

## PART I - DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING PROCESS

The process by which the "1991 Hampton Charter Township Recreation Plan" was developed is part of an ongoing process of satisfying the recreational needs of Hampton Township. At the present time, the Township is in the process of developing a new railtrail as well as adding facilities to an existing park. Therefore in this overall context, the updating of the Recreation Plan is but one step in an on-going process.

The Hampton Charter Township Recreation Committee was created by resolution of the Township Board. Members are all representatives of the Township Board and each member has taken an active interest in both the planning and development of recreational facilities. Each member being a representative of the legislative body provides a no-nonsense approach to satisfying the recreational needs of the Township. The Township also uses Engineering and Planning Consultants as an extension to Township Staff, to assist in plan preparation.

The Recreation Committee worked closely with the Township Board, the Township Planning Commission, which has the overall planning responsibility for the Township and the Department of Public Works which is responsible for maintaining Township Parks. The Committee also works closely with representatives of various state agencies, the Bay County Parks and Recreation Department and local school administrators.

Perhaps most important are the steps the Committee took to assure involvement and participation throughout the planning process. In **1985**, the Committee sent questionnaires to approximately 200 households within the Township. These households were randomly selected with the exception that general areas were targeted to assure responses from a cross-section of township residents which included senior citizens, low-income families and non-users as well as residents of single-family homes, apartments and mobile homes. Responses were received from **50** percent of the households receiving questionnaires which reflects the great interest township residents have in recreational facilities. In addition, the committee sent inventory and user forms to all schools, churches and organized user groups. **Many** of these were then followed **up** by personal interviews. Questionnaires were also sent to all 3000 property owners within the Township in **1987**, in conjunction with the updating

of the Township Comprehensive Plan.

In addition to the direct solicitations of interest, all of the committee meetings were open to the public. A formal advertized public hearing was also held on the draft plan prior to adoption.