## APPENDIX A

### Supporting Analysis

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A.1 PARK SETTING

Park Profile

Area: 2,678 Acres
County: Clinton County
Township: Ovid and Victor
Latitude: 42°56′19″N
Longitude: 84°24′46″W
Address: 7835 E. Price Road
Laingsburg, MI 48848-6217
Phone #: (517) 651-6217

Sleepy Hollow State Park contains over 2,600 acres of woods and fields surrounding the 410-acre Lake Ovid centrally located in the park, developed by damming the Little Maple River. The park offers year-round recreation opportunities, including hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, modern camping and cabins, a group youth area, day use swimming beach, disc golf course, and opportunities for fishing and hunting.

Location & Community

Sleepy Hollow State Park is located in eastern Clinton County, in the south central region of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula. The park is situated approximately 15 miles north of the Greater Lansing area, with the City of Johns to the northwest and the City of Owosso to the northeast. The communities of Laingsburg and Ovid are within 5 miles of the park. Sleepy Hollow is strategically located east of US-27, the primary northbound transportation artery, making it the perfect retreat for Tri-County (Clinton, Eaton and Ingham) residents and visitors.

Clinton County was organized in 1839 and covers 571 square miles. Despite its close proximity to the state’s capitol city of Lansing, Clinton County remains predominantly rural with a high percentage of agricultural land. The County holds a top 10 ranking in the state for agriculture in categories that include dairy, soybeans and cattle, and is famous for its mint production due to the rich black soil, and celebrates its mint farming heritage annually at the "Mint Festival". ¹

¹ Source: Clinton County Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2002 (Amended 2008)
Clinton County’s proximity to Lansing and Michigan State University gives residents ample recreation opportunities, from MSU football games to Wharton Center productions, Potter Park Zoo, City and County Parks and the 20 mile Lansing River Trail.
A.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

Clinton County was reported to have an estimated population of 77,297 in 2014. This is an increase of 2.5% compared to the 2010 census figure, which is higher than that of neighboring counties and above the state average increase of 0.3%. The population is expected to continue to grow through 2020 (Tri-County Planning Commission) as a result of in-migration and natural growth. The 2010 population density is reported as 133 people per square mile. The per capita personal income in Clinton County in 2013 was $28,449, slightly above the state average of $25,547. Clinton County’s age distribution is consistent with that of the region and the state.

2013 U.S. Census Data for Clinton County

<table>
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<tr>
<th>People QuickFacts</th>
<th>Clinton County</th>
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<tr>
<td>Population, 2014 estimate</td>
<td>77,297</td>
<td>9,909,877</td>
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<td>Population, 2010 (April 1) estimates base</td>
<td>75,382</td>
<td>9,884,133</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2014</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population, 2010</td>
<td>75,382</td>
<td>9,883,640</td>
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<td>Persons under 5 years, percent, 2014</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Persons under 18 years, percent, 2014</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Persons 65 years and over, percent, 2014</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female persons, percent, 2014</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
<td>50.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>White alone, percent, 2014 (a)</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
<td>79.9%</td>
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<td>Black or African American alone, percent, 2014 (a)</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
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<td>American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent, 2014 (a)</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
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<td>Asian alone, percent, 2014 (a)</td>
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<td>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent, 2014 (a)</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
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<td>Two or More Races, percent, 2014</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2014 (b)</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
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<td>White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2014</td>
<td>90.2%</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
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<td>Living in same house 1 year &amp; over, percent, 2009-2013</td>
<td>88.1%</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
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<td>Foreign born persons, percent, 2009-2013</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
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<td>Language other than English spoken at home, pct age 5+, 2009-2013</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
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<td>High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25+, 2009-2013</td>
<td>92.9%</td>
<td>88.9%</td>
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<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher, percent of persons age 25+, 2009-2013</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
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<td>Veterans, 2009-2013</td>
<td>4,812</td>
<td>672,213</td>
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<td>---------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2009-2013</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>24.0</td>
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<td>Housing units, 2014</td>
<td>30,867</td>
<td>4,539,871</td>
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<td>Homeownership rate, 2009-2013</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
<td>72.1%</td>
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<td>Housing units in multi-unit structures, percent, 2009-2013</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
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<td>Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2009-2013</td>
<td>$156,300</td>
<td>$121,700</td>
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<td>Households, 2009-2013</td>
<td>28,534</td>
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<td>Persons per household, 2009-2013</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>2.53</td>
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<td>Per capita money income in past 12 months (2013 dollars), 2009-2013</td>
<td>$28,449</td>
<td>$25,681</td>
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<td>Median household income, 2009-2013</td>
<td>$60,466</td>
<td>$48,411</td>
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<td>Persons below poverty level, percent, 2009-2013</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land area in square miles, 2010</td>
<td>566.41</td>
<td>56,538.90</td>
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<td>Persons per square mile, 2010</td>
<td>133.1</td>
<td>174.8</td>
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<td>FIPS Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area</td>
<td>Lansing-East Lansing, MI Metro Area</td>
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</table>

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts.*
A.3 REGIONAL RECREATION RESOURCES

Sleepy Hollow was deliberately sited in an area with few large scale public recreation opportunities when it was developed in the 1960s. The following is a description of state and municipal park and recreation opportunities in the vicinity of Sleepy Hollow State Park. The area also supports a range of private recreation facilities such as golf courses, nature centers, fitness clubs, shooting and archery clubs and private subdivision trails.

State Owned Recreation Facilities

- *Ionia Recreation Area* located approximately 35 miles west of Sleepy Hollow State Park was created under the same program. The 4,500 acre park features rolling hills, streams, open meadows, woodland, a man-made lake and 4 miles of the Grand River floodplain. The park provides opportunities for modern camping, equestrian camping and trail riding, mountain biking, hiking, swimming, fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing.

The neighboring counties of Eaton, Ingham, Shiawassee and Gratiot Counties do not feature any State Park or Recreation Areas. However, within 50 miles south and east of Sleepy Hollow State Park are a number of state-owned recreation facilities including:

- *Seven Lakes State Park*
- *Brighton Recreation Area*
- *Pinkney Recreation Area.*

- *Maple River State Game Area* - 9,252 acres of varied habitat types in Clinton, Ionia and Gratiot Counties. Management focuses on opportunities for hunting and trapping as well as providing habitat for Featured Species such as ring-necked pheasants, waterfowl, turkey, deer, rabbits and squirrels.

- *Muskrat Lake State Game Area* – 212 acres in Clinton County managed primarily for wild turkey, mallard and wood duck. The Muskrat Lake Boat Access Site is managed through Sleepy Hollow State Park and was enlarged and improved in 2011 after Clinton County and the Michigan Wildlife Conservancy funded a project to raise the level of Muskrat Lake to improve habitat and recreational opportunities.

- *Rose Lake State Wildlife Area* – 4,071 acres located about 12 miles northeast of Lansing in Clinton and Shiawassee Counties. The area consists of moderately rolling farmland, abandoned fields, oak and lowland woods, and marsh. It includes several special features, such as: wildlife management features (ponds, floodings, brush piles, food patches, trees and shrub plantings), soil conservation practices, wildlife research, rifle and skeet ranges. The area offers options for outdoor educational, and is available as a biological study area for high school and university classes.
• **Gratiot-Saginaw State Game Area** - 16,684 acres of primarily forest land, with artificial impoundments and ditching potholes to improve habitat for waterfowl. The area is managed to provide quality habitat for wild turkey, white-tailed deer, ruffed grouse, American woodcock, wood duck, and ring-necked pheasants and for recreational opportunities associated with these species.

• **Portland State Game Area** – located in southwest Clinton County and Eaton County. Provides opportunities for hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing as well as non-motorized recreation activities.

• **Looking Glass River Boat Access Site (Babcock Landing)** – the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) maintains a boat launch within Victor Township on the Looking Glass River. This is a minimally developed launch, suitable for small trailered boats and canoes and kayaks. Sleepy Hollow State Park manages the site.

• **Fred Meijer Clinton Ionia Shiawassee (CIS) Rail Trail** - a 41.3 mile long improved, non-motorized trail, owned by the Michigan Department of Transportation and managed by the Michigan DNR with the Mid-West Michigan Trail Authority. It connects the communities of Ionia, Muir, Pewamo, Fowler, St. Johns, Ovid and Owosso, utilizing a former railroad corridor. The trail traverses mostly rural areas and farming communities, but portions also run near Stoney Creek, Maple River and the Grand River in Ionia County.

  ![Trestle on the CIS Trail west of Ovid. Photo courtesy of Prein & Newhof](image)

### Municipal Owned Recreational Land

• **Motz County Park (Clinton County)** - 42-acre park with 15 acres of water (Searles Lake) for boating, fishing, picnicking and swimming. Located near the corner of French and DeWitt Roads in Greenbush Township.

• **Clinton Lakes (Clinton County)** - 272-acre property acquired November 2013 and minimally developed. The property is located at 4665 North DeWitt Road, St. Johns, west of Francis Motz County Park. The focus is on providing natural resource based recreation opportunities such as fishing, hiking, nature watching and limited waterfowl hunting. It also contains an 87 acre prairie established in 2015 in a cooperative program with the Michigan DNR Wildlife Division, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Clinton County Conservation District, Pheasants Forever and Stoney Creek LLC.
• Shiawassee County Parks – Shiawassee County owns and manages 7 parks, 5 of which are on the Shiawassee River, with the combined area of 50 acres. The closest to Sleepy Hollow, Pine Grove Park, is currently decommissioned.

• Eagle Park – A small town park owned by the Eagle Township Fair Association in a rural community with big events and facilities to rent. Eagle, Michigan has easy access from I-96, just west of Lansing and east of Portland.

• City of St. Johns Parks – The city has one large main park and five neighborhood parks. The main park has hiking trails, playground equipment, picnic area, disk golf course, ball diamonds, tennis courts, and volleyball court. For winter fun, ice rinks with warming house as well as a sledding hill. The main park also has two picnic pavilions that may be reserved for reunions and parties.

• Lansing River Trail – The City of Lansing, East Lansing and Delhi Township together make up a regional trail system that stretches over 20 miles with plans to connect to other community trail systems in the future. The paved multi-use trail runs from Holt Road in the south to Old Town in the north. It also connects to Michigan State University in the east and Waverly Road in the west. Future plans include expansion to Mason and Lake Lansing. The trail runs along the Sycamore Creek, Red Cedar River and the Grand River, passing through numerous parks, natural areas and Downtown Lansing.

The cities of Lansing and East Lansing have comprehensive parks and recreation systems and programming, with additional facilities provided by Ingham and Eaton County. Many of the smaller townships and communities surrounding Sleepy Hollow State Park also offer neighborhood and smaller community parks for local residents. Larger facilities in the metropolitan area include the Thomas Cooley Law School Stadium, Michigan State University Campus, Potter Park Zoo, and the Woldumar Nature Center.

Clinton County Non-Motorized Plan

The Clinton County 2015 Non-motorized Facilities (NMF) Plan supports “an efficient, destination-driven, and coordinated multi-purpose system of non-motorized facilities” to provide “a safety enhanced environment for bicyclists, equestrians and pedestrians to be active”. One of the specific goals for the plan is to connect Clinton County communities with the Fred Meijer Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee (FMCIS) Trail and Sleepy Hollow State Park. The NMF Conceptual Network Plan identifies a regional connector route along Shepherdsville Road between Round Lake Road to the south, and the FMCIS Trail to the north, running along the west boundary of Sleepy Hollow State Park. A paved shoulder is proposed to continue north up Shepherdsville to the county line. This route is identified as a medium priority from Round Lake Road to Taft and a high priority from Taft to the FMCIS. An equestrian route is also identified to link Sleepy Hollow State Park to the FMCIS Trail using Taft Road and Saint Clair Road, while recognizing the desire to acquire an off-road
equestrian route in the future. Connections are also proposed between the park and the communities of Dewitt, Lansing and East Lansing.

**University Region Non-Motorized Plan**
The University Region Non-Motorized Plan was developed through the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The plan separates non-motorized transportation goals by county. This plan specifically includes a proposed regional corridor along Shepardsville Road through Sleepy Hollow State Park as shown in the map that follows. This corridor is considered part of MDOT’s Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) approach to project development as well as “complete streets”, which takes into consideration all forms of transportation. Sleepy Hollow State Park is highlighted in this plan as a primary destination in Clinton and Shiawassee Counties, Connections to the FMCIS trail, Bath Township, Laingsburg and DeWitt were identified as priorities at outreach meetings.
In the 1960’s, the Lansing area was one of the few locations in Michigan without lakes and natural areas available for public recreation. In May 1965, the Conservation Commission endorsed plans by the State Department of Conservation (now the Department of Natural Resources) to create two new parks with man-made lakes: Sleepy Hollow State Park and Ionia Recreation Area. This launched an ambitious program to build 50 state lakes in the southern region’s “lakeless” area over the next 10 years. The Proceedings of the Conservation Commission report that “In Clinton County, the Department hopes to develop a first-class fishing lake for warm-water species by damming the Little Maple River. Bordering this will be the Sleepy Hollow State Park, featuring camping, swimming, picnicking, and other recreational facilities which will serve an estimated 7,000 people at one time”.

Land acquisition around the existing park boundaries began in 1965. A dam was constructed on the Little Maple River, creating flood control for the Upper Maple River Watershed, and the 410-acre Lake Ovid downstream. A total of 39 parcels of land were purchased by the state from local families, some by compulsory purchase. Of the 100 buildings the state acquired on this land, 84 of them were sold. These included two one-room schoolhouses: the Grove School and the Dennison School.

The plan to dam the Little Maple River was also part of the larger East Upper Maple River Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Plan, developed through the cooperative efforts of local soil conservation districts, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Soil Conservation Service and USDA Dept. of Forest Service. The plan’s goal was to address floodwater damage, impaired drainage and lack of regional outdoor recreation in sections of
the East Upper Maple Watershed. The resulting completed project included flood protection of over 16,000 acres of farmland, construction of 45 miles of drainage channel in the watershed and development of 410 acre Lake Ovid as the centerpiece attraction of Sleepy Hollow State Park. The total project cost in 1969 was just under eleven million dollars- an investment that has far reaching impacts for over 45 years since its inception.

The 1969 Master Plan for the park is illustrated at the end of this section. The park was developed in line with this plan with the exception of the area south of Price Road, which remains essentially undeveloped. Sleepy Hollow was opened as a state park in May, 1976. Facilities available at that time included a swimming beach, a modern beach toilet building, three picnic areas with pavilions, and a boat launch. Five years later, disadvantaged youths engaged in a summer work program assisted with the reconditioning of trails at Sleepy Hollow.

A major development within the park was completed in 1989 when an 181-site modern campground, with electric hook-up and indoor shower and toilet facilities, was opened for public recreational use. Since then, equestrian trails and related facilities were developed beginning in 1995.

More recently, the 18-hole Legend Disc Golf Course was opened in 2009. The 2010 season saw a major change in the layout of the park when the west entrance road was closed and dedicated as a multi-use trail. Included in the project was redevelopment of the Lake Ovid Boat Access Site facility. This was part of a state-wide effort to reduce unnecessary and costly infrastructure in Michigan’s State Parks. The most recent additions to the park are a modern cabin which was constructed on the north shores of Lake Ovid in 2014, and a rustic cabin with special adaptations to accommodate equestrian campers, at the same area in 2015.
A.5 LAND OWNERSHIP

Funding Sources

The lands that comprise Sleepy Hollow State Park have been acquired by the state through a variety of funding sources. Often, conditions attached to the original funding source or other details of the property transaction encumber the future use or disposition of the land.

The funding source map at the end of Appendix A identifies the sources used in acquiring land within Sleepy Hollow State Park. The following outlines in more detail each funding source associated with the park.

- **Special Legislation** – This was the primary funding source for acquiring the land that comprises Sleepy Hollow State Park. The legislation appropriated funds for park land acquisition under Act 27, P.A. 1944, and Act 50, P.A. 1944. Approximately 1,634 acres was acquired using this funding source between the years of 1965 and 1969. In some cases, Special Legislation Funds were used to match the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (50:50).

- **Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** - The LWCF is a federal program administered in Michigan by the Department of Natural Resources on behalf of the National Park Service (NPS). Land purchased using LWCF funding must be used for public outdoor recreation purposes. Approximately 296 acres was acquired using LWCF funding with 50% match provided by Special Legislation Funds. This land is shown as “Other Funds” on the Funding Source Map.

- **Game & Fish Fund** – Approximately 191 acres was acquired using the State Game and Fish Fund under Part 435, Act 451, P.A. 1994. The fund is derived from mineral revenue deposited into the Game and Fish Protection Trust Fund for the purposes of wildlife and fisheries management.

Easements

Sleepy Hollow State Park is impacted by both acquired and granted easements, as outlined in the following:

Acquired Easements:

- **H.M. Jones and Son’s Orchards:** Sleepy Hollow State Park acquired an easement as part of the Maple River Inter-county Drainage Board from H.M. Jones and Son’s Orchards in order for the board to maintain and operate flood control structures associated with the Maple River Inter-County Drain. The easement is located in T6NR1W Sections 9 and 16.
Granted Easements:

- **Michigan Gas Storage Co (Consumers Energy):** An easement was granted in 1974 for the transport of underground natural gas through the park. The corridor must remain clear and undeveloped.

- **GTE North Incorporated:** A 10-foot wide easement was granted in 1977 to provide underground telephone service to the park.

- **Consumers Power Company (Consumers Energy):** An easement was granted in 1987 to provide underground electrical service to the campground.

**County Drains**

A number of drainage courses within the park are designated as County Drains by Clinton County Drain Commission. A right-of-way or easement for construction and maintenance is obtained on behalf of the Drainage District along each side of the drain and remains in effect for as long as the drain continues in existence. County Drains within the park property are as follows:

- #618 South Maple
- #740 Putnam
- #803 Simpson
- #661 Montague Drain
- #588 Jones
For all park General Management Plans, all legal mandates are identified that serve to further guide the development of the General Management Plan and subsequent Action Plans. For our planning purposes, the term “Legal Mandates” refers to not only to federal and state law, but also the administrative tools of “Policy” and “Directive” of the Natural Resource Commission, the Department, and the Parks & Recreation Division. Examples include Orders of the Director, Park and Recreation Areas State Land Rules and all other laws, commission orders, and rules or directives that apply to the park.

Specific to Sleepy Hollow State Park the following legal mandates have been identified.

**STATE STATUTE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (NREPA) AND AMENDMENTS</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PA 451 of 1994, Part 5</strong></td>
<td>Gives the DNR authority to make rules to support its mission. This includes State Land Rules, Land Use Orders, Wildlife Conservation Orders, Fisheries Orders and Watercraft Control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PA 451 of 1994, Part 31 Water Resources Protection</strong></td>
<td>Provides authority to DEQ to require a permit for any occupation, construction, filling, or grade change within the 100-year floodplain of a river, stream, drain, or inland lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PA 451 of 1994, Part 301 Inland Lakes and Streams</strong></td>
<td>Requires a permit from the state (DEQ) to undertake certain activities relating to inland lakes and streams, such as dredging, fill, marinas, structures, alteration of flow, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PA 451 of 1994, Part 303 Wetlands Protection</strong></td>
<td>Requires a permit from the state (DEQ) to undertake certain activities in regulated wetlands, such as, dredging, fill, construction or drainage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PA 451 of 1994, Part 315 Dam Safety</strong></td>
<td>A permit is required for dams with a dam “height” of six feet or more and that have a surface area of five acres or more at the design flood elevation. A permit is required for new dam construction, enlargement of an existing dam or impoundment, dam repair, dam alteration, dam removal, dam abandonment, or reconstruction of a failed dam.</td>
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### NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (NREPA) AND AMENDMENTS (Continued)

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<th>Act and Part</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>PA 451 of 1994, Part 419</td>
<td>Hunting Area Control Section 324.41901 establishes the powers of the Department to establish safety zones for hunting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 451 of 1994, Part 741</td>
<td>State Park System The department shall create, maintain, operate, promote, and make available for public use and enjoyment a system of state parks to preserve and protect Michigan's significant natural resources and areas of natural beauty or historic significance, to provide open space for public recreation, and to provide an opportunity to understand Michigan's natural resources and the need to protect and manage those resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 35 of 2010, Part 741</td>
<td>Recreation Passport This act amended the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code to provide for a State Park and State-operated public boating access site “Recreation Passport” that a Michigan resident may obtain by paying an additional fee when registering a motor vehicle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 451 of 1994, Part 761</td>
<td>Aboriginal Records and Antiquities The state reserves the exclusive right and privilege to all aboriginal records and other antiquities found on state-owned land and bottomlands of the Great Lakes. A permit is required for archaeological exploration on state-owned land.</td>
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### PUBLIC HEALTH CODE

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<td>PA 368 of 1978, Part 125</td>
<td>Campgrounds, Swimming Areas and Swimmers’ Itch Established to protect and promote the public health by establishing health code requirements and regulations that all public (including DNR) and private campgrounds must meet. Includes permitting, licensing, inspections and rules regarding sanitation, safety standards and public health. Also covers testing and evaluating quality of water at bathing beaches, safety and rescue equipment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Lake Ovid dam is designated as “Significant” under the DEQ Dam Hazard Rating. This is based on the fact that site improvements located within the park would be affected should the dam fail. The area around Lake Ovid and the South Maple Drain are within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance of flood (100-year flood). The base flood elevation for this area has not been determined by FEMA.
ORDERS

The following Orders apply to Sleepy Hollow State Park.

Land Use Orders of the Director

5.4 Watercraft use in certain state parks, prohibited conduct.
Order 5.4 A person shall not do the following:
(1) Operate a vessel in excess of a slow, no-wake speed on any of the following described waters:
(j) Sleepy hollow SP -Lake Ovid.

Wildlife Conservation Orders

Wildlife is owned by all the people of the state of Michigan, and protection is administered and managed by the Michigan DNR. Hunting and trapping regulations including methods of take, bag limits, license quotas, and season dates are established by the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) and are described in the Wildlife Conservation Orders.

7.34 Sleepy Hollow state park, hunting and trapping allowed.
Sec. 7.34 Hunting and trapping shall be allowed during the established seasons on all those state-owned lands in the dedicated boundary in sections 34 and 35, T7N R1W, and in sections 2, 3, 9, 10, and 11, T6N R1W, within Sleepy Hollow state park; except there shall be no taking of waterfowl after 8:00 a.m. from September 1 to Labor day in that area north of Price Road.

Fisheries Orders

FO-219.13 Spearing regulations Statewide
Under the authority of section 48703 of 1994 PA 451, as amended, being MCL 324.48703, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources on October 11, 2012, ordered that for a period not to exceed five years, the following spearing regulations are established:
WATERS CLOSED TO NORTHERN PIKE AND MUSKELLUNGE SPEARING
It shall be unlawful to fish by any means other than hook-and-line for Northern Pike or Muskellunge in the following waters: Clinton County – Lake Ovid

STATE LAND RULES

Parks and Recreation Areas – State Land Rules are issued by authority conferred on the Michigan DNR by Section 504 of 1994 PA 451 MCL 324.504. The rules cover entry, use and occupation of state lands and unlawful acts.
LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

A regional landscape ecosystem classification has been developed for Michigan, which distinguishes major landscapes based on macroclimate, physiography, soil and vegetation. Sleepy Hollow State Park is located in sub-subsection VI.4.1 (Southern Lower Michigan, Subsection Ionia, Sub-subsection Lansing) which is composed of broad till plain with rich, loamy soils that have been greatly modified by agriculture. This is the largest of the eco-regional subsections in Michigan’s Lower Peninsula. The area consists of medium textured moraines, naturally supporting beech-sugar maple forest and hardwood swamp. Elevations in this sub-subsection range from 640 to 1122 feet.

The VI.4.1 sub-subsection consists of gently sloping ground moraines that are broken by outwash channels and end-moraine ridges. The ground moraines typically range in height from 40 to 60 feet, though heights of 100 feet can be found on the eastern and western edges of the sub-subsection. The rolling topography features slopes of 0-6 percent, the greatest changes in elevation occurring along outwash channels. Groups of low ridges and swampy depressions are caused by end-moraine ridges, creating an environment unsuitable for agriculture in these areas.

Topography
Topography within the park rises from a low elevation of 770 feet above sea level along the Lake Ovid shoreline and in wetland areas to a high elevation of 840 in the southeast corner of the park. The flat to gently rolling topography and heavy soils results in some drainage problems within the park.

Climate
Climate in the Lansing sub-subsection allows for an average growing season of 150 days (ranges from 140 to 160 days). Precipitation annually averages 31 inches, snowfall ranging between 40 and 70 inches. Effects are greater to the west, as Lake Michigan impacts climate greatly in this area.

Vegetation c. 1800s
Historical vegetation for the majority of the Lansing sub-subsection according to the General Land Survey, was dominated by American beech and sugar maple forest on the upland areas. The area currently encompassed by Sleepy Hollow State Park was described as being dominated by oak-hickory forest, with small areas of mixed conifer swamp, shrub swamp, emergent marsh and mixed hardwood swamp.

Current Vegetation
The oak-hickory forest was converted to agricultural land uses after European settlement. Human interventions resulted in a landscape dominated by shrubby fields with areas of lowland and upland hardwoods and wetlands associated with the lake and river flooding. Many of the old agricultural fields are now covered by young maple and oak trees and brush.

Water Resources
The sub-subsection contains three large rivers, the Maple, Grand and Thornapple, along with numerous small rivers. Sleepy Hollow State Park is located in the Upper Maple River Watershed, which covers 513 square miles of primarily agricultural land. This is part of the larger Maple River Watershed, one of six major tributaries of the Grand River, draining into Lake Michigan. The park boasts the largest lake in Clinton County, Lake Ovid, which was formed by the damming of the Little Maple River.

Soils
Soils in the area are typically calcareous and loamy, derived from underlying limestone, shale and sandstone. Soils within the park are predominantly loam with pockets of loamy sand and sandy loam and some muck in the low lying areas. Soils range from well to moderately drained on the undulating land to poorly drained in depressions.

Geology and Mineral Resources
Surface sediments in the park consist of medium-textured till. Glacial drift thickness is in the range of 100-200 feet. There is an active sand and gravel operation just north of Lake Victoria, approximately one mile to the east. However, there appears to be an abundance
of clay in the area, which could limit the economic potential of commercial sand and gravel production in the area.

The glacial drift is primarily underlain by Pennsylvanian-age sedimentary rocks (sandstones, siltstones, shales, and limestones of the Grand River and Saginaw formations) that were deposited in alluvial, deltaic, and marginal marine environments. These rocks currently do not have economic value in Michigan. In addition, the thickness of the glacial overburden would prohibit any commercial development of the bedrock resources.

The area around SHSP has seen sparse exploration for oil and gas, and there has been no development to date. There are a few dry holes nearby the park that tested Devonian formations for oil. Potential for near-future oil and gas development in this area appears to be low. The park is located north of the southern Niagaran reef trend and south of the central basin where most of the production from Devonian formations occurs.

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Rare Flora and Fauna**

Michigan Natural Features Inventory prepared an inventory report for Sleepy Hollow State Park in 2002.

One rare plant has been known to occur in the park, the state threatened goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*). The species was last observed in 1984 in an area of moist hardwood forest. Other rare plant species characteristic of moist woodlands in south-central Michigan have the potential to be discovered in the future.

One rare animal, the state special concern pinetree cricket (*Oecanthus pini*) was found at the southern end of the park in 2004. This insect lives in the tops of white pine trees.

**Natural Communities**

A *natural community*, as defined by Michigan Natural Features Inventory, is an assemblage of interacting plants, animals, and other organisms that repeatedly occurs across the landscape under similar environmental conditions.

No noteworthy examples of natural communities occur at Sleepy Hollow State Park, but the park contains degraded examples of the following communities:

- Dry-mesic southern forest (oak-hickory)
- Mesic southern forest (beech-maple)
- Emergent marsh
- Southern hardwood swamp

Descriptions of these natural communities can be found at [http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/communities/index.cfm](http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/communities/index.cfm)
Wildlife
Despite its small size, Sleepy Hollow State Park boasts a variety of habitats. Lake Ovid, the largest lake in Clinton County, lures migrating waterfowl, shorebirds and passerines to the park. More than 228 species have been recorded in Sleepy Hollow, from the common Blue jay to the Eastern bluebird. The rarely recorded Bonaparte's Gull or Bald Eagle have also been sighted. Other wildlife found in the park includes white-tailed deer, rabbit, turkey and squirrel.

Fisheries
Lake Ovid is a prominent feature of Sleepy Hollow State Park and at 412 acres is the largest body of water in the surrounding area. Lake Ovid supports a variety of fish species including Black Crappie, Bluegill, Bowfin, Brown Bullhead, Common Carp, White Sucker, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Redear Sunfish, Yellow Perch, and Yellow Bullhead. In addition, the lake is stocked on a regular basis with Great Lakes Muskellunge and Channel Catfish. Stocking these two species provides park visitors with an opportunity to catch trophy-sized fish, as several Master Angler Muskellunge have been caught in Lake Ovid.

Invasive Species
Sleepy Hollow State Park contains many invasive species. One noteworthy example is Eurasian watermilfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum). This non-native plant has been present and dominant in Lake Ovid for over 20 years. It out-competes native aquatic plant species, degrades habitat for fish and other aquatic animals, and impedes recreational boating and swimming in the lake. Attempts were made to control the milfoil with weevils (a biological control) in previous years, but the milfoil is still dominant in the lake today.

Emerald ash borer (Agrilus planipennis), a non-native invasive beetle, has caused the loss of the majority of ash trees at the park over the past several years. The dead ash have become hazard trees in developed areas and required significant staff time to remove. In undeveloped areas, loss of ash causes gaps to be created in forested areas that are eventually filled with other tree species such as black cherry and red maple.

Invasive shrubs such as autumn olive (Elaeagnus umbellata) and non-native honeysuckles (Lonicera spp.) are abundant throughout the park, especially in old fields and young forest stands.
A.8 HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Sleepy Hollow State Park was made up of 39 individual parcels of land purchased by the state in the 1960s, which included as many as 50 farmsteads. Many of the buildings were sold by the state, but remnants, mostly building foundations, remain across the park.

Two school houses were located within the park boundary at the time of the purchase by the state. The Dennison Schoolhouse was constructed in 1881. The red-brick building replaced an earlier wooden structure located at the Victor/Ovid Township line in what is now the campground at Sleepy Hollow State Park. The building was moved when the campground was established, and moved again in 1997 to its present location next to the Victor Township Hall in Laingsburg. The Grove Schoolhouse was originally located at Price and Shepardsville Roads. The school was sold and moved from the park.

According to the archaeological site file maintained by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), there are currently 19 recorded archaeological sites in the park. Two sites represent the early Native American occupation of the area between 350 and 10,000 years ago. Seventeen sites represent 19th and 20th century land use, and include the locations of 13 farmsteads and dumps, the two schoolhouses, one post office and one sugar camp. None of these archaeological sites have been evaluated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Limited archaeological survey has been conducted within the park. There is the potential for additional archaeological sites to be present that have yet to be identified. Proposed ground-disturbing projects park wide should be planned in consultation with DNR Stewardship and the State Historic Preservation Office to avoid impacts to potentially significant sites.
A.9 RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Camping
The park offers a modern campsite with a sanitation station and a rustic group use area. Sleepy Hollow modern has 181 sites, divided into a north and south loop, with 20/30 amp electric service and modern bathroom facilities.

Cabins
Built in 2014, this ADA accessible, family friendly cabin offers two bedrooms, living/dining area and a modern bathroom with shower. The kitchenette includes a sink/faucet, microwave oven, coffee maker and toaster oven. Each bedroom includes a full size bed with a single bunk above. A private outdoor grill, fire circle and picnic table overlooking 410 acre Lake Ovid are along the pathway to the cabin entrance. The modern cabin is available to rent year round and can accommodate up to 6 people.

A rustic camper cabin, without bathroom or electricity) is also available and can accommodate 5 people.

Hiking
All of the trails in Sleepy Hollow State Park are open to hiking. The trail system travels through grassland, woodland and around Lake Ovid. A total of 28.6 miles of hiking trail are in the park, all of which is shared with mountain biking and/or equestrian use.

Horseback Riding
There are 12.9 miles of horse trails open to day-users who trailer their horses in for the day. A staging area provides amenities for equestrian users, including mounting assistance ramp, water, vault toilets and a shelter. Horse carts can be used on the former roadbed sections of
the park’s multi-use trail. Bridle Trails are maintained and managed by the Sleepy Hollow Trail Riders Association (SHTRA)

Mountain Biking
More than 17 miles of trails are open for biking or mountain biking.

Cross Country Skiing
All trails in Sleepy Hollow State Park are open to cross country skiing.

Metal Detecting
Metal detecting is recognized as a legitimate recreation activity when it is conducted in ways that do not damage the natural and cultural resources in Michigan State Parks nor violate applicable state statutes. Any items found must be reviewed by park staff and may be retained for further investigation. The map shows where metal detecting may take place in Sleepy Hollow State Park.

Hunting
The park is open to hunting, Sleepy Hollow State Park lands are open to hunting and trapping during the appropriate seasons with the exception of no hunting areas posted around the campgrounds and high visitor areas. The hunting is excellent for ducks, deer, rabbit and squirrel. Turkey, woodcock, pheasant, quail and grouse are also found in the park.
Snowmobiling

There are no designated snowmobile trails within the park. Snowmobiling is allowed in the west end of the park when there is at least four inches of snow on the ground. Snowmobiles are prohibited on cross country ski trails, and must have a current registration.

### Snowmobile Map

**ALL UNMARKED AREAS ARE OPEN TO SNOWMOBILES WHEN THERE IS 4 INCHES OR MORE OF SNOW**
Fishing
Lake Ovid offers ample fishing opportunities with a wide variety of fish (Muskie, Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Black Crappie, Yellow Perch, Channel Catfish and Northern Pike). Within the park there are four fishing piers available in addition to sites along the shore.

Paddling
Canoeing and kayaking are popular activities at Sleepy Hollow State Park. Rentals are available from the campground office.

Disc Golf
The Legend 18-hole Disc Golf Course opened in 2009 and includes a “birdieball” course. See map below for the course.
Boat Launch
A paved, ADA accessible boat launch and parking area for over 100 vehicles is located in the southwest of the park, accessed off Price Road. The site also provides a bathroom and fishing pier. Lake Ovid is a "No Wake" lake inside Sleepy Hollow State park.

Swimming Beach
A designated swimming beach is located at the north end of Lake Ovid, complete with a modern beach house.

The swimming beach is popular with both campers and day users

Picnic Facilities
There are 3 picnic shelters located in the park. The East Picnic Shelter includes picnic tables, hand water pump, grills, fireplace, and vault toilets. The North and South picnic shelters are located at the beach and include picnic tables, grills, electricity, and modern bathroom facilities. Each shelter is available at no charge on a first-come-first served basis or can be reserved up to a year in advance.

Playground
A modern playground is located adjacent to the campground.

Concession/ Store
Fishing bait, firewood, ice and disc golf supplies are available for sale in the campground office during the camping season.
Volunteer Groups associated with the Park

Sleepy Hollow Trail Riding Association (SHTRA) - A volunteer organization whose primary purpose is the protection and preservation of the horse trails on public land, Sleepy Hollow State Park. Sleepy Hollow Trail Riders Association, Inc., a 501(3) (c) non-profit organization, was formed in 1997 to create and maintain these equestrian trails and staging area.

Friends of Sleepy Hollow State Park (FSHSP)
“Friends” is a registered Michigan nonprofit organization founded in May 1995. The membership association consists of individuals and families who have joined together to “adopt” Sleepy Hollow State Park. The goal of “Friends” is to enhance, promote and preserve the natural resources of Sleepy Hollow State Park for present and future generations to enjoy. The FSHSP assist with environmental programs such as recycling, park maintenance activities, annual events and promotion of the park.
A.10 EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMING

Sleepy Hollow State Park supports a variety of programs to interest park visitors throughout the season. As well as those organized by Sleepy Hollow staff and associated volunteers, the park is frequented by school and park and recreation organizations from St. Johns, Lansing, DeWitt and the surrounding area.

**Michigan State Park Explorer Program**
The Michigan State Park Explorer Program offers summer programs at 41 Michigan State Parks to campers and day visitors. The program arms participants with field gear (animal skins, bug boxes and hands-on materials) and a guide for informal hikes and other programs. These activities cater to each parks’ unique physical and cultural resources, targeting both children and adults. At Sleepy Hollow State Park the program runs from May through August and explores hiking, fishing, and wildlife education programs.

**Green Initiatives**
Sleepy Hollow State Park participates in a program established to promote environmentally-friendly management practices and products within state park facilities. The program reaches out to DNR staff as well as park users to embrace greener standards. Whether using a bio-based fuel, building more energy efficient facilities or mowing less, these programs help protect and preserve the natural resources.

**Hook, Line & Sinker**
This program is an introductory lesson in fishing basics such as knot-tying, setting up your pole, casting, selecting and using bait, and removing fish from the hook. After the 20-30 minute lesson, participants are ready to start fishing. This free program runs weekly from June through August.

**DNR Stepping Stones Program**
This program’s main focus is to introduce non-traditional park visitors to outdoor experiences through organized group activities such as guided hikes, archery classes and nature exploration. The program is offered 5 days/week from mid-June through mid-August, and intermittently during spring and fall months.

**Other Programs and Events**
Winter snowshoe building classes are popular at Sleepy Hollow State Park. Participants learn to weave a pair of traditional wooden snowshoes, similar to how the Native Americans crafted them for generations.

Annual events, such as the Harvest Festival and Ichabod Crane Days, bring additional visitors to Sleepy Hollow State Park. These are supplemented by user organized events such as disc golf tournaments, running events and equestrian rides.
A.11 PARK USE STATISTICS

The park use figures for Sleepy Hollow State Park from 2012-2013 showed 65,880 campers and 332,276 day use visits in a one year period. A camper is one person camping for one night. A day visit is one person visiting for some portion of a day without an overnight stay.

**Campers**

**Fall**- Campers through the fall months of September through November totaled 17,508 making up 26.6% of camping visits for the year.

**Winter**- There were no campers during the winter months of December through February making up 0% of the years campers

**Spring**- The months of March through May had 6,497 campers making up 9.8% of the camping visits of the year.

**Summer**- The busiest season at the park had 41,875 campers which makes up 63.6% of all camper visits for the year.

Camping records indicate that those staying at the park are primarily from the local area. The top ten cities for campground reservations (2012-2103) is indicated by the table on the following page.
### City & State Reservations Number of Nights

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### Day Users

**Fall** - Day visits during the fall season totaled 77,734 which makes up 23.4% of all day visits for the year.

**Winter** - During the winter months there were 19,377 day visits which totals 5.8% of all day visits for the year.

**Spring** - The spring months had 39,664 day visits making up 12% of the annual day visits.

**Summer** - The summer months had 195,501 visitors which is 58.8% of the annual day use visits.

Park statistics show that the summer months are most popular for both camping and day users. The fall is the second most popular season at Sleepy Hollow, likely connected to fall and Halloween themed programs and events as well as hunting and trail use.