



Recreation Station Newsletter

Winter 2023

Volume 16 Issue 1



A message from Parks Director Brian Keenan-Lechel:

Snow, Ho, Ho! 2022 was a year of big change at your Saginaw County Parks, with Haithco Recreation Area kicking off a series of planned capital improvements to the parks system. The near million-dollar project at Haithco added a splash pad and playground while also focusing on accessibility improvements, adding

multiple concrete walkways and additional ADA parking throughout the park. These enhancements were well-received to say the least, with a 60% increase in park usage at Haithco. A few wrap-up projects remain at Haithco in 2023 including restroom renovation, park drive paving and adding two more paved pathways for accessibility.



2023 will also bring the long-awaited opening of a partnership between MDNR and Saginaw County, Saginaw River Headwaters Rec Area. This natural, passive recreational facility will celebrate a grand opening in late summer/early fall 2023. We are hopeful, however, for a soft opening earlier in 2023 as we plan another phase of construction. With over 2.5 miles of accessible trail along the Saginaw River corridor, the area provides some of the most unique viewsheds in Saginaw County.

Additional capital improvements are in the works for Price Nature Center, Ringwood Forest, Veterans Memorial Park, the Saginaw Valley Rail Trail, and a large-scale \$1.2 million project at Imerman Memorial Park, totaling over \$2 million of investment in your county parks system across the next few years. A combination of grant requests, ARPA allocations from Saginaw County, and Saginaw County Parks millage funding will dictate the timing and implementation of these projects, but we couldn't be more excited to invest in public infrastructure focused around accessibility of your Saginaw County Parks. We continue to invest in programming, too, as you may have seen a new "Project Recreation" vehicle driving around the County in 2022. A tandem addition is planned later in 2023 as well.

I also wanted to share my sincere and significant congratulations to our Office Coordinator, Cheryl Rytlewski, on her retirement from the department after nearly 15 years of service to Saginaw County. Congratulations and best of luck as you continue down your next trail :).

Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Looking Ahead:

April 15-Science Alive

April 24 -Walk with Ease 6-week walking class begins

May 17 -Soggy Doggy @ Wm. H. Haithco Recreation Area

For questions on ADA accommodations, please contact our parks office located in the Courthouse at 111 S. Michigan Ave. Saginaw, MI 48602. Via phone at 989-790-5280 or email parks@saginawcounty.com.

Park Hours:

Imerman Memorial Park and Price Nature Center, 8:00 A.M. to dusk. (Sept 6 - May 25)

Ringwood Forest, 9:00 A.M. to dusk. (Sept 6 - May 25)

William H. Haithco Recreation Area, 9:00 A.M. to dusk. (Sept 6- May 25)

The Saginaw Valley Rail Trail and Veterans Memorial Park 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



HIRING

2023 Summer Employment Opportunities



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.

Summer Work Season: May 15 through September 4.
Applications accepted through February 28, 2023 at:

111 S. Michigan, Room LL012, Saginaw, MI 48602
Questions call: 989-790-5280
Online applications available at: www.saginawcounty.com/parks

Booth Attendant (6) - \$13/hour. Greets public upon entering the parks, collects fees, answers questions and maintains financial data. Requires good mathematical skills and strong customer service skills. (20-40 hours per week).

Lifeguard (12) - \$13.50/hour (LGI – \$14/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) - \$13/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 (40 hours per week).

Park Ranger (8) - \$14/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) - \$19/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) - \$15/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).

Grounds Maintenance Worker (3) - \$13.50/hour. Performs routine grounds maintenance - mowing grass, trimming shrubs, etc. Operates power equipment - tractors, riding mowers, lawn mowers, trimmers, blowers, etc. May perform minor construction tasks. Must be 18 or older and requires a valid Michigan driver's license with good driving record. Typical work week M-F, 7am - 3:30pm.

2023 Winter Programs

Snowman/Sculpture Building Contest January 1st – March 19th

Facebook

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! Why you ask? Because you need snow to compete in our Snowman/Sculpture Building Contest! Award entry categories are: Adult, Family, Teen (13-17), Children (ages 12 and under) and the People's Choice Award which is determined by how many Facebook likes the picture receives. Simply wait for a good snow, build your creation, take a picture and post it in the contest thread pinned at the top of our Saginaw County Parks Facebook page. Be sure to include the name/age of the creator for teen & child entries. Snowmen/sculptures must be built in Saginaw County during the contest time-frame, constructed of snow and posted on the Facebook page by March 19. If you don't have Facebook, send entries to jfiers@saginawcounty.com. Winners will receive a prize even Frosty the Snowman would love! Come on Saginaw County--get outside and show us what you got! **Cost: Free**

Friends of Hoyt Park – Bringing Back the Ice!

Hoyt Park

Saturday, January 14 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm (Night Skate)

Saturdays, January 21 & January 28 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm (*Broomball on Jan 21 from 12-2 pm*)

Saturdays, February 4 & February 11 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm (*Outhouse races on Feb 11 at 1 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.

More information about Friends of Hoyt Park can be found here: <http://friendsofhoytparksaginaw.weebly.com/>

Dog Days Winter Romps

Imerman Memorial Park

Wednesday, January 18 & March 15

5:30 - 7:00 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 on these special dates 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 2023 Dog Calendars will be available on site for \$15. The Park will close for the night immediately following the event. **Cost: Free**

Birds of Prey

Butman-Fish Library

Saturday, January 28 (2 shows)

11 AM & 1 PM

Have you ever felt the intense rush of air from a Turkey Vulture's Powerful wings? Have you ever looked an owl straight in the eyes? Have you ever been to a wildlife program that you wanted to see all over again as soon as it was finished? If you answered "Yes" to these questions, then you've seen a Joe Rogers' Birds of Prey Presentation and know this is one show you don't want to miss. If you Answered "No," then it's time you came out to see bird expert Joe Rogers from the Wildlife Recovery Association. Experience unique Birds of Prey up close and personal at the Butman-Fish Library, 1716 Hancock, Saginaw, MI. **Cost: Free**

Winter Hike

Price Nature Center

Tuesday, February 7

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Join us for a wintry jaunt through the beautiful trails at Price Nature Center. Snowshoes will be available for up to 12 participants if conditions permit. Make sure to dress warm for this event. *Pre-registration is required. Call 989-790-5280 to register.* **Cost: Free**

Winter Night Hike

Ringwood Forest

Tuesday, February 28

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Join us for a wintry 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. *Pre-registration is required. Call 989-790-5280 to register.* **Cost: Free**

Magic at the Museum (2 sessions)

Mid-Michigan Children's Museum

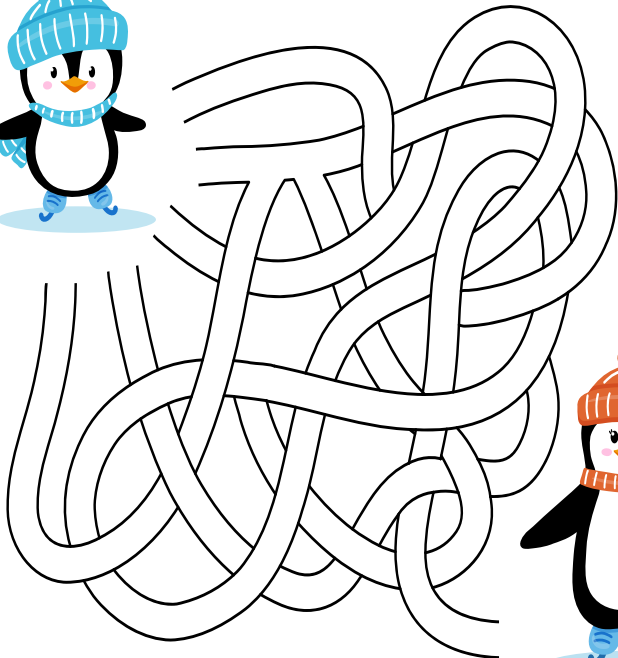
Saturday, March 11

11:00 AM & 12:00 PM

Join Saginaw County Parks for a magical time at Mid-Michigan Children's Museum for some magic & time to freely explore the museum. Amazing Clark will present "CREATIVE MAGIC!" A fantastically big magic show that engages and motivates audience members to use their curiosity and creativity to learn about the magical wonders of our world! Chose which session to join & enjoy the museum free of cost after the magic show. *Pre-registration is required. Call 989-790-5280 to register. Limited 75 per session.* **Cost: Free**

The Not Just For KIDS CORNER

Where fun happens!

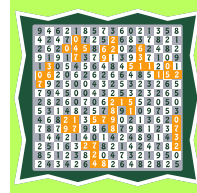


Find the numbers in the table

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2	6	2	0	4	5	8	6	2	0	2	6	2	4	8	2
9	1	9	1	7	3	7	9	1	3	9	3	7	1	0	9
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2	4	3	4	2	6	4	8	2	6	4	8	2	8	2	5

Illustration of a smiling carrot character peeking from the side.

2 6 2 2 1 5 3 2 7
6 2 9 5 1 1 0 7 7 4 8
5 7 9 2 1 3 0 1 5 2 0 4 5
8 9 7 2 1 5 2 0 4 5 7



The right answer



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, 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. Call to reserve your pavilion today. We will begin accepting pavilion reservations for the 2023

season for the William H. Haithco Recreation Area, Imerman Memorial Park, and Price Nature Center on January 3, 2023.

Rental fees for the pavilions are \$60.00 per day. Entry for Saginaw County Residents is free. Non Residents Memorial Day thru Labor Day pay \$2.00 per vehicle entry fee to Imerman Memorial Park and a \$5.00 per vehicle entry fee to the William H. Haithco Recreation Area.

Rentals must be made in person at the Parks office in the Saginaw County Governmental Center. Methods of payment accepted include cash, check, credit and money order.



To get free entry to our parks, Saginaw County Residents can pick up a free Recreate Pass at Imerman Memorial Park, Wm. Haithco Recreation Area or the Parks office. Out of county resident pass is only \$30 for a whole summer of fun!

PARK Locations

Imerman Memorial Park
3495 Midland Road



Price Nature Center
6685 Sheridan Road



Ringwood Forest
2 mi. S. of St. Charles
2 mi. W. of M-52 on Ring Road



Saginaw Valley Rail Trail
Parking at: E. Water Street, St. Charles
Van Wormer Road, Swan Creek Twp.
Stroebe Road, Saginaw



William H. Haithco Rec. Area
2121 Schust Road



Veterans Memorial Park
M-13 along the Saginaw River
North of Zilwaukee



Commission Members

Ruth Averill, Chairman

Amy Davis-Comstock, Vice Chairman

Brian J. Wendling, Secretary

Delena Spates-Allen

Darwin Baranski

Tim Courtney

Gerald Little

Isaac Reeves

John Sangster

Demond Tibbs

Staff Members

**Brian Keenan-Lechel
Director**

**Jordan Beal
Operations Supervisor**

**Chad Flory
Office Manager**

**Jeanette Fiers
Outdoor Recreation & Event
Coordinator**

**Tom Kowalski
Parks Foreman**

**Fred Raymond
Parks Specialist**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Certain areas of Imerman Memorial Park near the river have elevated levels of dioxins in the soil. Children may be especially sensitive to dioxins. Take precautions to avoid direct contact with soil, and wash skin that comes in contact with soil. Long-term exposure (ingestion of this soil) may lead to health problems. For more information, please read the brochure available at Imerman Memorial Park on this subject, and/or contact the Saginaw County Department of Public Health at (989) 758-3686.

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.



Play in the Parks

January

Jan 1- Mar. 19	Snowman/Sculpture Building Contest	
Sat. 1/14	Bringing Back the Ice (Night Skate)	4:00 - 7:00 PM
Wed. 1/18	Winter Romp	5:30 - 7:00 PM
Sat. 1/21	Bringing Back the Ice	12:00 - 4:00 PM
Sat. 1/28	Bringing Back the Ice	12:00 - 4:00 PM
Sat. 1/28	Birds of Prey (2 shows)	11:00 AM & 1:00 PM

Facebook
Hoyt Park
Imerman Memorial Park
Hoyt Park
Hoyt Park
Butman-Fish Library

February

Jan 1- Mar. 19	Snowman/Sculpture Building Contest	
Sat. 2/4	Bringing Back the Ice	12:00 - 4:00 PM
Tues. 2/7	Winter Hike	2:00 - 3:00 PM
Sat. 2/11	Bringing Back the Ice	12:00 - 4:00 PM
Sat. 2/11	Outhouse Races	1:00 PM
Tues. 2/28	Winter Night Hike	5:30 - 6:30 PM

Facebook
Hoyt Park
Price Nature Center **R**
Hoyt Park
Hoyt Park
Ringwood Forest **R**

March

Jan 1- Mar. 19	Snowman/Sculpture Building Contest	
Sat. 3/11	Magic at the Museum (2 sessions)	11:00 AM & 12:00 PM
Wed. 3/15	Winter Romp	5:30 - 7:00 PM
Sun. 3/19	Snowman/Sculpture Building Contest Ends	

Facebook
Mid-Michigan Children's Museum **R**
Imerman Memorial Park
Facebook

TAKE NOTE!

- All events are free unless noted with a "\$" symbol.
- Gate fees may be additional.
- Pre-registration is required for all events noted with the letter "R".

CONTACT US!

www.saginawcounty.com/parks
(989) 790-5280
parks@saginawcounty.com

Like us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/saginawcountyparks

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