



2015 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Acquisition Project Recommendations

Central Michigan

Bay County Williams Charter Township Williams Township Park Acquisition \$140,600

Acquisition of a 4-acre parcel to enhance the Township's existing 17-acre park. In the short term, the 4-acre parcel will be used for an access driveway and an accessible parking area. In the long term, the site will provide for the expansion of recreational facilities desired by the community such as open playfields and walking paths. Landscaping improvements will screen the site and mitigate any disturbance to neighboring properties while enhancing the natural appeal of the site. The parcel is strategically located to maximize access from Midland Road to the Park. The parcel will provide a nice increase in visibility and accessibility to Williams Township Park for all users.

Eaton County City of Grand Ledge Oak Park Expansion \$42,000

Acquisition of approximately 3.4 acres of property adjacent to Oak Park along the Grand River. The existing 5.58-acre Oak Park became a park in 1901 and contains some of the most spectacular outcrops of bedrock ledges in the area. The addition of 3.4 acres, which also includes rock outcrops, would significantly increase the parks size and would provide additional recreational opportunities for hiking, rock climbing and enjoyment of the natural features of the Grand River.

Ionia County City of Portland Two Rivers Park Addition \$82,500

Acquisition of 1.68 acres for the expansion of the existing Two Rivers Park, which is located at the confluence of the Looking Glass & Grand Rivers. The acquisition will allow for future development of amenities to the park and trail and create a buffer from the existing condo development.

Saginaw County Saginaw County GLBRT Land Acquisition \$104,400

Acquisition of 32.43 acres for continuation of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail (GLBRT) which is also the Iron Belle Trail in this location. The subject parcel also includes valued wetland resources which will be managed for wildlife habitat and public recreation.

Tuscola County Tuscola Township Tuscola Township Park Acquisition \$100,000

Acquisition of approximately 3 acres of land for addition to the existing 12-acre park. The project will add 325 feet of Cass River frontage to provide expanded waterfront recreation for the public at this township's only existing park. This park is also serves as a launch site and a rest site for users of the Cass River Water Trail.



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Northern Michigan

Antrim County Milton Township Waterfront Park Acquisition \$464,300

Acquisition of approximately 1.7 acres known as the Waters Edge Resort. The property features 182 feet of Elk Lake frontage for a new public beach. Successful acquisition would complete an assemblage of four contiguous parcels for the beach facility. The conceptual plan for the property includes parking, restrooms, beach area, play area and small boat launch all designed for Universal Access. Establishment of a new beach facility is a main goal of the Milton Township 2014-2018 Recreation Plan.

Emmet County DNR - Parks and Recreation Division Petoskey State Park Addition \$200,000

A proposed MDNR Parks and Recreation Division acquisition of 6.3 acres located immediately west of Petoskey State Park. The property features 1,400 feet of undeveloped Lake Michigan shoreline, direct access to Michigan's Iron Belle Trail, known locally as the Little Traverse Wheelway, and Tannery Creek access. Acquisition of this property would not only allow DNR Parks and Recreation stewardship staff to conduct habitat management, it would also provide a very attractive Great Lake public access point for users of the Iron Belle Trail.

Emmet County Littlefield Township Hay Lake Water Access Site Acquisition \$167,800

Acquisition of a 24-acre waterfront parcel accessing the Crooked River/Hay Lake waterway approximately 3 miles north of Alanson, MI. The project area consists of approximately 3 acres of upland and 21 acres of wooded wetland, bordered on the east by the Crooked River wetland complex. The site is a key boating access and trailhead location for the Inland Waterway Trail. Development concepts include full redevelopment of the former private marina as an approximately 30-slip public marina. The site will also redevelop a small boat launch to MDNR standards and a universal access kayak/canoe launch site with on-site car-trailer parking. Planned user amenities include UA restrooms/shower-room; accessible walks, picnic pavilion, park amenities, parking and wetland overlooks.

Grand Traverse County DNR - Wildlife Division Petobego SGA Land Acquisition \$2,475,000

Acquisition of a 43-acre parcel which would expand the existing 565-acre Petobego State Game Area (SGA). The primary management goal of the SGA is to provide essential habitats for migratory and resident wildlife, and recreational opportunities for hunting, trapping, fishing and wildlife viewing. The parcel is bordered by the SGA on the north and east, 1/4 mile of frontage on East Grand Traverse Bay to the west, and a county park (Maple Bay) to the south. The purchase would conserve the entirety of this particular Great Lakes Marsh ecological area. The parcel is forested with no development and provides high quality habitat for waterfowl, deer, turkey and small game.



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Northern Michigan *(continued)*

Iosco County	Oscoda Charter Township	Oscoda Beach Park Expansion	\$416,200
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Acquisition of just over 2 acres of land with nearly 300 feet of undeveloped Lake Huron shore frontage. The parcel, which lies immediately north of the existing Oscoda Beach Park property, offers the potential to significantly enhance recreational opportunities and provide a highly desirable Lake Huron waterfront property for public access. In addition to epitomizing what residents and visitors seek at public beaches along the Great Lakes shoreline, the unique and pristine environment offers the potential for the use of interpretive signage highlighting the variety of plant and wildlife species present.

Manistee County	Bear Lake Township	Bear Lake Frontage for Kayak/Canoe Launch	\$82,500
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Acquisition of approximately 1/3 of an acre with 114 feet of frontage on Bear Lake that will be developed into a universally accessible kayak and canoe launch facility for people of all ages, needs and abilities to enjoy Bear Lake. It will be a county-designated "Explore the Shores" site and include educational signage. As a destination for Northern Michigan visitors, this project will be a catalyst for economic development and tourism in an economically depressed area. The park will be visible from US 31. It will be an important initial implementation project for the recently amended Recreation Plan and updated master plan through the collaborative Lakes to Land Regional Initiative.

Southeast Michigan

Macomb County	City of New Baltimore	City of New Baltimore Marina Acquisition	\$2,850,000
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Acquisition of the approximately 12-acre Schmid Marina property to provide public waterfront recreational access and move the City of New Baltimore's community recreational programming to the site. The vision is to provide a public marina, boat and kayak launches to best utilize the substantial water interface at the site. The proposed project is an opportunity for the City of New Baltimore to keep the site in recreational use in perpetuity. The Schmid Marina Property, which has been privately held for over 50 years, offers a rare opportunity for the city to obtain a site to provide public recreation, conservation, and environmental stewardship at a location in populous SE Michigan.

Macomb County	DNR - Parks and Recreation Division	Lake St. Clair Boating Access Site Acquisition	\$1,000,000
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Acquisition by MDNR Parks and Recreation Division of 6.2 acres adjacent to the existing DNR Clinton River Cut-off Boating Access Site on Lake St. Clair in southeast Michigan. The site will secure additional public access to Lake St. Clair and enable expansion of the current - heavily used - boating access site to accommodate more visitors. The parcel will also link the existing boating access site with existing Harrison Township property, connecting to their non-motorized pathway system along the Clinton River Cut-off waterway.



2015 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Acquisition Project Recommendations

Southeast Michigan (continued)

St. Clair County St. Clair County Belle River Property Acquisition \$65,800
Acquisition of approximately 26 acres of undeveloped, densely wooded land located immediately west of Columbus County Park. The property provides access to approximately 2,500 feet of the Belle River and includes both floodplain and upland. The property will be used to compliment Columbus County Park by extending river access for paddling and fishing; mountain biking and hiking trails.

St. Clair County St. Clair County Pine River Property Acquisition \$97,500
Acquisition of a 38.79-acre parcel located immediately west of Goodells County Park between Lapeer Road and County Park Drive. The south end of the property is bisected by approximately 690 feet of the Pine River and includes forested floodplain habitat. Planned use for the parcel will be to complement Goodells County Park by adding running and walking trails, event parking and nature education/appreciation programs.

Washtenaw County Washtenaw County West Lake Preserve Expansion \$267,300
Acquisition of 59 acres of undeveloped property to complement and enhance the existing 217-acre West Lake Preserve. Acquiring land adjacent to existing preserves is an action item in Washtenaw's Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2015-2019. These 59 acres are a combination of cropland and former cropland which has been seriously degraded by invasive species. The county intends to remove the invasive species, which threaten the existing preserve and adjacent natural landscape, and restore the land to natural endemic habitat species and communities to enhance public enjoyment and wildlife use at the preserve.

Upper Peninsula

Chippewa County Superior Township Superior Township Riverview Park Acquisition \$96,200
Acquisition of a 0.91-acre riverfront parcel in a strategic location that is centrally located on the southeast corner of Highway M-221 and Six Mile Road in the Town of Brimley. The site is viewed as being an ideal public gathering space for those who enjoy outdoor recreation, as it lies within 1500 feet of Lake Superior and has 229 feet of frontage on the Waaska River.

Houghton County DNR - Parks and Recreation Division Douglass Houghton Waterfall Acquisition \$600,000
Acquisition by MDNR Parks and Recreation Division of approximately 80 acres located in Houghton County in order to preserve and provide public access to the Hammell Creek gorge and Douglass Houghton Falls, considered to be among the tallest waterfalls in Michigan. The property will also serve as a trailhead for the Hancock to Laurium Rail Trail. The DNR plans to partner with the Houghton Keweenaw County Recreation Authority and the Charter Township of Calumet to develop and maintain the property as a scenic site.



2015 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Acquisition Project Recommendations

Western Michigan

Allegan County DNR - Parks and Recreation Division Saugatuck Dunes SP Property Acquisition \$400,000

Acquisition by MDNR Parks and Recreation Division of 18.85 acres immediately north of and adjacent to Saugatuck Dunes State Park. The property is part of a critical dune complex stretching south through Saugatuck Dunes State Park. The acquisition consolidates land within the planned project boundary of the park and provides for the protection of critical dune habitat for wildlife species as well as opportunities for passive recreation.

Kent County Algoma Township River's Edge Park Acquisition \$138,000

Acquisition of approximately 1.7 acres of land with 208 feet of frontage on the Rogue River, immediately adjacent to 11 existing acres of township-owned land known as River's Edge Park. This acquisition will expand River's Edge Park, provide more public access to the Rogue River, increase valuable greenspace in a riparian corridor along a Designated Wild and Scenic River, and potentially increase trail length, parking, and educational activities.

Kent County Caledonia Charter Township Caledonia Lakeside Park - North Shore Land Addition \$945,000

Acquisition of approximately 25 acres adjacent to an existing Kent County Park and property Caledonia Township owns. The property will be used for greenspace, fishing access, wildlife habitat and trail connectivity for public benefit.

Kent County City of Grand Rapids Acquisition/Expansion of Monroe North \$7,584,100

Acquisition of 3.68 acres to support the Grand River Rapids Restoration project and expand and enlarge the linear riverfront park system. Tentatively called Monroe North Park, the six subject parcels are at the site where the restored rapids are envisioned. The site has grass, trees, and views of the river below the Sixth Street dam, a popular urban fishing spot. Initially, the site would be used for activities such as bike facilities, skateboarding, soccer, and parking to support recreation. Later, it would be developed in coordination with the rapids restoration and flood control and mitigation improvements. Conceptual plans call for a tiered, step-down design providing flood control and multi-use public recreation space with full access to the river rapids and float boat channel. The site would increase downtown park acreage by 12%, connect to existing riverfront parks, and link to the White Pine and Kent trails.



2015 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Acquisition Project Recommendations

Western Michigan (continued)

Kent County Kent County Millennium Park Land Addition \$276,000

Acquisition of approximately 27 acres for enhancement of Millennium Park. This area of the park is among the most natural untouched areas of the 1500-acre park. The fen habitat present on the parcel is of high quality. There is an existing natural surface trail that provides access into the site and to fishing decks and bank fishing opportunities. The current nature trail will be extended as appropriate into the proposed 27-acre purchase.

Kent County Plainfield Charter Grand Rogue Campground \$863,300
Township

Acquisition of the approximately 70-acre private Grand Rogue Campground. The property has a fully functioning campground with 82 campsites at the convergence of the Rogue and Grand Rivers. This property has a common border with Grand Isle Park, thereby representing potential for an extension of greenspace riverfront connectivity. If successfully completed, this acquisition will enable the proposed trail connection to the White Pine Trail and creation of an east/west township trail.

Muskegon County City of North Muskegon North Muskegon Property Acquisition \$167,500

Acquisition of a 35-acre parcel of land located on the north side of Holton Rd. (M-120), west of Russell Rd. Through this acquisition, the City of North Muskegon intends to use the land for the development of a sports park (baseball/softball and soccer). This park will also allow for additional field space for youth sports and the ability for visitors to enjoy the property's extensive wooded natural habitat features including 2,010 feet of frontage on both sides of Bear Creek.

Muskegon White River Township Barrier Dunes Sanctuary Addition \$300,000
County

Acquisition of approximately 2 acres to expand the Barrier Dunes Sanctuary and add 204' of undeveloped Lake Michigan shoreline to the existing 1,100' in public ownership. The Township has a unique opportunity to acquire this natural dune land that has been proposed for development. The Barrier Dunes Sanctuary is a featured stop on the developing Lake Michigan Water Trail and is popular with beach walkers and boaters who anchor near the shore. The purchase will provide perpetual public use and enjoyment of the rolling dunes and naturally scenic shoreline of this property at the Barrier Dunes Sanctuary.