

Hampton Township

Community Description

Hampton Charter Township is located in southeast Bay County, east of Bay City and Essexville. It contains approximately 9 miles of Saginaw Bay shoreline and 1.5 miles of Saginaw River frontage. The eastern portion of the Township is known for its rich agricultural lands. The western portion of the Township is more densely populated, serving as an extension of Bay City. This area features several apartment complexes and senior living centers. The shoreline is dotted with wetlands that serve as habitat for wildlife and waterfowl. M-25 is the major roadway in the Township. It runs east to west across the southern portion of the Township and it carries the majority of the traffic in and through the

community. The population of Hampton Township is 9,521, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate.

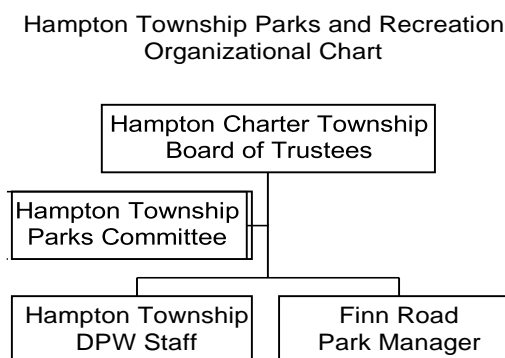
Other significant demographic data for Hampton Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 34 below.

| | Hampton | Bay County | Michigan | United States |
|------------------------------------|----------|------------|----------|---------------|
| Median Age | 48.5 | 42.7 | 39.5 | 37.7 |
| Population 65+ | 21.9% | 18.3% | 15.4% | 14.5% |
| Population under 18 | 18.3% | 21.0% | 22.5% | 23.1% |
| Owner Occupied Homes | 64.8% | 77.9% | 73.0% | 65.1% |
| Average Household Size | 2.17 | 2.39 | 2.51 | 2.64 |
| Bachelor's Degree or Higher | 20.1% | 18.1% | 27.4% | 30.3% |
| Median Household Income | \$45,865 | \$45,851 | \$50,803 | \$55,322 |
| Per Capita Income | \$27,023 | \$24,753 | \$27,549 | \$29,829 |
| Disabled | 18.0% | 16.6% | 14.2% | 12.5% |
| Poverty level | 14.9% | 15.8% | 16.3% | 15.1% |

Figure 34 - Selected Census Data for Hampton Township as compared to the county, state and country. *Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.*

Administrative Structure

The Township Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for the parks and recreation function in Hampton Charter Township. The current parks and recreation department functions are operated under the DPW and carried out by three full-time DPW workers.



The seven-member Department of Public Works staff is responsible for operating and maintaining the parks in Hampton Charter Township. Additionally, a full-time manager is hired for Finn Road Park during the summer months. The Township Board of Trustees is advised by the Hampton Township Parks Committee regarding park related issues.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Hampton Charter Township has a good working relationship with the Essexville-Hampton School District in terms of parks and recreation facilities. The Hampton Charter Township DPW staff maintains the fields at Pondsides Park for practice fields.

Hampton Charter Township has representation on the Bay County Riverwalk / Railtrail Committee. This committee is an initiative of the Bay Area Community Foundation and it deals with issues relating to operating, maintaining, and improving and extending the existing Riverwalk / Railtrail. The group focuses on visioning and fundraising as well. Membership includes representatives from various governmental units, governmental agencies (i.e. Road Commission, Bay County Transportation Planning Department), the community at-large and the Bay Area Community Foundation.

Budgets

The sources of funding for parks and recreation in Hampton Charter Township are the Township general fund, campground fees, Finn Road Boat Launch fees, and pavilion rentals. The current and previous year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

| Figure 35 HAMPTON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| | 2016 | 2017 |
| Operation & Maintenance | \$86,830 | \$83,888 |
| Programming (leagues, special events, etc.) | NA | NA |
| Capital Expenditures* | \$63,654 | \$48,720 |
| Total | \$150,484 | \$132,608 |

Recreation Inventory

Hampton Charter Township currently owns six recreational facilities. A seventh parcel at the end of Callahan Road has been acquired by the Township but has not yet been developed. Hampton Township reviewed its inventory from the 2014 Recreation Plan and updated it accordingly. The parks inventoried for Hampton Charter Township are found on the following pages.

Figure 36
HAMPTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

| | Bay-Hampton Rail Trail | Ridge Road Park | Pondside Park | Finn Road Campground | Jones Road Park | Nature Trail | Callahan Road End Property |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Park Type* | Park-Trail | Neighborhood Park | Community Park | Special Use | Special Use | Park-Trail | Not developed |
| Acreage /Distance | 1 mile | 6 acres | 30 acres | 12 acres | 3 acres | 3.5 miles | 2.5 acres |
| Accessibility* | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | NA |
| Accessibility Comment | | No ADA marked parking. Lacking paths to amenities. | No ADA marked parking. Lacking paths to amenities. | Restroom not fully accessible | No ADA marked parking. | | |
| Service Area | County | Neighborhoods within 2 miles | Entire Twp. | Entire Twp. & beyond | Entire Twp. & beyond | Entire Twp. | Entire Twp. |
| Ball Diamond | | Yes | 2 | | | | |
| Multi-use Path | Yes | | | Yes | | Yes | |
| Pavilion | | 2 | Yes | Yes | | | |
| Tennis Courts | | | 4 | | | | |
| Playground | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | |
| Basketball Court | | | Yes | | | | |
| Sledding Hill | | Yes | Yes | | | | |
| Picnic Area | | Yes | | Yes | | | |
| Restrooms | Yes** | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | |
| Open Playfield | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | |
| Campground | | | | 57 sites | | | |
| Boat Launch | | | | Yes | Yes | | |
| Overlook Platform | | | | Yes | Yes | | |
| Saginaw Bay Access | | | | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| Other | Benches | Grills, Horseshoes | Pond | Grills, Benches | | | |

* See County inventory section on pages 14 1 , and 21 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

** Portable restrooms only.

Grant History

Hampton Township has received six DNR Recreation Grants for acquisition of or improvements to its parks. All projects are open and functional with the exceptions as noted below.

- LWCF 26-00460 – \$30,011, acquisition of 10 acres for Finn Road Park
- TF724 – \$34,783, Pondsides Park Improvements (tennis courts are no longer lit – 42 years old)
- TF26-01464 – \$99,000, Finn Road Park Improvements
- BF90-041 – \$53,600, Hampton Railtrail
- TF00-063 – \$130,800, Expansion of Finn Road Park
- TF15-0011 – \$182,300, Finn Road Park Improvements

Goals and Objectives

The Hampton Charter Township Parks Committee formulated the following goals and objectives in 2008 based upon the characteristics of the overall community and the input received from the Bay County community input survey. The goals were reviewed and verified for the 2014 plan and they have been reviewed and verified again for the 2019 plan.

GOAL 1

Provide safe broad community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 2

Provide recreational opportunities for people with disabilities.

Objectives

1. Develop programs for special needs population.
2. Ensure that improvements and upgrades to parks are handicap accessible.

GOAL 3

Develop a non-motorized trail network in Hampton Charter Township.

Hampton Charter Township currently has two separate trails – the unpaved Nature Trail and a portion of the paved Bay County Railtrail/Riverwalk. Based on community input, the Township would like to expand its trail system and develop a network of trails for residents and visitors.

GOAL 4

Acquire more park land as needed and as it becomes available.

GOAL 5

Improve communication with residents regarding parks and recreation facilities and programming.

Objectives

1. Improve the Township's Parks and Recreation web site to communicate with residents regarding park and recreation.

2. Develop a brochure that describes the parks in Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 6

Provide recreational facilities that take advantage of the water based natural resources in Hampton Charter Township.

Objectives

1. Add shore fishing facilities in Hampton Charter Township.
2. Develop swimming access points in Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 7

Provide quality leisure time activities with special consideration given to activities improving health and fitness.



Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, community input, and available resources, Hampton Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan.

1. Remove the tennis courts at Pondsides Park. The tennis courts are more than 40 years old and are no longer repairable.
2. Consider options for open space at Pondsides Park after the tennis courts are removed.
3. Upgrade the playground equipment at Pondsides Park. The existing playground equipment is old, outdated, and potentially unsafe.
4. Upgrade the playground equipment at Finn Rod Park. The existing playground equipment is old, outdated, and potentially unsafe.
5. Upgrade the trail between Finn Road and Jones Road Park. New gravel is needed.
6. Upgrade the gravel parking lot at Jones Road Park.

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this Map is provided and maintained by various individuals representing a number of agencies, including Bay County departments, municipal governments, and state and federal agencies. No guarantee is given as to the accuracy or currency of any of the data. Therefore, in no event shall Bay County Government be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages or any damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data, or profits, whether in an action of contract, negligence, or other action, arising out of or in connection with the use of the information herein provided.

47

Ba ng or Tw p




Wilder

25

Wenona

18th

 State Trunkline
 Major Road
 Minor Road

| | |
|---|------------------|
|  | Park |
|  | Golf Course |
|  | Boat Ramp / Dock |

Saginaw Bay

Jones Road Boat Launch

O Jones Road Park

Hampton Township
Boat
Launch

Bay County Golf Course

Finn Road Campground

○ Callahan Rd End

Quanicassee
Wildlife
Area

Hampton Township

Road Park

Ridge

25
n
Garfield
Fremont
Harri
son
Michigan
Cass
Johnson
Tumbull
Portsmouth
Twp
Cass Avenue
Ponds
de
Park
Youngs Ditch
Knight

Merritt Twp

