as a spectator and watch the madness unfold. Sled giveaway will begin at 12 PM at the upper pavilion. For more details or to enter an outhouse, email [annmarie@prideinsaginaw.com](mailto:annmarie@prideinsaginaw.com) or call 989-753-9168.

## Nature Hike

**Ringwood Forest**

**Thursday, February 26**

**3:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

Join Saginaw County Parks staff for a wintery jaunt through the beautiful trails at Ringwood Forest. Snowshoes will be available for up to 12 participants if conditions permit. Make sure to dress warm for this event.

**Register at [www.saginawcounty.com/parks](http://www.saginawcounty.com/parks). Cost: Free**

## Saginaw Play Date-Streetball Day

**First Ward Community Center**

**Saturday, March 14**

**11:30 PM - 200 PM**

Come join us at the First Ward Community Center for a morning of fundamentals and play. Children will learn the basics of streetball hockey, and go home with their very own stick! Registration for this event can be located at <https://www.saginaw-mi.com> on the City Events Calendar. **Registration required. Cost: Free**

## The Amazing Clark Magic Spectacular!

**Butman-Fish Library**

**Saturday, March 28 (2 Shows)**

**11:00 AM & 12:30 PM**

Join Saginaw County Parks and The Amazing Clark for a laughter-filled magic adventure for kids of all ages! The Amazing Clark brings a world of wonder to life with silly surprises, interactive tricks, and nonstop fun. Every child becomes part of the show! For more info on The Amazing Clark, visit [www.amazingclark.com](http://www.amazingclark.com). Location: Butman-Fish Library, 1716 Hancock, Saginaw, MI. 2 shows; limited space available.

**No registration required. Cost: Free**

## Program Registration 2026!

Saginaw County Parks program registration is now online. When you see a program listed that requires registration, go to [www.saginawcounty.com/parks](http://www.saginawcounty.com/parks), click on Program Registration, create your account, add family members & pay online if the program requires payment. As always, please reach out to our parks office with any assistance you may need at (989)790-5280.



# Winter

WORD SEARCH GAME

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H	D	A	Z	Q	N	A	M	W	O	N	S
A	P	E	N	G	U	I	N	U	X	K	Z
A	O	L	H	Q	X	Y	W	T	K	S	H
Q	K	B	T	G	C	E	V	A	N	O	W
T	A	J	A	Z	F	R	A	C	S	C	S
J	H	L	E	C	Z	N	S	S	O	K	E
E	J	V	R	Q	G	Z	H	B	B	S	V
L	G	F	W	V	B	S	S	Z	R	Z	O
D	V	T	R	E	E	D	N	I	E	R	L
N	E	B	O	L	G	W	O	N	S	L	G
A	T	A	N	G	E	R	I	N	E	V	B
C	Q	Y	K	B	G	Z	N	E	H	Z	B



SNOWGLOBE
CANDLE
SCARF
TANGERINE
SOCKS

WREATH
REINDEER
GLOVES
SNOWMAN
PENGUIN



Are you looking for a location for your special outing? We have the perfect place for any occasion! Pavilion reservations are ideal for company picnics, family or school reunions, graduation parties, birthday parties, church groups, clubs and any group that would appreciate having their outing in a beautiful Saginaw County Park. The William H. Haithco Recreation Area provides modern bathrooms, playgrounds, Ruth Averill Splash Pad, fishing docks, volleyball courts and five picnic pavilions. Imerman Memorial Park provides modern bathrooms, a fishing dock, a volleyball court, a playground, horseshoe pits, basketball and tennis courts, an in-line hockey rink, Bark Park and four picnic pavilions.

We will begin accepting 2026 pavilion reservations for the William H. Haithco Recreation Area, Imerman Memorial Park, and Price Nature Center on January 2, 2026.

Pavilion rental fees are \$75 per day for Saginaw County Residents. Park entry for Saginaw County Residents is free. Non Residents pay a \$2.00 per vehicle entry fee at Imerman Memorial Park and a \$5.00 per vehicle entry fee at the William H. Haithco Recreation Area (Memorial Day weekend thru Labor Day).

Pavilion reservations, program registrations & payments may be completed online at [www.saginawcounty.com/parks](http://www.saginawcounty.com/parks). Please call our office if you need assistance or need to pay by cash or check.



To get free entry to our parks, Saginaw County Residents can pick up a free Recreate Pass at Imerman Memorial Park, Wm. H. Haithco

Recreation Area or the Parks office. Out of county patrons may purchase a \$30 yearly pass for a whole summer of fun!





# PARK Locations

-  William H. Haithco Rec. Area  
2121 Schust Road
-  Imerman Memorial Park  
3495 Midland Road
-  Ringwood Forest  
13710 Ring Rd, St. Charles
-  Veterans Memorial Park  
1543 - 1701 M-13  
North of Zilwaukee
-  Saginaw River Headwaters  
Rec. Area  
77 W. Center St, Saginaw
-  Price Nature Center  
6685 Sheridan Road
-  Saginaw Valley Rail Trail  
Water St Trail Head  
401 E. Water St, St. Charles
-  Saginaw Valley Rail Trail  
Van Wormer Rd. Trail Head  
2998 VanWormer Rd, Saginaw
-  Saginaw Valley Rail Trail  
Stroebe Rd. Trail Head  
6225 Stroebe Rd, Saginaw





Just a friendly reminder that dogs are permitted on a 6 ft leash at all of our county parks except the Wm. H. Haithco Recreation Area\*. Imerman Memorial Park has a Dog Park where dogs are allowed off leash to romp and play with their friends. Thank you for your cooperation.

\*Dogs are allowed at Haithco during our Saginaw County Parks sanctioned Soggy Doggy events in the spring and fall.

The Saginaw County Parks and Recreation Commission complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. We will provide reasonable accommodations to assist people with disabilities to access and participate in our recreation programs, facilities, and services. For program registration information, please call the Saginaw County Parks and Recreation Commission at (989) 790-5280.

### Commission Members

**Ruth Averill - Chairman, Tim Courtney - Vice Chairman, Brian J. Wendling - Secretary  
Delena Spates-Allen, Darwin Baranski, Rob Brown, Deb Kestner, Sheldon Matthews  
David Sommers, Demond Tibbs**

### Staff Members

**Brian Keenan-Lechel - Director   Jordan Beal - Operations Supervisor  
Mary Williams - Office Manager   Jeanette Fiers - Outdoor Recreation & Event Coordinator  
Tom Kowalski - Parks Foreman   Fred Raymond - Parks Specialist**

Play Here



# Play in the Parks

## January

Wed. 1/14	Night Hike	5:30 - 6:30 PM	Price Nature Center	<b>R</b>
Sat. 1/17	Bringing Back the Ice (Night Skate)	4:00 - 7:00 PM	Hoyt Park	
Sat. 1/24	Bringing Back the Ice	12:00 - 4:00 PM	Hoyt Park	
Sat. 1/31	Bringing Back the Ice	12:00 - 4:00 PM	Hoyt Park	

## February

Wed. 2/4	Winter Romp	5:00 - 6:00 PM	Imerman Memorial Park	
Sat. 2/7	Bringing Back the Ice	12:00 - 4:00 PM	Hoyt Park	
Sat. 2/7	Broomball	1:00 - 3:00 PM	Hoyt Park	
Sat. 2/14	Sled Giveaway	12:00 PM	Hoyt Park	
Sat. 2/14	Outhouse Races	1:00 PM	Hoyt Park	
Sat. 2/21	Bringing Back the Ice	12:00 - 4:00 PM	Hoyt Park	
Thurs. 2/26	Nature Hike	5:00 - 6:00 PM	Ringwood Forest	<b>R</b>

## March

Sat. 3/14	Saginaw Play Date (Streetball Day)	11:30 AM - 2:00PM	First Ward Comm. Ctr.	<b>*R</b>
Sat. 3/28	The Amazing Clark (2 shows)	11 AM & 12:30 PM	Butman-Fish Library	

To register for programs, visit [www.saginawcounty.com/parks](http://www.saginawcounty.com/parks)

\*To register for the Saginaw Play Date, visit [www.saginaw-mi.com](http://www.saginaw-mi.com)

### TAKE NOTE!

All events are free unless noted with a "\$" symbol.  
Events noted with "R" require registration  
through the county website at  
[www.saginawcounty.com/parks](http://www.saginawcounty.com/parks).

**CONTACT US!**  
[parks@saginawcountymi.gov](mailto:parks@saginawcountymi.gov)  
(989) 790-5280



### Park Hours:

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