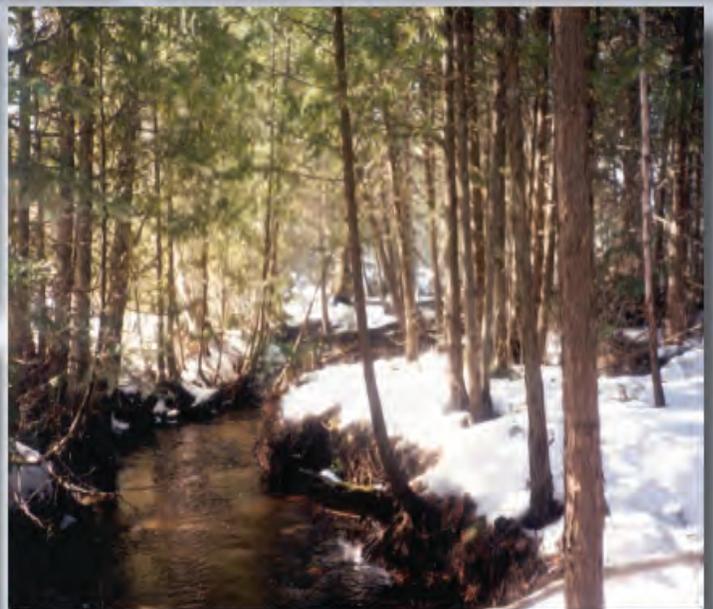
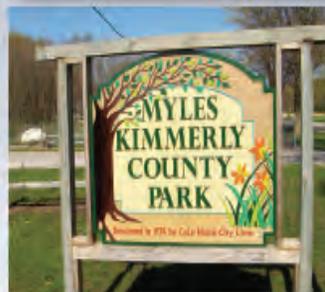


# Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Plan

Leelanau County, Michigan

2014 to 2019



# Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Plan 2014 to 2019



Prepared for:

**Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission  
Leelanau County, Michigan**

2008 Version Prepared by:

*Let Our Resources Work For You.*



**Northwest Michigan  
Council of Governments**

Workforce • Business • Community

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# **Acknowledgements**

## **Leelanau County**

### **Board of Commissioners**

- District #1 – Jean Watkoski
- District #2 – Debra L. Rushton
- District #3 – William Bunek
- District #4 – Tom VanPelt
- District #5 – Karen Zemaitis
- District #6 – Carolyn (Peachy) Rentenbach
- District #7 – Melinda Lautner

### **Parks and Recreation Commission**

- Steve Christensen, Chairman
- Jean Watkoski
- William Bunek
- Glen Noonan
- Greg Julian
- Robert Johnson
- Mary Barrows
- Sheila Campbell
- Kyle Trevas
- Clayton Ball

### **Administrative Staff**

- Chet Janik, County Administrator
- Georgia Robertson, Executive Assistant



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Historical Map 1873



## **Introduction**

The Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission engaged the Leelanau County Planning & Community Development Department to provide the technical assistance to update their *Parks and Recreation Master Plan* which addresses the County's recreation strategy for 2014 to 2019.

In an effort to build on the planning and implementation that has taken place and to ensure that quality recreational opportunities are provided for its citizens, both current and future, Leelanau County updated its previous *Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2008 - 2013*.

The Plan serves as a guide for the development of parks and recreation facilities and locations over the past five years and beyond. The following update to the Plan provides additional framework for utilizing the County's resources for recreational purposes in order to effectively meet identified and anticipated needs, and complement the County's overall planning and development efforts.

The planning process that was undertaken for this Plan Update utilized and incorporated input from County residents, commissioners, and staff. From this process, the Plan's goals, objectives, and actions have been updated. Another element of this process was an updated assessment of the County's and local governments' recreational resources.

The *Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Plan 2014 to 2019* concludes with an updated action program that suggests the direction and activities that can be adopted and implemented for future recreational development and programming. This plan has also been prepared to satisfy recreation planning requirements established under the Michigan Department of Natural Resources guidelines.

### **Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission's Mission Statement**

*The mission of the Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission is to provide cost-effective recreational opportunities for the residents of and visitors to Leelanau County.*

*Adopted February 20, 2002*



## Community Description

Leelanau County was established in 1863 and is one of 83 counties in the State of Michigan. The County is located in the northwestern portion of Michigan's lower peninsula – "the Little Finger". The County itself is a peninsula surrounded by Lake Michigan with the east side of the county bordering the west arm of Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan.

Leelanau County is well recognized throughout the State of Michigan and the United States as an area of significant natural beauty. The County's unique accessibility to Lake Michigan, the presence of a major national park and state park, relative isolation as a peninsula, and a sought-after rural, small town character have contributed to its desirability as both a place to visit as well as to live. **Figure 1.**

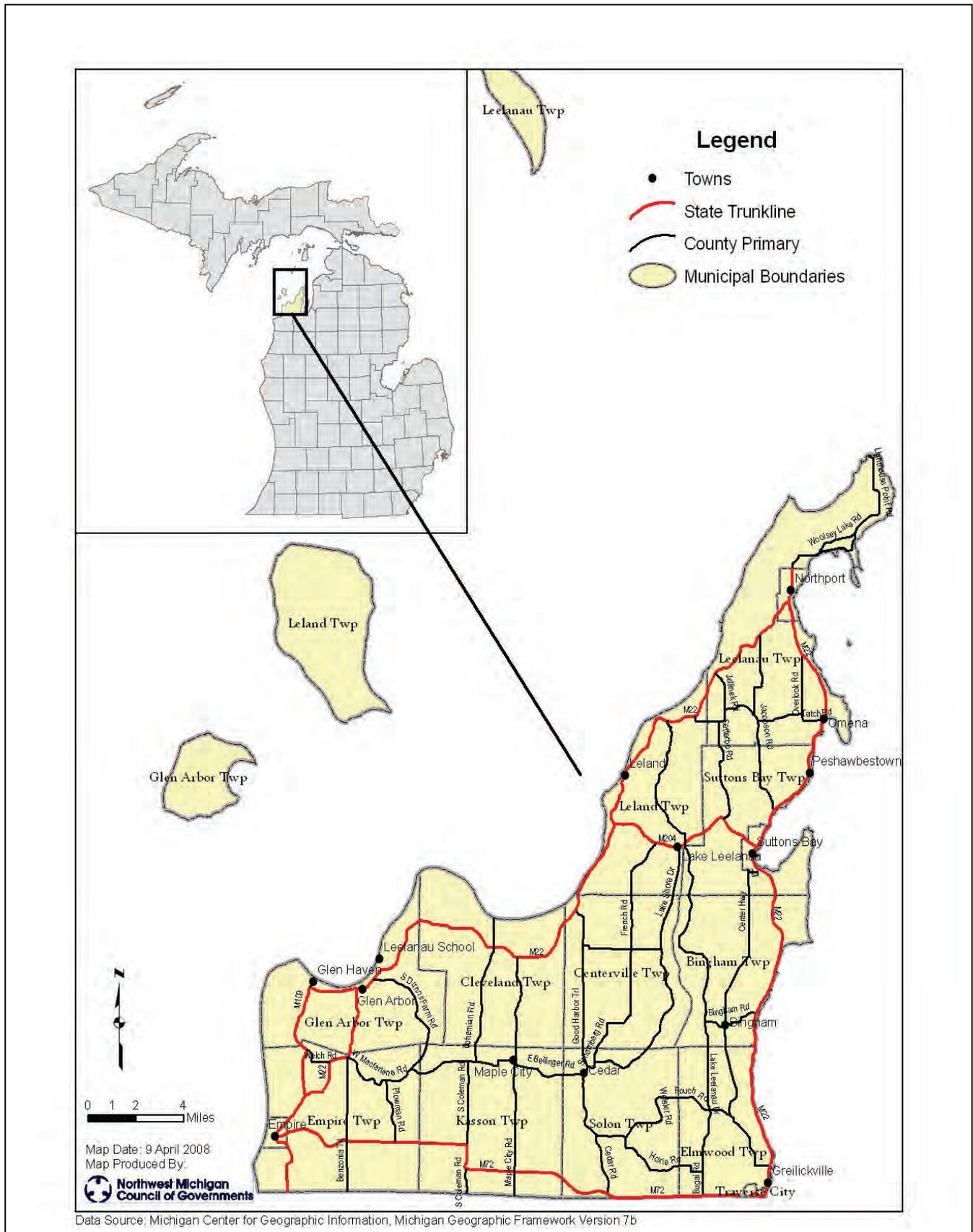
Leelanau County and the surrounding area was first occupied by Native Americans. The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians is a sovereign nation within the borders of the County, owning approximately 750 acres.

The County borders with Benzie County on the south side and Grand Traverse County/City of Traverse City on the south and east side. The local governments in the County include the eleven (11) townships of Bingham, Centerville, Cleveland, Elmwood, Empire, Glen Arbor, Kasson, Leelanau, Leland, Solon, and Suttons Bay; incorporated villages of Suttons Bay, Northport, and Empire; and a portion of the City of Traverse City.

The major population and settlement areas continue to be Greilickville, Suttons Bay, Peshawbestown, Omena, Northport, Leland, Empire, Glen Arbor, Burdickville, Maple City, and Cedar. A small portion of Traverse City is located in the southeastern corner of Leelanau County on Grand Traverse Bay. The City serves as the regional center for the area.

Leelanau County has 348.5 square miles in land area. The County is a mixture of orchards, farms, forests, moraines/drumlins, valleys, sand dunes, wetlands, rivers, lakes, bays, villages, residential pockets, and resorts. The settlement pattern of the non-tribal population was agriculture.

Figure 1.



## Leelanau County Population and Demographics

It is estimated that the population of Leelanau County in 2012 was 21,607 and ranked 63<sup>rd</sup> out of the 83 counties in Michigan (U.S. Census Bureau Population Division, July 1, 2012). In the last three decades of the 1900s, the population grew by 94.3% and ranked 11<sup>th</sup> of 83 counties (Indiana STATS, 2008). **Figure 2.**

The majority of the population growth in the County is attributable to domestic migration, rather than a natural increase (births minus deaths). The County has a population density of approximately 64 people per square mile. **Table 1.**

**Table 1. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change for Counties of Michigan: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012**

| Geographic Area                 | Total Population Change* | Natural Increase | Vital Events |             | Net Migration |                 |             |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
|                                 |                          |                  | Births       | Deaths      | Total         | International** | Internal    |
| <b>Northwest Lower Michigan</b> | <b>2026</b>              | <b>17</b>        | <b>6632</b>  | <b>6615</b> | <b>1916</b>   | <b>289</b>      | <b>1627</b> |
| Antrim County                   | -174                     | -95              | 474          | 569         | -95           | 13              | -108        |
| Benzie County                   | -60                      | -90              | 355          | 445         | 10            | 8               | 2           |
| Charlevoix County               | 74                       | -81              | 520          | 601         | 173           | 39              | 134         |
| Emmet County                    | 221                      | 3                | 689          | 686         | 203           | 37              | 166         |
| Grand Traverse County           | 2126                     | 412              | 2,120        | 1,708       | 1,726         | 60              | 1,666       |
| Kalkaska County                 | -54                      | 28               | 411          | 383         | -72           | 6               | -78         |
| Leelanau County                 | -101                     | -110             | 362          | 472         | -81           | 51              | -132        |
| Manistee County                 | -61                      | -226             | 434          | 660         | 174           | 24              | 150         |
| Missaukee County                | 182                      | 27               | 385          | 358         | 153           | 38              | 115         |
| Wexford County                  | -127                     | 149              | 882          | 733         | -275          | 13              | -288        |

\*Total population change includes residual. This residual represents the change in population that cannot be attributed to any specific demographic component. See State and County Terms and Definitions at <http://www.census.gov/popest/about/terms.html>.

\*\*Net international migration includes the international migration of both native and foreign-born populations. Specifically, it includes: (a) the net international migration of the foreign born, (b) the net migration between the United States and Puerto Rico, (c) the net migration of natives to and from the United States, and (d) the net movement of the Armed Forces population between the United States and overseas.

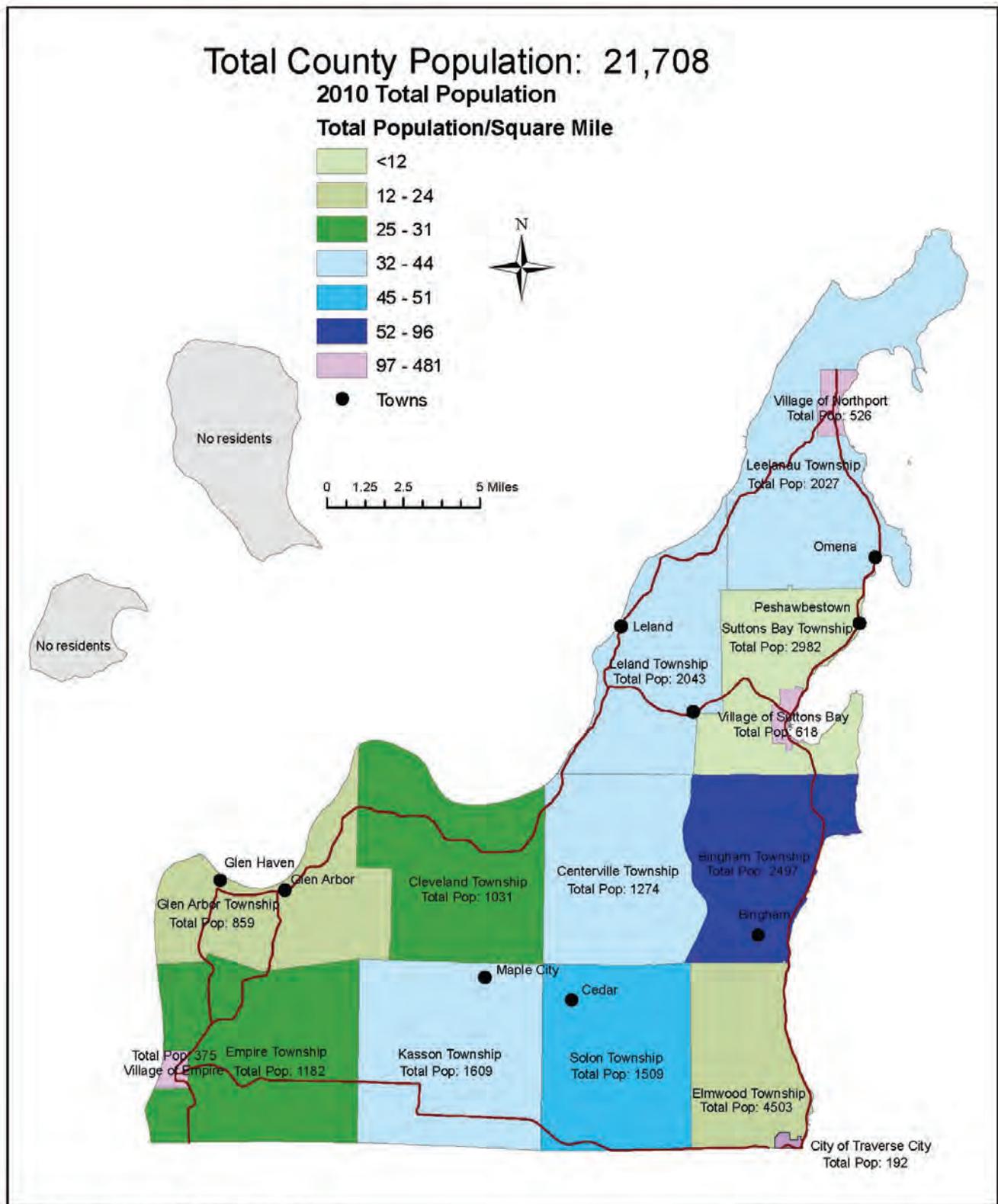
Note: The estimates are based on the 2010 Census and reflect changes to the April 1, 2010 population due to the Count Question Resolution program and geographic program revisions.

**Estimates of the Components of Resident Population Change: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012**

**Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division**

**Release Dates: For the United States, regions, divisions, states, and Puerto Rico Commonwealth, December 2012. For counties, March 2013.**

Figure 2.



MAP FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY.  
 Prepared by Leelanau County  
 Planning & Community Development  
 August 2013

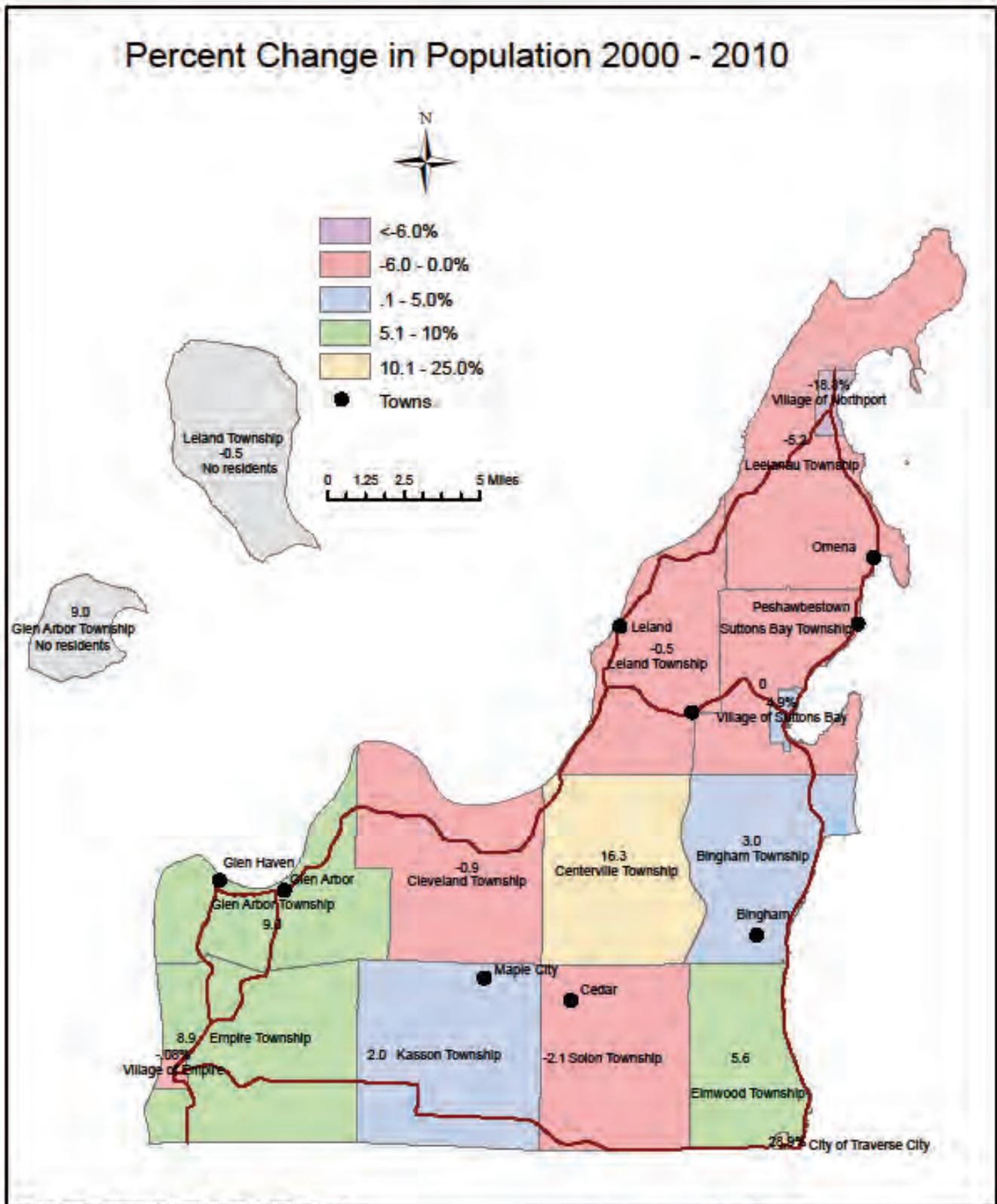
Data Source:  
 Michigan Center for Geographic Information,  
 Michigan Geographic Framework June 1, 2012 - Version 12B

With a possible exception to Elmwood and Suttons Bay Townships, there does not appear to be a significant location trend in Leelanau County’s population growth pattern. Leelanau County’s fairly disbursed population, multiple settlements, topography, and bodies of water influencing travel time present challenges for the placement of County recreation opportunities. **Table 2 and Figure 3.**

**Table 2.**

| Population by Age in 2012  | Number | Rank in State | Percent Dist. In County | Percent Dist. In State |
|--|--------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Preschool (0 to 4)   | 803    | 67            | 3.7%                    | 5.8%                   |
| School Age (5 to 17)   | 2,968  | 63            | 13.7%                   | 17.1%                  |
| College Age (18 to 24)   | 1,376  | 64            | 6.4%                    | 10.1%                  |
| Young Adult (25 to 44)   | 3,521  | 66            | 16.3%                   | 24.3%                  |
| Older Adult(45 to 64)  | 7,214  | 62            | 33.4%                   | 28.1%                  |
| Older (65 plus)  | 5,725  | 53            | 26.5%                   | 14.6%                  |
| Median Age   | 52.3   | 8             |                         | Median Age = 38.9      |
| STATS Indiana Sources: US Census Bureau;<br>Median age calculated by the IBRC. |        |               |                         |                        |

Figure 3.



MAP FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY.

Prepared by Leelanau County  
 Planning & Community Development  
 September 2013

Data Source:

Michigan Center for Geographic Information,  
 Michigan Geographic Framework June 1, 2012 - Version 12B

A recreation plan can include targeted recreation goals or activities that address particular age cohorts of the present and potential population. In 2012, the median age of Leelanau County residents was 52.3 compared to Michigan’s median age of 38.9, ranking it the 8<sup>th</sup> oldest in median age of the 83 Counties in Michigan. The latter also contributes to an average household size that is 2.31 persons compared to a State average household size of 2.49 persons. These statistics reflect that Leelanau County continues to attract older adults while the existing population continues to age as well. **Table 3.**

**Table 3.**

| <b>Leelanau County, Michigan</b>     |                        |                             |               |                 |                         |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Population by Age Group</b>       | <b>2010 Population</b> | <b>2020 Population Est.</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>% Change</b> | <b>2010 % of Cohort</b> |
| Age 0 to 4 years                     | 1,074                  | 1,420                       | 346           | 33%             | 4.82%                   |
| Age 5 to 15 years                    | 2,329                  | 2,726                       | 397           | 17%             | 10.46%                  |
| Age 16 to 17 years                   | 606                    | 400                         | -206          | -34%            | 2.72%                   |
| Age 18 to 24 years                   | 1,883                  | 1,094                       | -789          | -42%            | 8.46%                   |
| Age 25 to 34 years                   | 2,526                  | 3,449                       | 923           | 37%             | 11.35%                  |
| Age 35 to 44 years                   | 2,218                  | 2,958                       | 740           | 34%             | 9.96%                   |
| Age 45 to 54 years                   | 3,488                  | 2,366                       | -1122         | -33%            | 15.67%                  |
| Age 55 to 64 years                   | 3,510                  | 3,456                       | -54           | 2%              | 15.77%                  |
| Age 65 to 74 years                   | 2,383                  | 3,470                       | 1087          | 46%             | 10.70%                  |
| Age 75 to 84 years                   | 1,599                  | 1,926                       | 327           | 21%             | 7.18%                   |
| Age 85 and older                     | 647                    | 900                         | 253           | 40%             | 2.91%                   |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>22,263</b>          | <b>24,165</b>               | <b>1902</b>   | <b>9%</b>       | <b>100.00%</b>          |
| Source: Forecasts/<br>www.nwmcog.org |                        |                             |               |                 |                         |

**Climate**

Leelanau County’s climate is greatly influenced by being a peninsula surrounded by Lake Michigan. This results in a moderation effect on the county’s temperature, keeping it slightly cooler in the summer and mildly warmer in the winter. The length of the growing season is approximately one hundred and fifty days with an average daily temperature of 55 degrees (Fahrenheit) and the average daily low temperature over the course of a year, is 37 degrees (Fahrenheit). The average annual precipitation for the County is about 29 inches. Snow may be present a total of six months out of the year.

**Land Use Patterns**

The *Leelanau General Plan’s* chapter on “Preservation of Peninsula Character” states that

*“The existing natural and people-made features on the peninsula that make up its rural character are interdependent with the activities that comprise its economic base. It is important therefore, that future land use change on the peninsula enhance, not undermine the character of the area around it, and in so doing, contribute to the protection of the unique rural character of the entire Leelanau Peninsula.”*

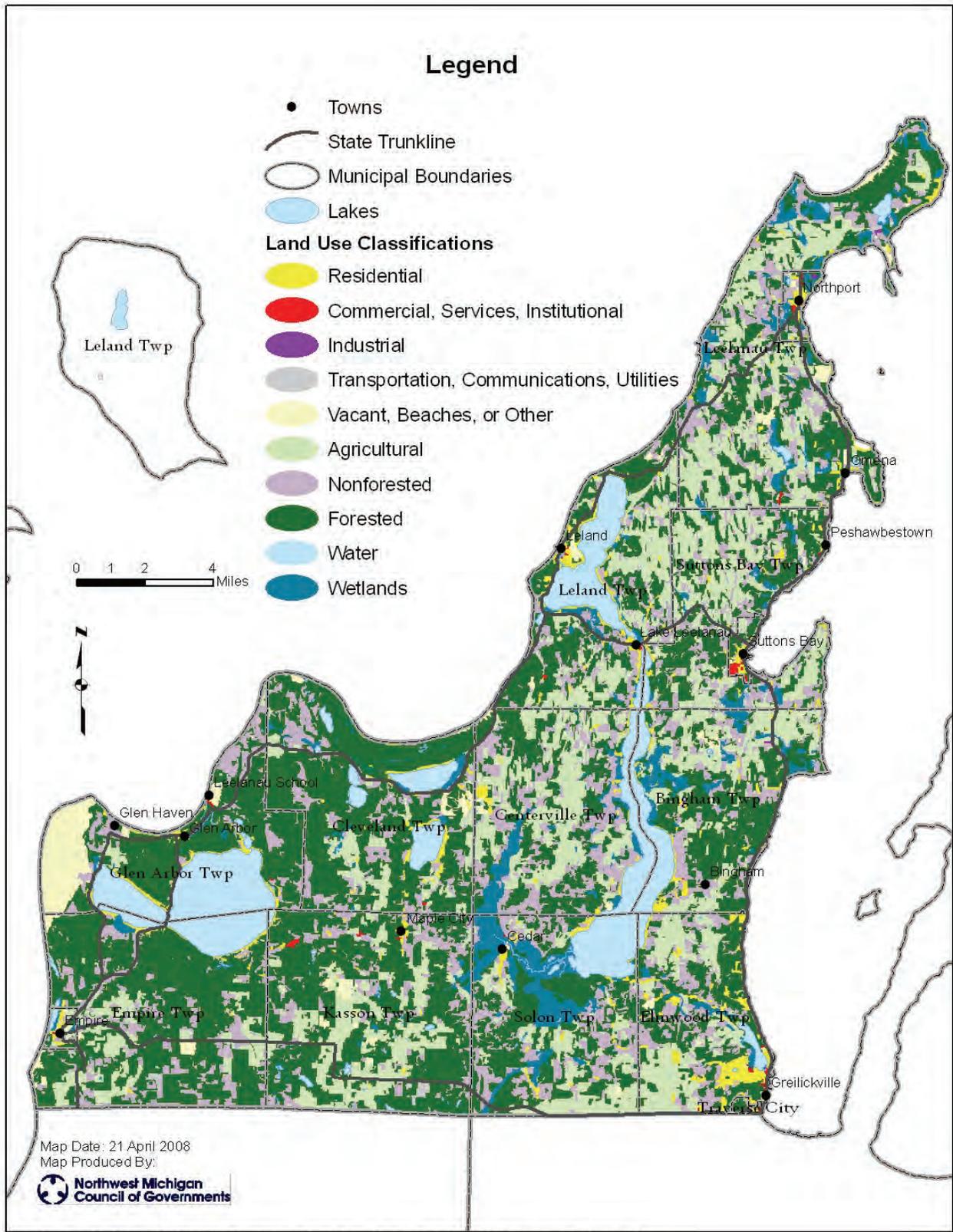
In numerical terms, Leelanau County is nearly 21% agricultural land, 48% wooded land, 15% open land, 6% inland lakes/wetlands, 2% sand dune/barren land, and 8% urban land. (Land use/cover relationship in 2000). **Figure 4.**

The current development pattern is characterized by the fragmentation of large agricultural or forested parcels into lots between 1 and 20 acres in size primarily for use as sites for single family homes. The *Leelanau General Plan* continues to promote and work towards a future of strong intergovernmental cooperation through education in an effort to balance growth in a manner that protects the natural features and preserves and enhances Leelanau County's character while accommodating future growth and economic expansion.

### **Zoning**

In Leelanau County, each of the eleven townships and three villages maintain and administer their own zoning authority. Each of these communities has an established zoning ordinance from which the zoning administrator and planning commission make their implementation and enforcement decisions. Each of the communities provides certain areas in which public and private park and recreational facilities may be located. The Leelanau County Planning Commission serves as an advisory and oversight body to review and make recommendations relative to zoning and land use issues within each of the townships and villages. The recommendations are non-binding and serve to guide the discussions and decision making processes of the local governments. Each new and any expansion of recreational facilities should be coordinated with the community to insure appropriate location for the proposed activity and consistency with the township or village master plan and zoning ordinance.

Figure 4.



### **Transportation Systems**

The primary mode of transportation for residents within the County is by automobile by a connection of state and county highways. The **Michigan State Highways** include M-22 that parallels the shoreline on both the east and west sides of the county; M-72 which connects Traverse City on the east to Empire on the west; M-204 which connects Leland to Suttons Bay over the Lake Leelanau Narrows; M-109 which extends just north of Empire through Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore to Glen Arbor; and M-201 in the Village of Northport. These facilities are maintained by the Michigan Department of Transportation through a contract with the Leelanau County Road Commission. In addition, there are many **County roads** throughout the area that are maintained by the Road Commission. There is also a *ferry service* that operates from spring to fall out of Leland to North and South Manitou Islands.

The **Bay Area Transportation Authority (BATA)** based in Traverse City offers regional transportation opportunities by *bus* through individual reservations and two Village Loops. There is the Suttons Bay Loop and the Glen Arbor Loop which are fixed route services for the rural villages in Leelanau County. This service operates seven days a week to provide rural communities convenient, predictable and affordable transportation.

There are two off-road, non-motorized transportation facilities in Leelanau County which are the **Leelanau Trail** that is part of the Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation Trails, Inc. (TART Trails) and the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail. The Leelanau Trail stretches over fifteen miles through the last of the Leelanau County railway corridors, connecting Traverse City to Suttons Bay. The Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail will ultimately run 27 miles when completed and will run through the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and the villages along M22 and M109 on the west side of the County.

Because of the scenic attributes, inherent beauty, and the rural characteristics displayed along the Michigan State Highways of M-22, M-109, and M-204, these routes have been designated the **Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route**. The Route is a major artery of commerce for Leelanau County, a scenic corridor for viewing some of the most memorable vistas, and a gateway to the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Each highway of the Route provides the traveler, whether local resident or visitor, the opportunity to experience the many unique villages that are woven into the landscape of Leelanau County.

The mission statement of the Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route Committee:

***“To promote measures which protect and enhance the scenic, historical, and recreational characteristics of Michigan State Highways 22, 109, and 204 as they traverse the rural countryside and unique villages of Leelanau County.”***

In June of 2012 the first 5 mile segment of the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail was opened for use. This segment runs through the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore from the Dune Climb off M109 through the Historic Village of Glen Haven and the adjacent D. H. Day campground to Day Forest Road in Glen Arbor.

Figure 5. Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route



The Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail Work Group is in the planning and design phase for the next two segments of the trail. These segments from the Village of Empire to the Dune Climb and from Glen Arbor to Port Oneida are scheduled for construction in 2014.

The Trailway which is being designed as a multi-use, non-motorized Trailway is separated from the M22 and M109 roadways where possible and will provide a safe, alternative transportation opportunity for park visitors. It connects the National Lakeshore to the adjacent communities of Empire and Glen Arbor, which will be working with the Work Group to consider the Trailway route through their communities. **Figure 6.**

The Northwest Michigan Council of Governments developed the **Northwest Michigan Regional Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy 2008** for the 13 counties of Emmet, Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Osceola, Lake, and Mason in northwest, lower Michigan. The Michigan Department of Transportation commissioned the plan and will use it to prioritize funding projects in the future. The guiding vision of this project is to connect existing trails, offering residents and visitors more opportunities for non-motorized transportation, and to enjoy more of the region's natural resources.

The project gathered information on existing and future trails from the county, townships, and village parks and recreation commissions, planning commissions and staff, and board members. Sub-regional meetings took place with trail organizations, groups, and stakeholders to review the proposed trail maps for their input. Then the compiled maps were presented to the public at sub-regional trail gatherings for input and where the proposed trails were prioritized.

## **Leelanau County Priority Non-Motorized Transportation Proposed Routes**

### **Figure 7. Routes in Yellow**

- 1.** Work on and complete the proposed Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail project along M-22 and M-109 through the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
- 2.** Create a connector trail from Traverse City to the Village of Empire (TART Trails)
- 3.** Create a trail along M-204 and M-22 from Suttons Bay (TART Trails) to Leland
- 4.** Continue the Leelanau Trail (TART Trails) from Suttons Bay to Lighthouse through Northport. The extension of the trail from 4<sup>th</sup> Street to Dumas Road in Suttons Bay is included as a part of the Front Street road project in 2013.

Commercial and passenger **air service** is provided by Cherry Capital Airport located in the southern portion of the City of Traverse City. Five smaller, local airports are located in Leelanau County for residents and visitors who own their own aircraft.

Figure 6.

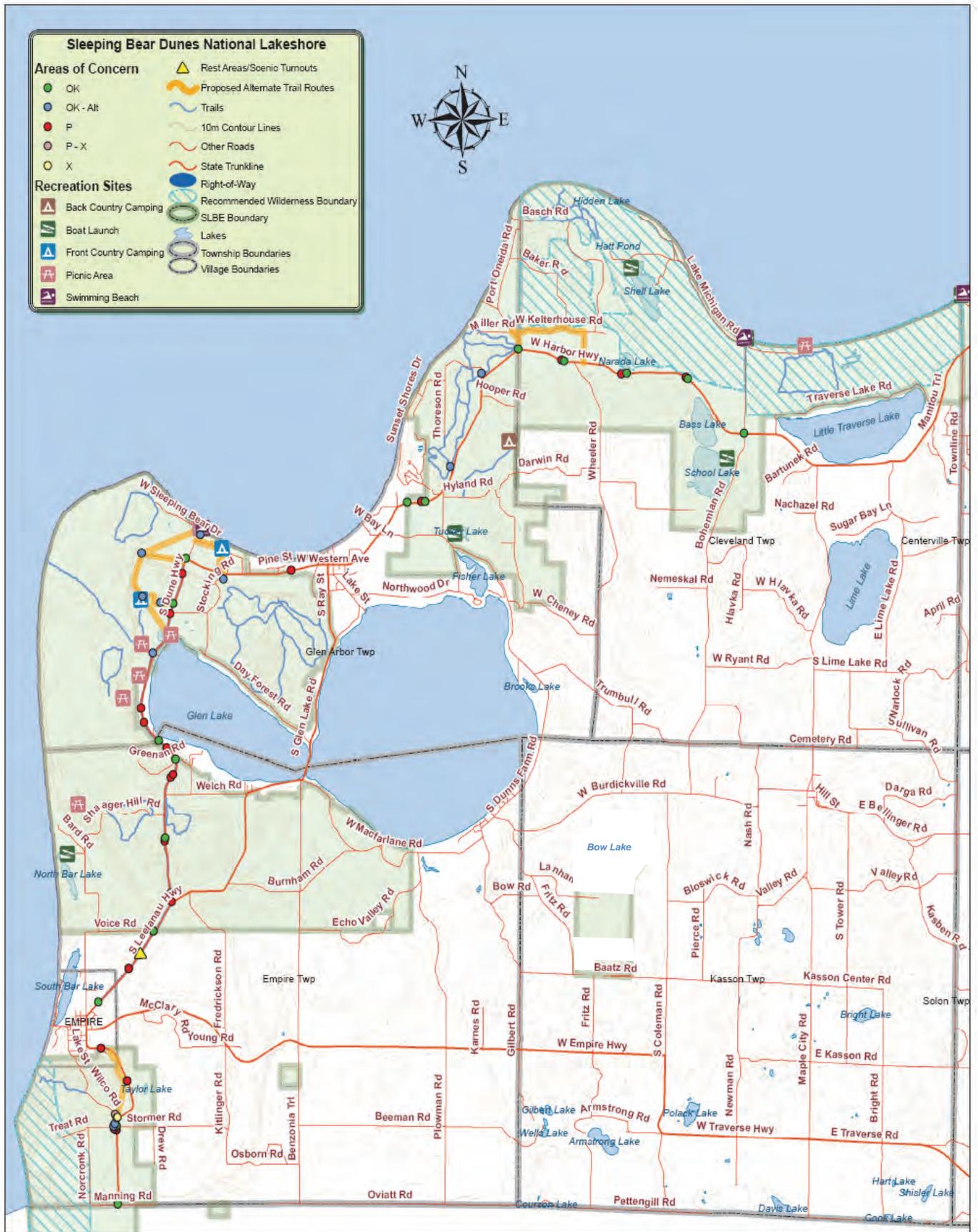
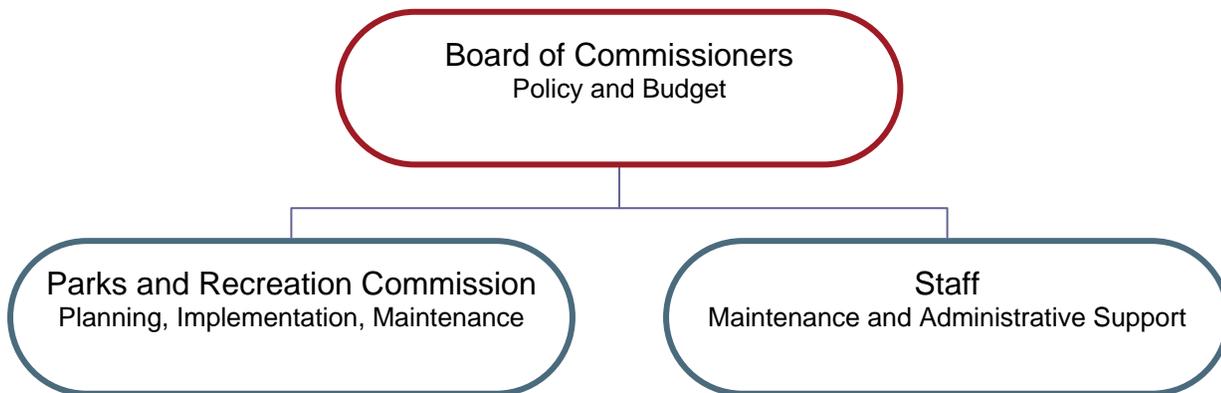


Figure 7.





## Administrative Structure



A seven member elected Board of County Commissioners governs Leelanau County. The Board is provided with professional guidance on policy issues by an appointed County Administrator who also serves as the Chief Administrative Officer and is responsible for the daily operations of the County departments and staff. Other elected positions with a variety of responsibilities also serve the County.

### ***Parks and Recreation Commission***

The Leelanau Parks and Recreation Commission was established in the early part of 2001 to provide recommendations and guidance regarding policy issues associated with the parks and recreation facilities and programs in Leelanau County. The Commission consists of ten volunteer members appointed by the County Board of Commissioners, all with terms of three years. There are member representatives from the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners, the Road Commission, Drain Commissioner, Planning Commission, and appointed citizens. This inter-relationship of membership provides a direct linkage between the public bodies as well as providing a wealth of information from which to draw on. They meet the third Wednesday of every month and are guided in their actions by an adopted set of bylaws. The County Maintenance Department provides staff for park development and maintenance.

### ***Current year and projected annual budgets for parks operation and maintenance***

In Fiscal Year 2014, Leelanau County had an annual operating budget for operation and maintenance of the County recreational facilities of approximately \$105,000 under the Parks and Recreation budget. This amount was allocated for several categories including salaries and benefits, repair and maintenance, contractual services, and capital outlay. The Parks and Recreation budget has steadily increased over the years.

Throughout the year, the parks have received donations from volunteers in time and money to assist with specific park projects or for maintenance and repairs. An example of effective volunteer support outside of the Parks and Recreation Commission is the Glen Arbor Woman's Club, who maintains and schedules the use of the Old Settlers Park Chapel.

The Parks and Recreation Commission works with the school districts and 4-H groups for use of the Myles Kimmerly and 4-H Park for soccer leagues, baseball leagues, and agricultural activities. Myles Kimmerly and the 4-H Park are close to the Glen Lake Schools. The Commission also worked with the Leelanau Conservancy on the acquisition of the Veronica Valley Park due to its location in the Lake Leelanau Watershed, and the stream and wetlands that are within the property.



## Recreation Inventory

With its hundreds of miles of shoreline, thousands of acres of forest, world-class dunes, and many inland lakes and rivers, Leelanau County has a wealth of recreational opportunities to offer residents and visitors. The County is home to a large portion of the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, as well as the Pere Marquette State Forest and Leelanau State Park. There are three county-maintained parks. All townships and villages maintain some park property as well, and in addition, private and non-profit entities, such as the Leelanau Conservancy and Saving Birds Thru Habitat, offer outdoor recreational and educational opportunities to the public.

**Figure 8** shows the location of public recreation areas within the County.

**Figure 9** shows zoomed in maps of the concentrated areas of park facilities.

**Figure 8. Public Recreation Facilities Map**

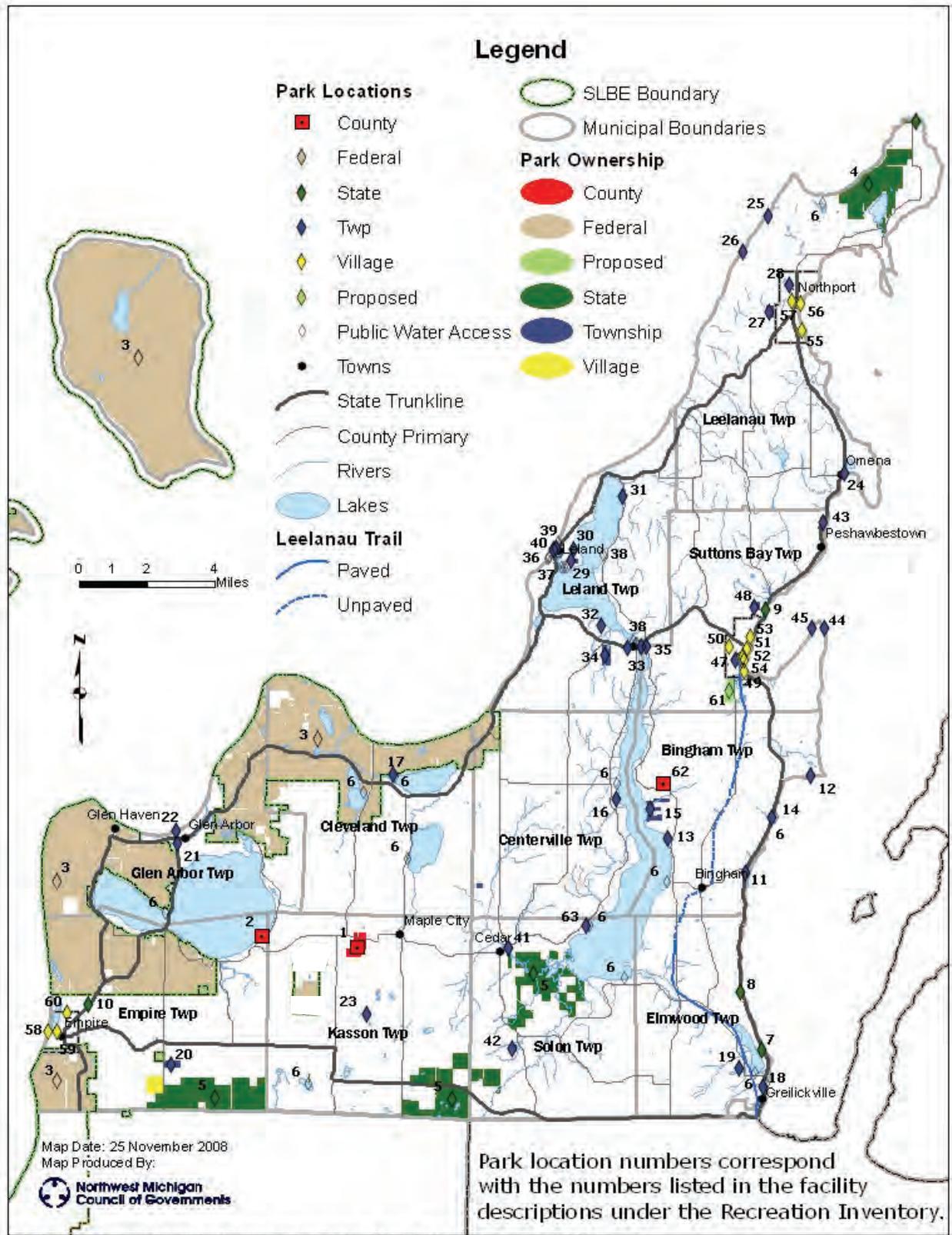
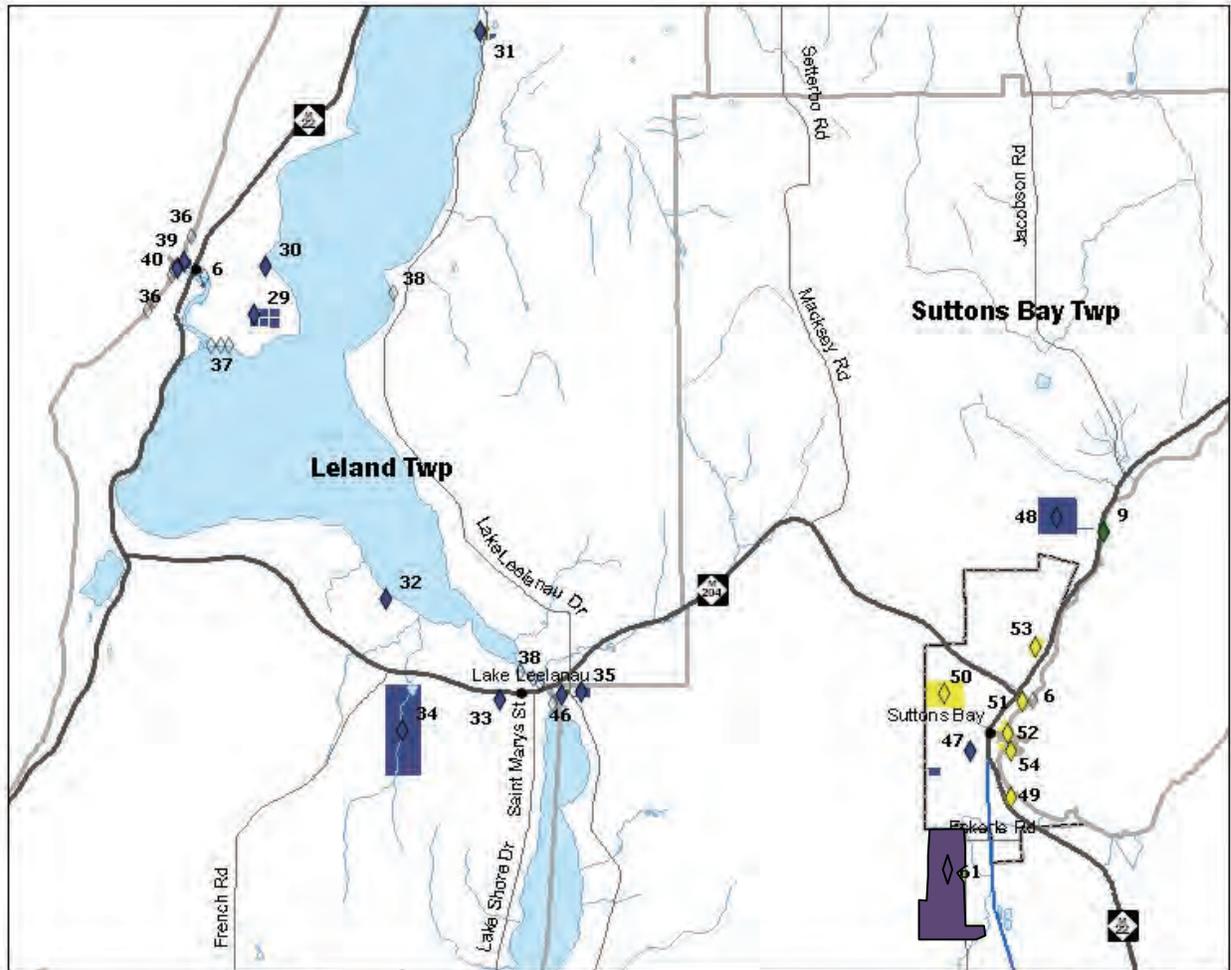


Figure 9.



**Legend**

**Park Locations**

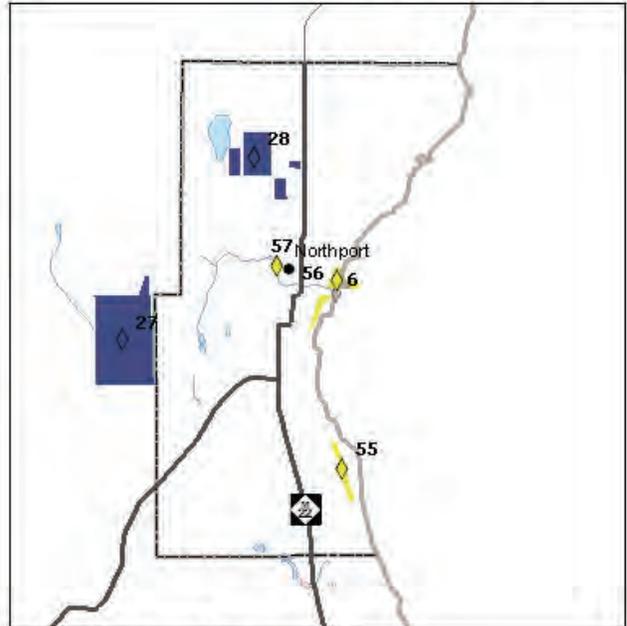
- County
- ◆ Federal
- ◆ State
- ◆ Twp
- ◆ Village
- ◆ Proposed
- ◇ Public Water Access
- Towns
- State Trunkline
- County Primary
- Rivers
- Lakes

**Leelanau Trail**

- Paved
- Unpaved
- Municipal Boundaries

**Park Ownership**

- County
- Federal
- Proposed
- State
- Township
- Village



Map Date: 2 July 2008  
 Map Produced By:



Data Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, Michigan Geographic Framework Version 7b

Following are the descriptions and amenities available at the County and local parks. The accompanying numbers next to the park name are the location on the previous Public Recreation Facilities Maps, **Figure 8 and Figure 9**.

The Accessibility Assessments for the Leelanau County Parks were based upon criteria provided in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenways Plans – An assessment of the accessibility of each park to people with disabilities. This assessment must consider the accessibility of both the facilities themselves, as well as the access routes to them. Please see **Appendix A**.

Ranking system:

1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines

5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design

**Park Type:** Community Park



**Park Name:** Myles Kimmerly Park – 1

**Property Tax ID#** 007-004-013-00, 007-009-004-00

**Size:** 143 acres

**Service Area:** Entire County

**Park and Recreation Area Description:**

The Myles Kimmerly Recreation Area which includes the 4-H Park is located on both sides of County Road 616 in Kasson Township. This park's amenities provide the opportunity for team sports such as soccer matches and baseball leagues; individual sports such as tennis and disc golf; group gatherings; and nature experiences. Development of this park was made possible by the Cedar Lions Club in 1974.

Accessibility Assessment = 3

Facilities include:

- a. The Patrick Hobbins Hiking Trail, dedicated in 2003 – ¾ mile in length
- b. Soccer Fields – spring, summer, and fall
- c. Disc Golf Course – 18 holes
- d. Maintenance Building
- e. Picnic Shelters with Picnic Tables (4)
- f. Playground
  1. Large Swing – adult
  2. Baby Swings
  3. Merry-go-Round
  4. Monkey Bars
  5. Play Activity Center/Play Set
  6. Balance Beam
- g. Basketball Court (1)
- h. Tennis Courts (2)
- i. Driving Range
- j. Ball Diamonds (3) with Bleachers; two have dug outs (leagues)
- k. Volleyball Court
- l. Sand Box
- m. Pit Toilets
- n. Water Hydrants (5)
- o. Flagpole
- p. Bike Rack
- q. Grills
- r. Old Shuffleboard Court

s. Forested Area  
**4-H Livestock Arena**



This park area is across County Road 616 from the Myles Kimmerly recreation area. Amenities provide the opportunity for group/organizational activities such as horse shows, children's agricultural events, and other group/organizational events.

Facilities include:

- a. Large Shelter Area/Pavilion with Access Parking and Pad
- b. Show Booth
- c. Barn
- d. Small Barn/Outbuilding
- e. Horse Arenas with Bleachers (2)
- f. Picnic Tables
- g. Benches (3)
- h. Water Hydrants (5)

**Please see following maps and photographs.**







**The Patrick Hobbs Hiking Trail**



**Storage Building**



**Soccer Fields**



**Picnic Shelters with Picnic Tables**



**Disc Golf Course Map**



**Playground and Basketball Court**



**Tennis Courts**



**Driving Range**



**Ballfields**



**Volleyball Court**



**Shelter with Picnic Tables  
Access Parking and Pad**



**Shelter/Pavilion with Show Booth  
Arena**



**Barn and Small Barn/Outbuilding**



**Arena 1**



**Arena 2 with Bleachers**

**Park Type:** Community Park



**Park Name:** Old Settlers' Park – 2  
**Property Tax ID#** 005-001-001-00

**Size:** 6.5 acres

**Service Area:** Entire County

***Park and Recreation Area Description:***

Old Settlers' Park is located on the southeastern shore of Glen Lake, on South Dunns Farm Road (County Road 675) in Empire Township. Early settlers' established it as a picnic ground in 1892 with access to Glen Lake. The chapel located on the grounds of the park is available for use and is coordinated and maintained by the Glen Lake Woman's Club on a first come, first serve basis.

History: Residents of the logging community of Burdickville held a picnic on August 2, 1893 to honor two elderly pioneers, Kasson Freeman and John Fisher. High attendance at this first picnic inspired the organizers to hold one annually. In 1905, they formed the Old Settlers Picnic Association and began raising funds to purchase a permanent picnic ground. The present Old Settlers Park reflects two purchases. In 1912, with funds from the Association, Leelanau County bought a five-acre parcel adjacent to the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was built in 1896. In 1917, the Association funded the county's purchase of the church, with the Methodists stipulating that the church "shall not be used for dancing." Each August, people came from miles around to attend the Old Settlers Picnic.

Accessibility Assessment = 3

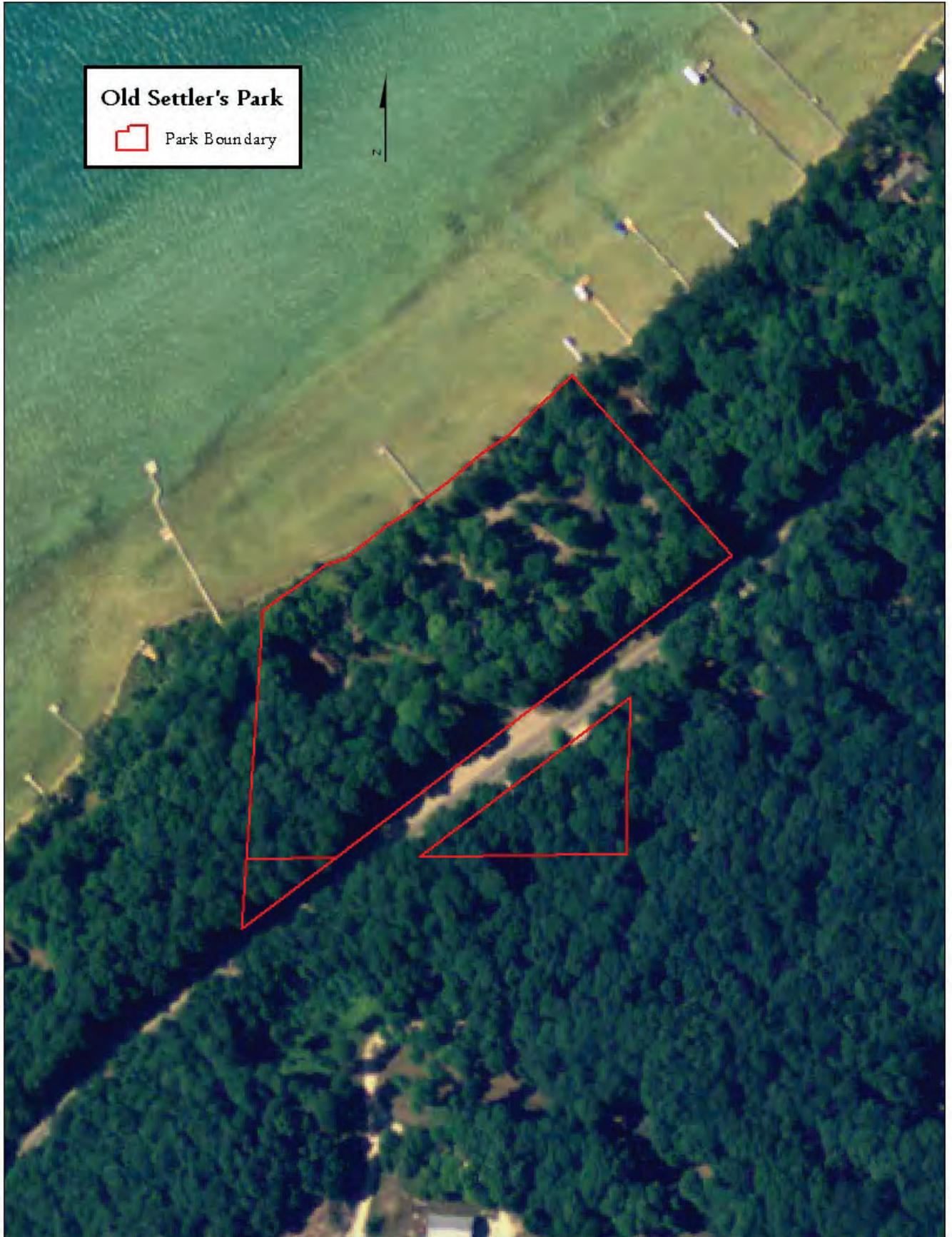
Facilities include:

- a. Chapel/meeting room
- b. Fireplaces/Barbecue Stoves (2)
- c. Gazebo with seating
- d. Playground
- e. Boat Launch (Non-motorized)
- f. "Grub Shack"
- g. Picnic Areas with Tables
- h. Grills
- i. Benches

Sample activities include:

1. Weddings
2. July 4<sup>th</sup> Flag Raising
3. Old Settlers Annual Picnic
4. Swimming

**Please see following map and photographs.**





**Chapel**



**Playground**



**Fireplace**



**Boat Launch**



**Gazebo**



**“Grub Shack”**

**Park Type:** Community Park



**Park Name:** Veronica Valley Park - 62  
**Property Tax ID#** 01-112-010-60

**Size:** 92.3 acres

**Service Area:** Entire County

***Park and Recreation Area Description:***

The acquisition of the Veronica Valley Park was completed in December 2008 from a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant award with the help from Rotary Charities and Leelanau County. This parcel is located in Bingham Township at the junction of Maple Valley Road and County Road 641, approximately four (4) miles southwest of Suttons Bay and four (4) miles south of the Village of Lake Leelanau in the east central area of the County. The Park is approximately one-half mile from Lake Leelanau and 12 miles from the City of Traverse City.

The Veronica Valley Park property was formerly a family operated, nine hole golf course that has not been in use for about four years. The site is characterized by gently rolling hills, open space, wetlands, and forested wetlands that include dense stands of white cedar. The property has three bridges and six ponds. Mebert Creek, a designated trout stream, also winds approximately 2,268 feet through the site. The forested and agrarian views will make this site a peaceful retreat for the passive recreation user.

The concept plan for the proposed passive recreation activities blends well with this site that includes gently rolling hills, a scenic trout stream and high quality wetlands. The trail system will reach most of the areas of the park with a high percentage of the trails maintained by a single width of a county mower. Wood-chipped paths and elevated boardwalks are planned leading to viewing platforms in and adjacent to the wetland areas. In addition to the trails, a picnic area and playground area have been proposed with tables and benches. The two existing parking areas will remain, with one moved so the net increase in parking area will be kept to a minimum. The nature center/youth fishing center will be in and around a proposed pavilion building. This youth/adult educational center will have the following displays: fishing (both in the stream and ponds), stream ecology, pond ecology, wetland ecology, and birdwatching. This center is seen as being used by youth groups, county schools, individual visitors, and tourists and will be a four season park with cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and sledding in the winter.

With the completion of the purchase, a management plan has now been developed and implemented.

Accessibility Assessment = To be determined.

**Please see following map.**



Facilities include:

- a. Pole barn (24' by 32')
- b. Two water wells
- c. Septic system
- d. Electricity
- e. Drinking water fountain

Sample proposed activities:

- 1. Fishing
- 2. Hiking
- 3. Bird Watching
- 4. Cross Country Skiing
- 5. Snowshoeing
- 6. Continued hosting of the Kid's Fishing Day by the Lake Leelanau Lake Association

## Veronica Valley Park



### Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Information & Trail Map

#### Veronica Valley Park

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| — Red Trail-.1.3 mi (6887 ft)   | — Mebert Creek   |
| — Yellow Trail-.15 mi (833 ft)  | ● Information Kiosk  |
| — Orange Trail-.36 mi (1940 ft) | ● Overlook   |
| — Blue Trail-.14 mi (745 ft)    | — Frog Pond; Kids Fish/Duck .40 mi (2157 ft); E&W Long .43mi (2281 ft) |
| — Green Trail-.22mi (1180 ft)   |  |

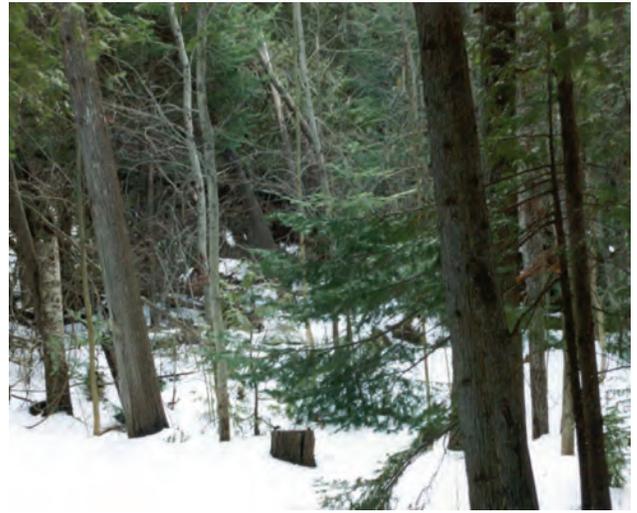


Map for Reference Purposes only.  
2012 Orthophotos  
Prepared by Leelanau County  
Planning & Community Development  
November 2013

0 75 150 300 Feet



**Bridge**



**Cedar Swamp**



**Great Blue Heron**



**Mebert Creek**



**Pond and Wetland**



**Pole Barn**



## Other Public Park Facilities located in Leelanau County

### Federal Facilities

| Facility  | Description and Activities  | Acres  | Location   |
|---|---|--------|--|
| <b>3 - Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore</b> | <p>35 Miles of shoreline on Lake Michigan; inland lakes; dune formations; beaches; forests; rural historic farm district.</p> <p>Camping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• D.H. Day Campground</li> <li>• Group Campground</li> <li>• Rustic/Backcountry</li> </ul> <p>Activities: Hiking, swimming, hunting, cross country skiing, driving tours, interpretive center with auditorium, interpretive programs, snowshoeing, birdwatching, wildflowers, scenic views</p> | 45,854 | <p>Southwest portion of Leelanau county</p> <p>South Manitou &amp; North Manitou Islands</p> |

### State Facilities

#### *Michigan Department of Natural Resources*

| Facility                               | Description and Activities   | Acres   | Location  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>4 - Leelanau State Park</b>         | <p>Grand Traverse Lighthouse and Museum; rustic campground with 42 campsites along Lake Michigan; two mini cabins (each with room to sleep four); a picnic pavilion with tables and outside grills; playground area; pit toilets; 8.5 miles of hiking trails, bird watching, cross country skiing, snowshoeing trails; designated areas of hunting; sand dunes; woodlands; an inland lake; an overlook of Lake Michigan and the Fox Islands; and a pristine section of the Cathead Bay/Lake Michigan shoreline</p> | 1,300   | <p>The Leelanau State Park the site of sand dunes and woodlands and is located at the extreme northern edge of the County, north of Northport near Woolsey Airport.</p> |
| <b>5 - Pere Marquette State Forest</b> | <p>The Pere Marquette State Forest encompasses lands in the upper lower peninsula on the western side of the state. Counties within the Pere Marquette, are: Leelanau, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Mason, Lake, Osceola, Oceana, Newaygo and Mecosta.</p>  | 5,000   | <p>Empire, Kasson, and Solon Townships</p>  |
| <b>6 - Boat/Fishing Access Sites</b>   | <p>1. South Lake Leelanau – east side</p> <p>2. Cedar Lake Boat Launch</p>   | <p>approximately ½ to 1 acre in size per site</p> | <p>1. West end of Bingham Road in Bingham Township</p> <p>2. Off of Cherry Bend Road in Elmwood Township</p>  |

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  | <p>3. Leland River: boat launch, parking, picnic tables</p> <p>4. South Lake Leelanau – south side: dock, ample parking space, boat launch DNR</p> <p>5. South Lake Leelanau - narrows, boat launch, parking</p> <p>6. Glen Lake</p> <p>7. Grand Traverse Bay – boat launch, parking</p> |  | <p>3. Leland in Leland Township</p> <p>4. Off of Fouch Road in Solon Township</p> <p>5. Off Co. Rd. 441 in Suttons Bay Township</p> <p>6. At Day Forest Road and M-22 in Glen Arbor Twp.</p> <p>7. At Hill Top Rd. in Bingham Township</p> |
|--|--|--|--|

### **Michigan Department of Transportation**

| <b>Facility</b>                          | <b>Description and Activities</b>                                      | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>   |
|--|--|--------------|---|
| <b>7 - Roadside Park</b>                 | Access to West Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan                        |              | West Grand Traverse Bay/ Lake Michigan off of M-22 in Elmwood Township    |
| <b>8 - Roadside Park</b>                 | Picnic table; access to West Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan          |              | West Grand Traverse Bay off of M-22 near Hilltop Road in Bingham Township |
| <b>9 - 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel Park</b> | Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan; water access, swimming, picnic table | 1.5          | M-22 north of the Village of Suttons Bay in Suttons Bay Township          |
| <b>10 – Scenic Overlook</b>              | Picnic tables  |              | North of Empire on the west side of M-22 in Empire Township               |
| <b>Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route</b>    | Driving tours; scenic views; agri-tourism; villages, historical sites  | 60 miles     | Countywide: M-22, M-109, M-204  |

### **Township Facilities**

| <b>Bingham Township</b>               | <b>Description and Activities</b>   | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>               |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>11 - Boughey Park</b>              | West Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan frontage; swings, picnic tables, grills, pavilion   |              | East end of Bingham Road      |
| <b>12 - Hendryx Park</b>              | Leased from the Leelanau County Road Commission for 99 years; West Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan frontage/sandy shore, parking, grill, picnic table, restrooms |              | Lee Point Road                |
| <b>13 - Bingham Township Park</b>     | South Lake Leelanau frontage; swimming, picnic tables, grills, changing house, restroom facilities, basketball court, trash receptacles                           |              | Park Road                     |
| <b>14 - Groesser Park</b>             | West Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan frontage; sandy shore, scenic view  |              | Off of M-22 near Hilltop Road |
| <b>15 - Mebert Creek Natural Area</b> | East shore of Lake Leelanau; wetlands that may be used for hiking and exploring   | 155          | End of Donner Road            |

| <b>Centerville Township</b>                      | <b>Description and Activities</b>   | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>  |
|--|---|--------------|--|
| <b>16 - Centerville Township and Boat Launch</b> | On Lake Leelanau; boat launch, dock, two pavilions with tables, porta-johns in the summer   |              | End of Hohnke Road (CR 620)                                |
|  |   |              |  |
| <b>Cleveland Township</b>                        | <b>Description and Activities</b>   | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>  |
| <b>17 - Cleveland Township Park</b>              | Little Traverse Lake access; picnic area  | 2            | Northwest side of Little Traverse Lake Road                |
|  |   |              |  |
| <b>Elmwood Township</b>                          | <b>Description and Activities</b>   | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>  |
| <b>18 - Greilickville Harbor Park</b>            | Marina with deep water launch capability, contracted and transient boat slips and buoys; beach area, covered picnic facilities with grills, playground equipment  | 9            | West Grand Traverse Bay/ Lake Michigan off of M-22         |
| <b>19 - Cherry Bend Community Park</b>           | Covered picnic facilities with grills, playground equipment, tennis courts, soccer, volleyball, baseball field  | 14.5         | Cherry Bend Road   |
|  |   |              |  |
| <b>Empire Township</b>                           | <b>Description and Activities</b>   | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>  |
| <b>20 - Empire Township Park</b>                 | Picnic shelter, public campgrounds  | 80           | County Road 677 south of M-72 and north of Beeman Road     |
|  |   |              |  |
| <b>Glen Arbor Township</b>                       | <b>Description and Activities</b>   | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>  |
| <b>21 - Glen Arbor Township Park</b>             | Basketball court, 4 tennis courts, picnic area, children's play area with a variety of playground equipment   |              | Southeast corner of State Street and M-22                  |
| <b>22 - Glen Arbor Boat Ramp</b>                 | Boat launch   |              | Lake Michigan at the end of Manitou Boulevard              |
| <b>New - Glen Arbor Garden</b>                   | Restrooms; garden; walking and sitting area   |              | Lake St. Off of M-22 in the business district              |
|  |   |              |  |
| <b>Kasson Township</b>                           | <b>Description and Activities</b>   | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>  |
| <b>23 - Kasson Township Park</b>                 | Playground, tot lot, picnic area  |              | At the Township Hall on Kasson Center Road and Newman Road |
|  |   |              |  |
| <b>Leelanau Township</b>                         | <b>Description and Activities</b>   | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>  |
| <b>24 - Omena Beach</b>                          | Omena Bay of West Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan with 100 feet of sand beach; unsupervised swimming, playground area, picnic tables, a vault toilet   |              | Omena off of M-22 on Omena Point Road                      |
| <b>25 - Christmas Cove Park</b>                  | Lake Michigan with 200 feet of sand beach; unsupervised swimming; picnic tables, a vault toilet   |              | Christmas Cove Road  |
| <b>26 - Peterson Park</b>                        | Lake Michigan with 1,000 feet of beach frontage; stairway to beach; scenic overlook; 25 picnic tables, 25 outdoor grills, play equipment, volleyball area, pavilion with 6 tables and two large grills, well water, vault toilets |              | Peterson Park Road end                                     |
|  |   |              |  |

|   |  |              |   |
|---|--|--------------|---|
| <b>27 - Braman Hill Recreation Area</b>                                 | Scenic overlook, picnic tables, outdoor grills, fire pit, drinking fountains, tot lot, basketball courts, 4 tennis courts, skateboard park with 8 ramps and obstacles with 100 feet of quarter pipe, unsupervised lighted ice rink, sledding hill, warming room, handicap accessible restrooms; Northport Sportsman's Club Shooting Range, telephone |              | West of Northport between Melkild and Johnson Roads |
| <b>28 - Buster Dame Recreation Field</b>                                | 3 ball diamonds, 4 aluminum bleachers, concession stand, handicap accessible restrooms   |              | Village of Northport                                |
| <b>Leland Township</b>  | <b>Description and Activities</b>  | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>                                     |
| <b>29 - Hancock Field</b>   | Softball and baseball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis courts, bleachers, skateboard ramps, grandstand, picnic pavilions, drinking water, parking, concession stands  |              | Union Street in Leland                              |
| <b>30 - Bartholomew Park and Nedow's Bay</b>                            | Lake Leelanau beach front, lifeguard, docks, grills, firepit, picnic table, boat launch  |              | Foot of Pearl Street in Leland                      |
| <b>31 - John G. Suelzer East Leland Memorial Park</b>                   | Boat launch, Lake Leelanau beach front, parking, dock, picnic area, playground, grills, firepit  |              | County Road 641, East Leland                        |
| <b>32 - Schneider's Beach</b>   | Lake Leelanau, sandy beach, dock, parking, picnic area, grills, firepit, boat launch   |              | End of Popp Road at Lake Leelanau                   |
| <b>33 - Grove Park</b>  | Tennis courts, picnic tables, shelter, playground, parking, water, basketball court  |              | Gertrude Street south of M-204 in Lake Leelanau     |
| <b>34 - Provemont Pond Recreation Area</b>                              | Undeveloped woodland, fishing pond   | 90           | Popp Road south of M-204 in Lake Leelanau           |
| <b>35 - Lake Leelanau Baseball Diamond</b>                              | Baseball field, dugout, parking, water   |              | County Road 641 south of M-204 in Lake Leelanau     |
| <b>36 - Lake Michigan Beach Access Sites</b>                            | Public beaches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cedar Street</li> <li>• Reynolds Street</li> <li>• Thompson Street</li> <li>• Avenue A</li> <li>• North Street</li> </ul>   |              | In Leland   |
| <b>37 - Lake Leelanau Access Sites (includes Leland River)</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chandler Street</li> <li>• Grand Avenue</li> <li>• Fourth Street: Dock</li> <li>• Court House Street: Picnic tables</li> <li>• River Street: MI DNR boat launch, dock, picnic tables</li> </ul>   |              | In Leland   |
| <b>38 - Lake Leelanau Access Sites (includes Lake Leelanau Narrows)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horn Road: Dock</li> <li>• St. Mary's Street: Parking, dock, boat launch</li> <li>• East Meinrad Street: Boat launch, dock, porta-toilet</li> <li>• St. Joseph Street</li> <li>• William Street</li> </ul>  |              | In or near Lake Leelanau                            |
| <b>39 - Leland Harbor</b>   | Harbor of refuge: accommodates approximately 70 small vessels (more  |              | At Lake Michigan in Leland                          |

|  |  |              |   |
|--|--|--------------|---|
|  | if "rafting up; allowing for short stays; provides fuel and sewage services, local retail stores; boat launch ramp, a picnic area, playground, toilet , shower facilities, boat trailer parking; charter fishing boats; commercial fishing boats; commercial excursion boats and the National Lakeshore ferry concession to the Manitou Islands; will be expanded and improved |              |   |
| <b>40 - Fishtown</b>                                     | Purchased by the community nonprofit, Fishtown Preservation Society to be preserved for the public; historic fishing village; small shops  |              | Leland River out to Lake Michigan                     |
| <b>Clay Cliffs</b>                                       | New 105 acre acquisition by Leland Township. Will include hiking trails and observation lookout over Lake Michigan by fall of 2014. Managed by the Leelanau Conservancy  | 105          |   |
| <b>Solon Township</b>                                    | <b>Description and Activities</b>  | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>                                       |
| <b>41 - Solon Township River Park</b>                    | Canoeing, kayaking, boating; five mile, no wake zone to Lake Leelanau  |              | North end of Cedar on the Cedar River                 |
| <b>41 - Solon Township Playground Park</b>               | Baseball diamonds, tennis courts, playground area  |              | Cedar   |
| <b>42 - Joe Vlack Memorial Park</b>                      |  |              | South Cedar Road                                      |
| <b>63 – Solon Park</b>                                   | Picnic tables, pavilion, dock, rustic boat launch  |              | CR 643 on Lake Leelanau                               |
|  |  |              |   |
| <b>Suttons Bay Township</b>                              | <b>Description and Activities</b>  | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>                                       |
| <b>43 - Graham Green Park</b>                            | Rocky beach frontage on Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan; swimming, picnicking, walking, grills, tables, toilets, wooded   | 15           | M-22 north of Peshawbestown                           |
| <b>44 - Vic Steimel Park</b>                             | Rocky beach frontage on Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan; swimming, picnicking, boat launching, grills, trash containers, picnic tables  | 1            | Nanagosa Trail  |
| <b>45 - Lover's Lane</b>                                 | Suttons Bay/Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan; 66 feet of frontage; swimming, water access  | .3           | Lover's Lane (west end)                               |
| <b>46 - Lake Leelanau Access</b>                         | Swimming, water access   | .6           | South arm of Lake Leelanau; Old M-204 bridge abutment |
| <b>47 - Water Wheel Park</b>                             | Tennis court, basketball, shared operations with the Village of Suttons Bay  | .3           | St. Mary's Avenue in the Village of Suttons Bay       |
| <b>48 - 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel Park</b>                | Plans to create walking and cross country skiing trails; picnic, scenic overlooks, shoreline access to Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan  | 43           | M-22 north of Suttons Bay                             |
| <b>61 - Herman Park</b>                                  | Active recreation including soccer fields, disc golf, tennis courts & nature trails. Future development to include ice skating under a covered pavilion, snowshoeing and cross country skiing, building and warming room.  | 126          | Off Herman Rd. and Center Hwy (633)                   |
| <b>Ice Rink Park (located within the Village limits)</b> | Ice rink in the winter and an open park space in the other months  | .5           | Corner of Broadway and Lincoln Streets                |

## Village Facilities

| <b>Village of Suttons Bay</b>              | <b>Description and Activities</b>  | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>                         |
|--|--|--------------|---|
| <b>47 - Water Wheel Park</b>               | Picnic tables, open field, bike rack, water wheel on creek; shared operations with Suttons Bay Township  | .3           | St. Mary's Avenue                       |
| <b>49 - Sutton Park (South Shore Park)</b> | Suttons Bay/Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan with 300 feet of shoreline: swimming, picnicking, bathroom, picnic shelter, playground  |              | South Shore Drive                       |
| <b>50 - Bahle Park</b>                     | Sledding hill, nature trails, cross country skiing, warming and meeting house  | 30           | West Street                             |
| <b>51 - North Park</b>                     | Suttons Bay/Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan with 1,500 feet of frontage; boat launch, covered pavilion, bathroom, boat parking  | 4.5          | East of the M-22 and M-204 intersection |
| <b>52 - Village Marina Park Complex</b>    | Suttons Bay/Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan with 3,000 feet of frontage; swimming, bath house, boating, walking paths and boardwalks, boat launch and docks (130), fishing, playground                                      | 10           | End of Adams Street                     |
| <b>53 - Fairgrounds Recreation Area</b>    | Lighted and fenced fields, restrooms, bleachers, concession building, natural wooded area, parking   | 4            | M-22 north of M-204                     |
| <b>54 - Village Coal Dock</b>              | Fishing pier, boating, boardwalks, walking path, docking facilities for Inland Seas Education Association Program  | 2            | Off of M-22                             |
|  |  |              |   |
| <b>Village of Northport</b>                | <b>Description and Activities</b>  | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>                         |
| <b>55 - Municipal Bathing Beach</b>        | Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan; playground area, volleyball court, pit toilets   |              | Shore Drive                             |
| <b>56 - Haserot Waterfront Park</b>        | Grand Traverse Bay/Lake Michigan; marina, picnic tables, grills, pier fishing, toilets, boat moorings, swimming  |              | Rose Street                             |
| <b>57 - Mill Pond</b>                      | Fishing  |              | Mill Street                             |
|  |  |              |   |
| <b>Village of Empire</b>                   | <b>Description and Activities</b>  | <b>Acres</b> | <b>Location</b>                         |
| <b>58 - Lake Michigan Beach Park</b>       | Lake Michigan; pavilion, swimming, playground, lighthouse, restrooms, picnic grills, boat launches – South Bar Lake, Lake Michigan   |              | Lake Michigan Drive                     |
| <b>59 - James R. Johnson Memorial Park</b> | Lion's Club; pavilion, restrooms, open space   |              | Reynolds Street                         |
| <b>60 - North Park</b>                     | 2 ballfields (one lighted) with backstops and fenced outfields; 4 picnic grills, walking path, access path to the creek, children's play area, storage building, 2 restrooms, handicapped accessible restroom, tennis courts |              | Off of LaCore Street                    |

## **Other Community and Public Facilities**

### ***Leelanau Trail – Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation Trails, Inc. (TART)***

Stretching over 15 miles through the last of the Leelanau County railway corridors, the Leelanau Trail connects Traverse City and Suttons Bay for walking, biking, in-line skating, cross country skiing, and dog sledding. The trail route features rolling hills, lush forests, picturesque orchards, peaceful meadows, and an aquatic medley of streams, lakes, and ponds.

### ***Leelanau Conservancy***

Land owned for public use: 1,955 acres. **Please see Appendix B.**

| <b>Date Acquired</b> | <b>Property or Preserve Name</b> | <b>Town, City, or County</b> | <b>Acres</b> |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| 2008                 | Jeff Lamont Preserve             | Northport                    | 40           |
| 9/20/1990            | Leland Village Green             | Leland                       | 1            |
| 12/17/1991           | Whittlesey Preserve              | Suttons Bay                  | 20           |
| 4/26/1995            | Gull Island Bird Sanctuary       | Northport                    | 7            |
| 1/1/1996             | Whaleback Natural Area           | Leland                       | 40           |
| 12/1/1996            | Leland River Preserve            | Leland                       | 1            |
| 12/17/1996           | Greeno Preserve                  | Lake Leelanau                | 21           |
| 5/10/2000            | Chippewa Run Natural Area        | Empire                       | 110.01       |
| 12/1/2000            | Finton Natural Area              | Northport                    | 35           |
| 5/1/2001             | Frazier Freeland Natural Area    | Suttons Bay                  | 13           |
| 6/4/2004             | Lighthouse West Natural Area     | Northport                    | 42           |
| 6/1/2006             | DeYoung Natural Area             | Traverse City                | 84           |
| 12/31/2007           | Krumwiede Forest Reserve         | Maple City                   | 109.77       |
| 4/2/2011             | Swanson Preserve                 | Cedar                        | 96           |
| 6/13/2011            | Hatlem Creek Preserve            | Glen Arbor                   | 20.05        |
| 1990 - 2010          | Kehl Lake Natural Area           | Northport                    | 279          |
| 1990 - 2012          | Cedar River Preserve             | Cedar                        | 440.18       |
| 1991 - 1997          | Belanger Creek Preserve          | Suttons Bay                  | 67.75        |
| 1991 - 2008          | Soper Natural Area               | Northport                    | 80           |
| 1996 - 2006          | Teichner Preserve                | Cedar                        | 41.3         |
| 1998 - 2012          | Houdek Dunes Natural Area        | Leland                       | 337.03       |
| 2001 - 2010          | Narrows Natural Area             | Lake Leelanau                | 71.2         |

## **Other Facilities/Activities**

Many other private facilities and activities occur in Leelanau County which include the Cedar Rod and Gun Club, museums, nature centers, campgrounds, golf courses, downhill and cross country skiing, snowboarding and tubing, conservation clubs, horseback riding, fishing charters, and boat rentals. These can be found in the local phonebooks, websites, chambers of commerce, and visitors' bureaus.

Hunting is available at different parks throughout the County. Please check with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for rules and regulations on hunting and fishing and the specific township for details.



## Resource Inventory

The natural resources of the Leelanau Peninsula are vital to the economic health and sense of well being of area citizens. These natural resources are interrelated biological systems and the primary environmental goal of the County is the protection of unique and sensitive lands and the water resources from inappropriate and poorly designed development. This includes unique and prime agricultural lands as well as sensitive environments like dunes, wetlands, and wildlife habitat.

### *Natural Resources:*

Area in Water = 16,000 acres

Miles of Great Lakes/Lake Michigan Shoreline = 151

Forest Lands = 126,900 acres

Wetlands = 27,412 acres

### **Physical Features**

#### **SOILS**

The natural drainage, texture, slope can affect the suitability of sighting recreational areas. There are forty types of soil found in Leelanau County with seven predominate soil classifications. **Figure 10 Soils and Figure 11 Topography.** The predominate soils are identified as:

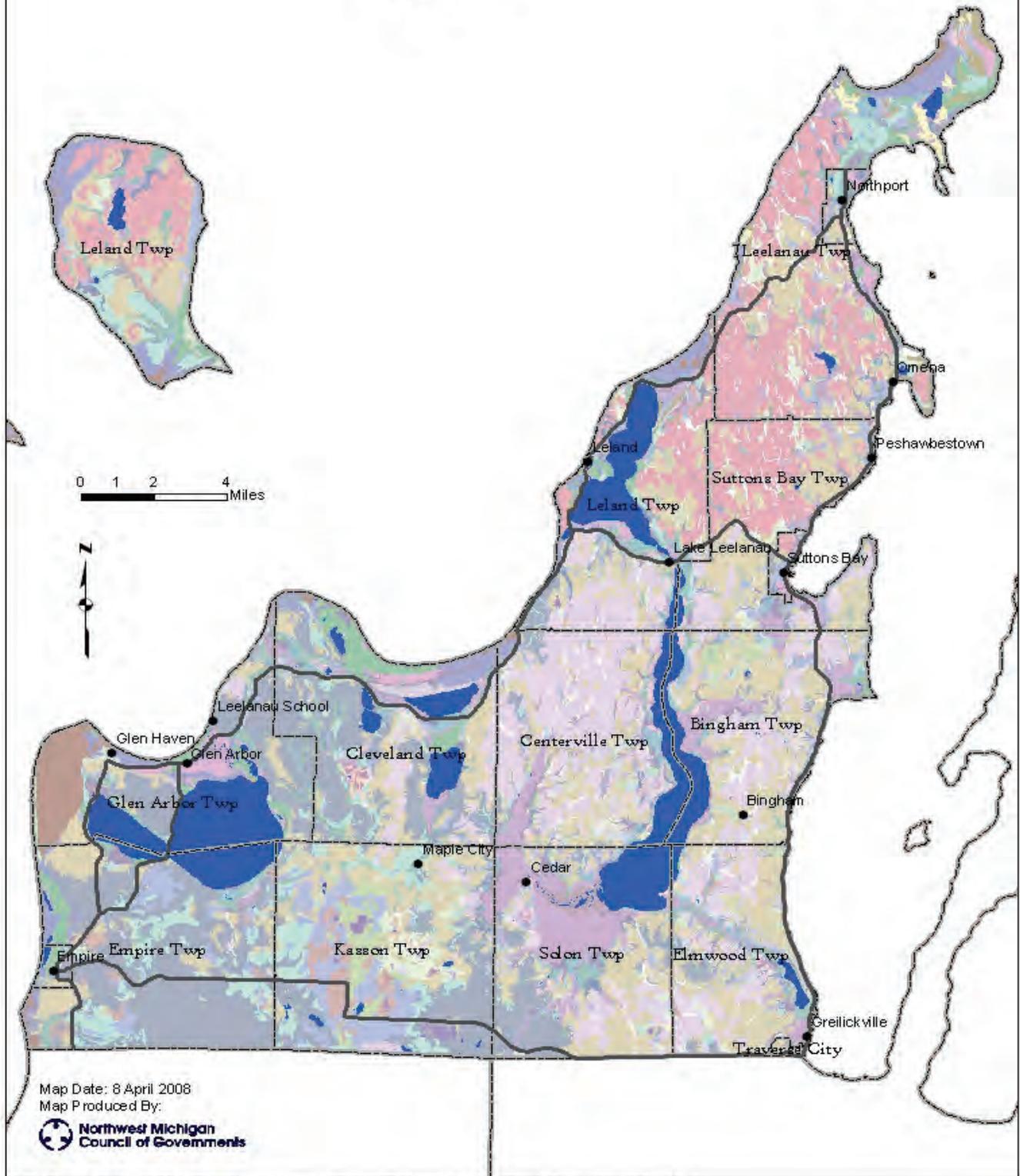
- *Deer Park-Dune Land Association:* well-drained, strongly sloping to very steep, sandy soils on dunes found in the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Empire and Glen Arbor Townships, as well as on South Manitou, North Manitou, South Fox, and North Fox Islands.
- *East Lake-Eastport-Lupton Association:* well-drained and moderately well drained, nearly level to gently sloping, sandy soils; and very poorly drained, nearly level, mucky soils; on lake terraces and beach ridges and is found directly adjacent to the vast majority of the shorelines around Glen Lake, Lake Leelanau, the Cedar River, Lake Michigan and Grand Traverse Bay.
- *Emmet-Omena Association:* well drained, nearly level to very steep, loamy soils on moraines and is found primarily in Leelanau Township and extending south into northern Suttons Bay and Leland Township.
- *Emmet-Leelanau Association:* well drained, moderately steep to very steep, loamy and sandy soils on moraines and till plains and can be found in Suttons Bay, Centerville and southern Leland Townships as well as on North and South Manitou Islands.

- *Kalkaska-East Lake Association*: well drained, moderately steep to very steep, sandy soils on moraines.
- *Kiva-Mancelona Association*: well drained, nearly level to strongly sloping, gravelly, loamy and sandy soils on outwash plains located only in central and western Kasson Township.
- *Leelanau-Mancelona Association*: well drained, strongly sloping to very steep, sandy soils on moraines and found on the steepest topography within Leelanau County. Located in Elmwood, Solon, Kasson, Cleveland, and Centerville Townships. Small areas of these soils are located in Suttons Bay, Bingham, and Glen Arbor Townships along the steep areas of the lake front.

**Figure 10. Soils Legend and Map**

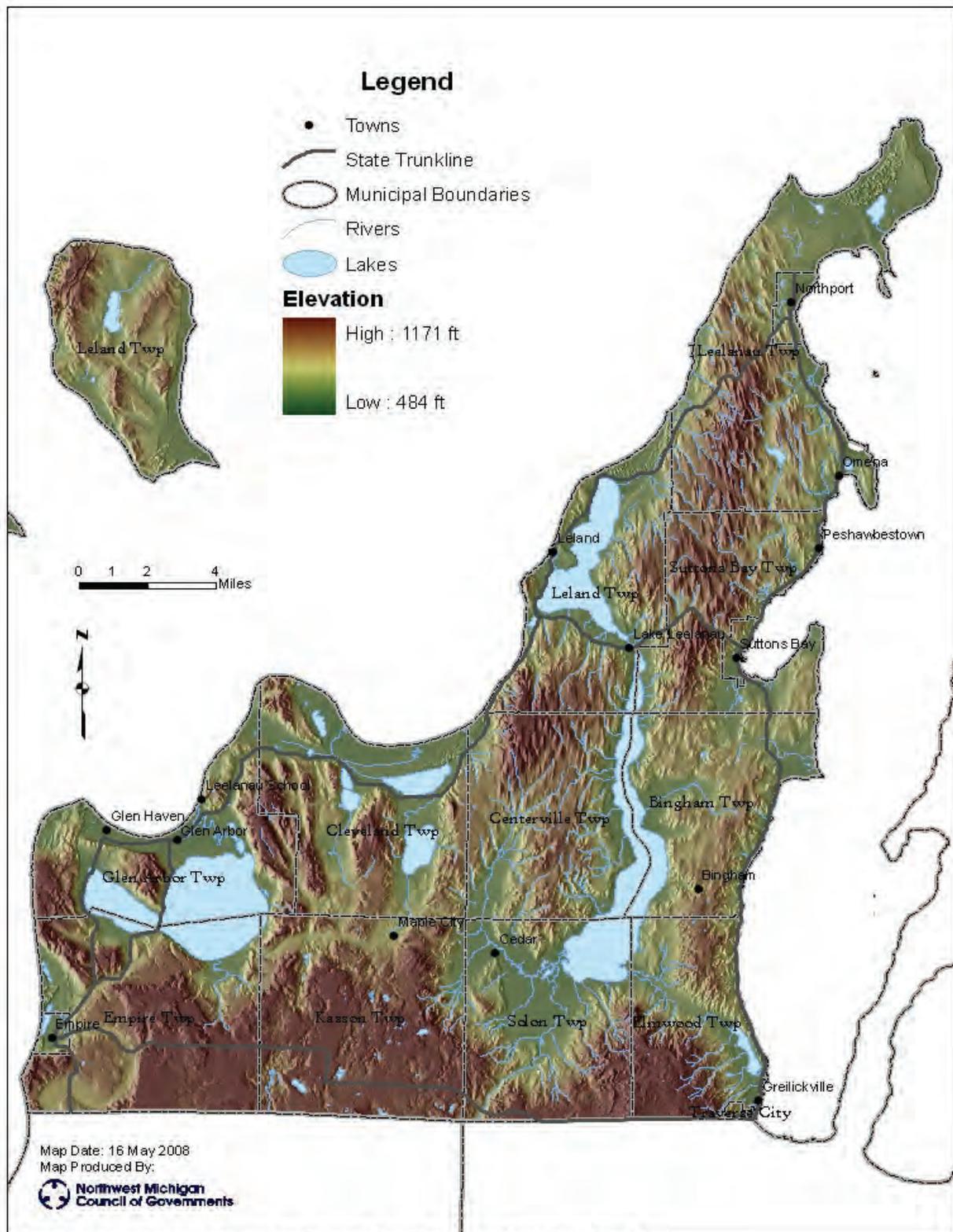


# Soils



Data Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, Michigan Geographic Framework Version 7b

Figure 11. Topography



Data Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, Michigan Geographic Framework Version 7b

## ***WATER RESOURCES***

As a peninsula, Leelanau County is surrounded by Lake Michigan. In addition to these features, the county contains several inland lakes, high quality rivers, streams, and wetlands. There are twenty-five inland lakes with more than eight of the lakes being 175 acres or more in size, with the largest being Lake Leelanau. Most of the lakes are considered very high quality in terms of biological productivity. However, these resources are at risk due to shoreline construction, surface water runoff of fertilizers, pesticides, possible on-site wastewater treatment systems, and stormwater runoff. The inland lakes include:

- Mud
- Kehl
- Bass (2)
- Moogeys
- North Lake Leelanau
- South Lake Leelanau
- Duck
- Lawrence
- Provemont Pond
- Cedar
- Shisler
- Bright
- Davis
- Gilbert
- Armstrong
- Pollack
- Bow
- Lime
- Little Traverse
- School
- Shell
- Narada
- Tucker
- Fisher
- Big Glen
- Little Glen
- North Bar
- South Bar

More than two dozen streams and rivers occur in the County that are of high quality, with most of them capable of supporting trout populations. Common threats to the water quality of these streams and rivers include sediment and agricultural chemicals entering the water.

Nearly the entire County is dependent on groundwater for sources of potable water. Approximately 60% of the County rests upon aquifers classified as “sensitive”, which means that the aquifers are overlain by highly permeable soils that easily transmit materials and are thus susceptible to contaminants entering the water supply. Wetlands help filter contaminants

out of surface water and serve as groundwater recharge areas. In addition, wetlands help control flooding along waterways and serve as habitat for numerous plants and animals.

## ***WILDLIFE***

Leelanau County generally has three habitat types: open land, wooded, and wetland. The vast orchards and croplands provide habitat for wildlife such as woodchuck, red fox, coyote, and certain bird species for example meadowlark, pheasant, turkey, sparrows, and hawks. The woodland areas provide cover for white tail deer, squirrels, raccoon, porcupine, owls, woodpeckers, song birds, and woodcock. The numerous inland lakes, rivers, streams, and coastal areas along Lake Michigan and Grand Traverse Bay are home to many types of waterfowl, herons, shorebirds, ospreys, and eagles. In particular, the sandy shores of the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and the Manitou Islands provide critical habitat for the endangered species, the Piping Plover.



## **Planning and Public Input Process**

The ten member Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission is the primary authority involved in the development of the County Parks and Recreation Plan. The Leelanau County Office of Planning & Community Development prepared the plan update, advertised, developed maps, facilitated the public input sessions and completed the compilation of the ideas and comments.

The primary avenue of public involvement and participation was during the Committee of the Whole meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission on 4/10/2013, in conference room # 1 and 8/22/13 and 9/18/13, in conference room #2 - at the Government Center. Input was also received at special meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission on 2/6/13, in conference room #2, on 3/13/2013 and 9/30/13 in conference room #1 – at the Government Center.

At each of the regular monthly meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission that have occurred during this process, the public has had the opportunity to share their interests regarding the County's park facilities and give comments on the Plan Update.

Finally input was received at the Public Input Meeting on Monday 10/28/13 from 5 to 7:30 pm at the Leelanau County Government Center.

At the Public Input Meeting and at the special /committee of the whole meetings, large maps were displayed showing the parks and the park boundaries along with the goals and objectives from the previous plan along with the working drafts of the current goals and objectives for the update.

The goals and objective ideas and general comments from these sessions are compiled in appendix F.

The draft Plan Update became available for public review on 10/31/2013 – with a hard copy at the County Administrator's office, Suite 101, in the Government Center and on line with the link is available from the Administrators office or the Planning Department.

Notice of the Public Input Meeting was sent to the Townships, and was in the Leelanau Enterprise.

The public hearing was held on 11/20/13 at the regular monthly meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission at the Government Center.



## Goals, Objectives, and Action Program

**Goal:** Improve existing parks and recreational facilities.

**Objectives:**

1. Encourage cooperation between federal and state governments, townships and villages to further improve and expand opportunities at local parks.
2. Work with the County Planning Commission when the Capital Improvement Plan is updated.
3. Solicit private funding from civic and philanthropic organizations for park improvements and development.
4. Apply regularly to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund for grant funding for recreational development and improvement funds.
5. Continue to propose increases in the County general fund allocation to support County recreational improvements and new park development.
6. Partner to leverage funding
7. Work to stop duplication.
8. Develop a horse trail at Myles Kimmerly Park.
9. Develop more nature trails at Veronica Valley Park.

***Action Strategy: (2014 to 2019)***

- A. Develop a funding strategy and funding opportunities such as, but not limited to, the general fund; user fees; donation of land, easements, money; private foundations; tribal, federal and state grants; Community Development Block Grants; sustainable forestry cuts/sales; and contractual agreements involving privatization.
- B. Work with the Convention and Visitors Bureau to add a room tax or some recreation funding fee from the visitors.
- C. Invite local, state and federal government representatives to a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to discuss ongoing programs and improvements
- D. Develop a working relationship with the local governments

- E. Create one central informational site of all the parks and recreational facilities in the County, such as a website and/or printed material.
- F. Maintain the county-wide brochure or parks map identifying the various local and county parks and recreational facilities available.
- G. Investigate the collaboration of the County Parks and Recreation with the school districts, health department and service providers. Please see Appendix L. School Districts.

**Goal:** Provide new opportunities for recreational activities in Leelanau County.

**Objectives:**

- 1. Use funding available to provide the most benefits for the public.
- 2. Consider the feasibility of a cooperative, central recreation facility.
- 3. Investigate the feasibility of establishing an endowment fund for park and recreational maintenance and activities.
- 4. Investigate the impact of assessment fees.

***Action Strategy: (2014 to 2019)***

Work with local groups and businesses to provide recreational activities.

**Goal:** Increase the use and awareness by the general public and the cooperation among different local units of government to promote the various parks and recreational opportunities.

**Objectives:**

- 1. Work to involve the public in each County park area.
- 2. Create one central informational site of all the parks and recreational facilities in the county, such as a website and/or printed material.
- 3. Prepare a county –wide brochure or parks map identifying the various local and county parks and recreational facilities available.

***Action Strategy: (2014 to 2019)***

- A. Partner with Senior Services to develop programs and facilities targeted to the senior population.

- B. Partner with the 4-H organization and other youth-oriented groups to incorporate programs and facilities specifically targeted for the youth.
- C. Establish working relationships with other entities that have mutual goals and interests.
- D. Partner with others to recognize mutual goals and interests to leverage funding opportunities.

**Goal:** Promote the use and awareness of the various park and recreational opportunities.

**Objectives:**

- 1. Partner with local organizations to develop programs and facilities targeted to the specific population.
- 2. Prepare a marketing campaign utilizing advertisements, public service announcements, and websites promoting the quality, access and use of local and county parks and recreational resources.
- 3. Develop physical and visual linkages between federal, state, county, township and village parks by developing trails to connect them, improving signage, promoting increased awareness and by providing public orientation opportunities.

***Action Strategy: (2014 to 2019)***

- A. Work with the Leelanau County Chamber of Commerce and the Sleeping Bear Dunes Visitors Bureau.
- B. Conduct an annual parks and recreation event with representatives from each of the townships and villages, the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Leelanau Conservancy, and private recreation facilities to discuss parks and recreation related issues in Leelanau County.
- C. Develop a more appealing and user friendly website page on the County's "Leelanau Community Center and Information" site with links to other facilities.
- D. Post the Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes on the County's website.

**Goal:** Ensure appropriate access to facilities for all residents.

**Objectives:**

1. Work to comply with the American with Disabilities Act requirements at all existing and new park and recreational facilities.
2. Establish a cooperative effort with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the townships, villages, and school districts to cooperatively develop and share park and recreational facilities.
3. Investigate ways to link access by different modes of transportation to the parks and recreational facilities in Leelanau County.
4. Work to link parks together with pathways for hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders.

**Action Strategy: (2014 to 2019)**

- A. Work with the Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation Trails (TART) organization, the Bay Area Transportation Authority (BATA), local bicyclist, hiking, skiing, and horseback riding groups, and the Michigan Department of Transportation to link facilities.



## **Park Specific Management Plans**

- **Myles Kimmerly Recreation Area**
- **Old Settlers' Picnic Grounds**
- **Veronica Valley County Park**

**Goal:** Improve and expand the passive and active recreational experiences and physical facilities associated with **Myles Kimmerly Recreation Area.**

### **Objectives:**

1. Upgrade electrical shack and maintain other structures.
2. Expand and improve the Nature Trails.
3. Continue to promote and expand the use of horses at the 4-H arena and the rest of the park.
4. Promote and encourage outdoor sports such as: soccer, baseball, tennis, disc golf, etc.
5. Improve the baseball fields.
6. Develop a hard surface trail for walking and running that is handicapped accessible around the lower developed area of the park.
7. Encourage recycling at the park.

### **Action Strategy: (2014 to 2019)**

- A. Maintain playground equipment at the park.
- B. Complete nature trail and horse trail.
- C. Develop a hard surface trail plan and design for the lower developed area of the park.

**Goal:** Maintain physical, recreational and historical facilities at **Old Settlers' Picnic Grounds.**

### **Objectives:**

1. Maintain the existing structures for use during picnic events.
2. Continue to replace and provide smaller scale playground equipment as needed.

3. Continue to implement waterfront improvements and erosion control efforts.
4. Maintain and provide existing benches, picnic tables and grills.
5. Encourage recycling at the picnic area.

**Action Strategy: (2014 to 2019)**

- A. Maintain aging trees and remove as needed.
- B. Work with Glen Lake Association to control/prevent invasive species along the waterfront and in the picnic area.
- C. Maintain and repair “Grub Shack”, gazebo, and chapel for use during park events.
- D. Continue working with the Glen Lake Woman’s Club to maintain and improve the chapel.
- E. Work with the Leelanau County Soil Erosion Officer to continue waterfront improvements and erosion control efforts.
- F. Work to provide and improve handicapped accessibility.

**Goal:** Develop and improve recreational activities at **Veronica Valley County Park.**

**Objectives:**

1. Promote the park for nature activities.
2. Partner with organizations and groups to develop and utilize the park.
3. Develop a building to be used as a center for nature studies.

**Action Strategy: (2014 to 2019)**

- A. Continue to request grants for improvements to the park.
- B. Work with Lake Leelanau Association, Cherryland Electric Cooperative, sportsmen and volunteers to promote and continue Kid’s Fishing Day at the Park Ponds.
- C. Continue to promote outdoor activities at the park for children.
- D. Continue to promote the Bird Watching Festival at the park.
- E. Work to implement the design and plan to build the nature center at the park.



## Appendices

- A. Barrier Free Accessibility Requirements
- B. Leelanau Conservancy Natural Areas and Preserves Map
- C. Notice for Public Input Meeting, October 23, 2013  
Notice of Official Viewing of Final Draft, October 31, 2013 – November 14, 2013  
Notice of Public Hearing on the Final Draft, November 20, 2013
- D. Affidavit of Publication - *The Leelanau Enterprise*, October 10, 2013
- E. Affidavit of Publication - *The Leelanau Enterprise*, October 24, 2013
- F. Affidavit of Publication - *The Leelanau Enterprise*, October 31, 2013
- G. Affidavit of Publication – *The Leelanau Enterprise*, November 7, 2013
- H. *The Leelanau Enterprise* Article, October 24, 2013
- I. Public Hearing Comments, November 20, 2013
- J. Leelanau County School Districts
- K. Leelanau County General Plan Related Issues
- L. Resources
- M. Approval Documentation

### **APPENDIX D. BARRIER FREE ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PARKS**

Recreational areas, facilities, and programs play an important role in the life of the community; therefore it is essential that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy these areas and any programs provided. Federal and state laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability, and these laws apply to parks and other recreation lands and programs controlled and operated by local units of government. The DNR has a strong commitment to barrier free recreational opportunities in our Department-managed programs and facilities. This commitment extends to those communities that receive recreation grants.

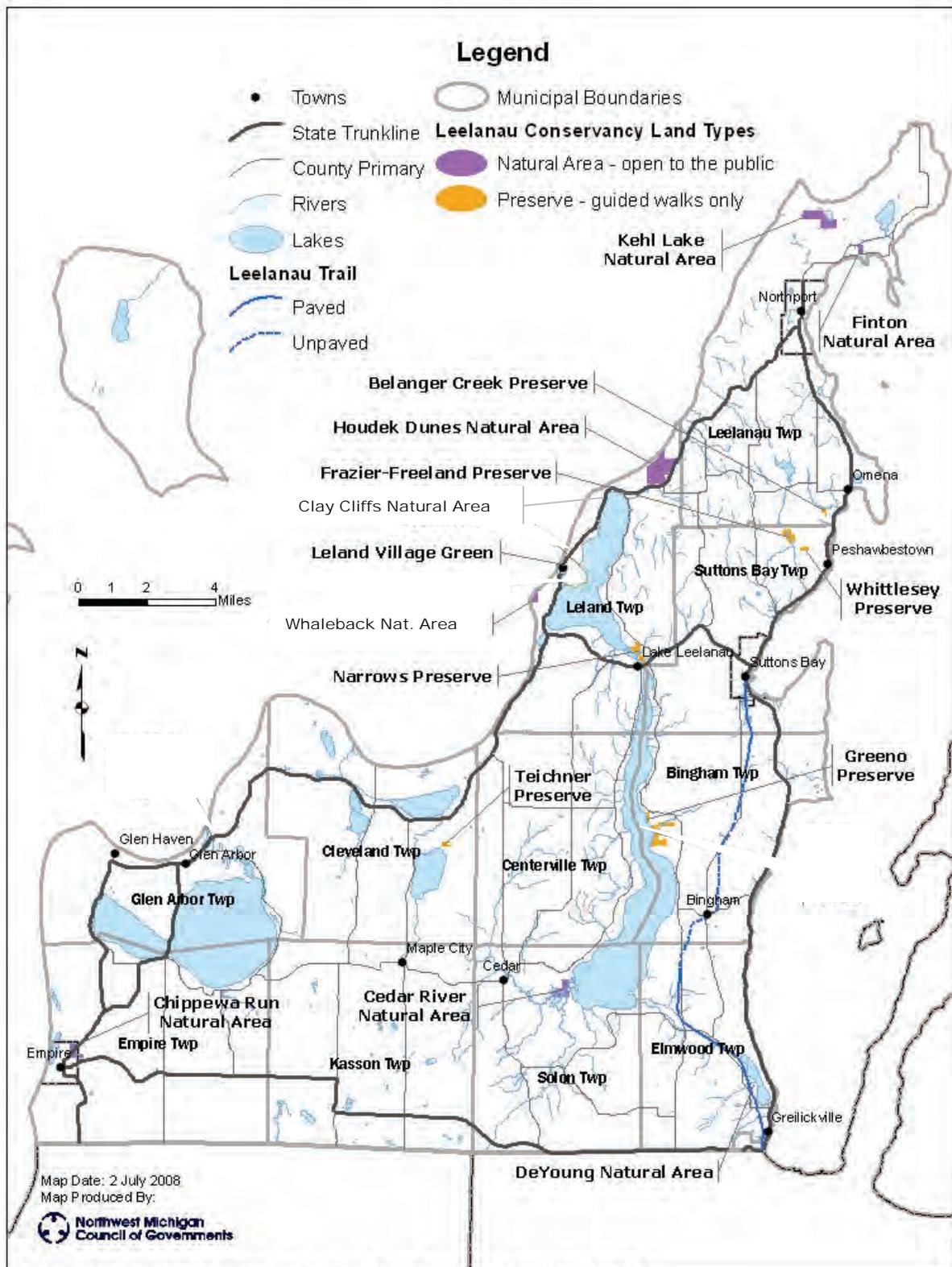
Under the state Utilization of Public Facilities by the Physically Limited Act (1966 PA 1, as amended) all public facilities, including improved areas used for recreation, must meet the barrier free design requirements contained in the state construction code. Under this act, the administration and enforcement related to barrier free design requirements are vested in the local or state government agency responsible for issuing a building permit. If the project does not require a building permit, administration and enforcement of barrier free design requirements are vested in the Department of Labor and Economic Growth.

Any request for an exception to the barrier free design requirements of the state construction code must be submitted to the Barrier Free Design Board, within the Department of Labor and Economic Growth (517-241-9300). The Barrier Free Design Board has the responsibility to receive, review, and process requests for exceptions to barrier free design specifications; require appropriate equivalent alternatives when exceptions are granted; and receive, process, and make recommendations for barrier free design rules.

Because the state construction code does not apply to many recreation facilities, it is essential that you also be aware of and understand the existing federal guidelines covering these types of facilities. In July 2004, the federal Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (known as the Access Board) issued updated guidelines, entitled the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), for new or altered facilities covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336) or the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-480). These guidelines should eventually be adopted as enforceable standards. Until that occurs, the existing ADAAG standards must be followed when the two conflict.

Included in the updated ADAAG are technical provisions for a number of types of recreation facilities, including play areas, amusement rides, boating facilities, fishing piers and platforms, golf courses, miniature golf courses, shooting facilities, swimming and wading pools, and spas. Technical provisions for these recreation facilities do not exist in the current AADAG. The Access Board has also proposed guidelines for sports facilities, trails, beaches, and picnic and camping areas. While none of these guidelines has yet been adopted as federal standards, they represent the best information available on developing barrier free recreation facilities and may be upheld in a court of law. Therefore, they should be referred to when designing new or renovated recreation facilities.

# Appendix B. Leelanau Conservancy Natural Areas and Preserves Map



## Appendix C

### **NOTICE:**

Per motion by the County Board of Commissioners dated 2/19/2013, the Leelanau County Planning & Community Development office is assisting with Update to the **2014-2019 Leelanau County Parks & Recreation Master Plan**.

A Public Input Meeting will be held in the Leelanau County Government Center on Monday, October 28, 2013 from 5 pm-7:30 pm.  
An Official Viewing of the Final Draft will be held from October 31, 2013 – November 14, 2013, with a Public Hearing on the Final Draft to be held on November 20.

Below is a link to the Parks & Recreation page, which contains the link to the Draft Leelanau County Parks & Recreation Update. **A hard copy of the Plan is available for public viewing in the County Administrator's office, Suite 101, in the Government Center.**

Link: <http://www.leelanau.cc/coparksandrec.asp>

Comments on the Update can be submitted in writing to the Planning & Community Development office before November 14, by:

1. Email: [ksmith@co.leelanau.mi.us](mailto:ksmith@co.leelanau.mi.us)
2. Fax: 231-256-0174
3. In Person or mail to:  
Leelanau County Planning & Community Development,  
8527 E. Government Center Dr., Suite 108  
Suttons Bay MI 49682  
*ATTN: Kristin Smith*

All comments will be collected and submitted to Parks & Recreation Commission for consideration.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Posted:** October 18, 2013 @ 4:00 p.m.  
**Posted by:**

# Affidavit of Publication

Leelanau County Administrator

Alan C. Campbell being first duly sworn, says that he is the publisher of The Leelanau Enterprise-Tribune, a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper, in which the order was published:

October 10, 2013

Signed:

Alan Campbell, Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of October, 2013.

Gwendolyn L. VerSnyder,  
Notary Public, Leelanau County, Michigan  
Acting in Leelanau County

*My Commission Expires February 20, 2018*

## Leelanau County Notice to the Public

The Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission will be reviewing the draft 2014-2019 Recreation Plan at their October 16, 2013 meeting at 1:00 pm at the county government center and the public is invited. Prior to the meeting date, a draft copy of the 2014-2019 Recreation Plan is now available for review in the administrator's office.

# Affidavit of Publication

Leelanau County Administrator

Alan C. Campbell being first duly sworn, says that he is the publisher of The Leelanau Enterprise-Tribune, a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper, in which the order was published:

October 24, 2013

Signed:



Alan Campbell, Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of October, 2013.



Gwendolyn L. VerSnyder,  
Notary Public, Leelanau County, Michigan  
Acting in Leelanau County

*My Commission Expires February 20, 2018*

## Leelanau County Notice to the Public

The public is invited to provide input for the Leelanau County Parks and Recreation 5 Year Plan on Monday, October 28, 2014, 5:00-7:30 pm, Leelanau County Government Center.

# Affidavit of Publication

Leelanau County Administrator

Alan C. Campbell being first duly sworn, says that he is the publisher of The Leelanau Enterprise-Tribune, a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper, in which the order was published:

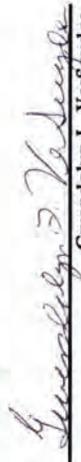
October 31, 2013

Signed:



Alan Campbell, Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of October, 2013.



Gwendolyn L. VerStyder,  
Notary Public, Leelanau County, Michigan  
Acting in Leelanau County

*My Commission Expires February 20, 2018*

## Leelanau County Notice to the Public

The final draft of the Parks and Recreation Plan 2014 Update will be available for official viewing from October 31 through November 14, 2013 at the Leelanau County Government Center.

# Affidavit of Publication

Leelanau County Administrator

Alan C. Campbell being first duly sworn, says that he is the publisher of The Leelanau Enterprise-Tribune, a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper, in which the order was published:

November 7, 2013

Signed:

Alan Campbell, Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of November, 2013.

*Gwendolyn L. VerSnyder*  
Gwendolyn L. VerSnyder,  
Notary Public, Leelanau County, Michigan  
Acting in Leelanau County

*My Commission Expires February 20, 2018*

## Leelanau County Notice to the Public

A Public Hearing of the final draft of the Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Plan Update 2014 will be held on November 20, 2013 at the Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting at 1:00 pm at the Leelanau County Government Center.

## Appendix H

# Leelanau Enterprise <sup>2013</sup>

MICHIGAN NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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2013-10-24 / Local News

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## Plan promotes parks, calls for new funding

The Leelanau County Planning Commission meeting that would normally have been held Tuesday has been delayed a week, providing county planners with an opportunity to review a proposed Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Plan for the years 2014-2019.

The plan is necessary for the county to be eligible for state and federal grants, and lays the groundwork for developing the county's parks and supporting the development of other recreational opportunities in the county.

County planners are just this week getting their hands on the 90-page document. Holding their meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, will provide them time to better formulate their thoughts, according to county Planning Department director Trudy Galla.

The document in general provides an inventory of parkland in the county, and furthers already established master plans for Veronica Park in Bingham Township, Myles Kimmerly Park in Kasson Township, and Old Settlers Park in Empire Township.

Some changes are included. For instance, the draft plan calls for creation of a "funding strategy" for county parks that could include a millage or user fees, among other possibilities.

Also, the plan calls for the county to "work with the Convention and Visitors Bureau to add a room tax or some recreation funding fee from the visitors."

A public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 20, to receive input on the document.

## **Appendix I**

### LEELANAU COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

Po Box 205 – Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

Steven R Christensen

11/20/13

PUBLIC HEARING FOR COMMENTS ON THE UPDATE OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN FOR LEELANAU COUNTY FOR THE YEARS 2014 to 2019.

The meeting was held in meeting room # 2 at the Leelanau County Government Center.

Parks and Recreation Commission members present:

Steve Christensen, Chair, Jean Watkoski, Greg Julian, Glen Noonan, Robert Johnson, Mary Barrows, William Bunek, Brad Saxton.

Leelanau County Office of Planning & Community Development representative present: Kristin Smith

There were two people from the public in attendance who were new to the county and only asked questions about the plan and had no suggestions for changes of the draft Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Plan Update.

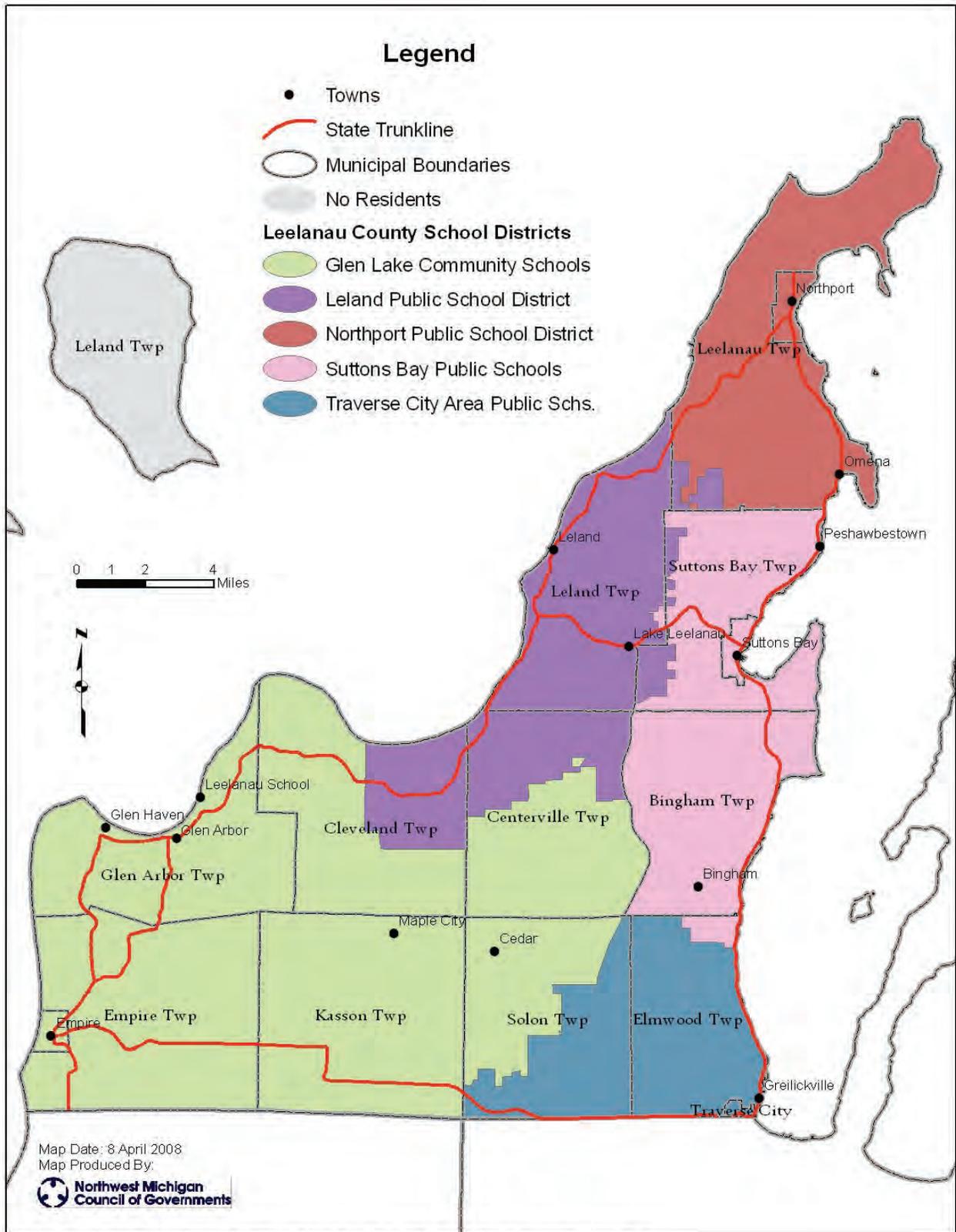
Respectfully submitted by:

Steven R. Christensen

Parks and Recreation Commission Chair

Drain Commissioner – Leelanau County

# Appendix J: School Districts



## Appendix K

### The 2012 Leelanau General Plan

**Goal:** *Expansion of recreational facilities.*

**Objective:**

Local governments should be encouraged to acquire additional recreational acreage, and expand the scope of recreation opportunities and services, to meet the active recreation needs of the expanding population.

**Action Statement:**

All local governments should be encouraged to prepare and maintain current five-year recreation plans which: 1) identify the current and projected recreation needs of the municipality; 2) establish strategies to address the needs in a prioritized manner; and 3) meet all the requirements of the MDNR to become eligible to receive recreation grant dollars.

**Action Statement:** All local governments should be encouraged to develop a funding program for the purpose of generating monies for the purchase of recreational acreage.

**Action Statement:**

Local governments should be encouraged to prepare an inventory of high recreational value acreage based upon established criteria and to take action to acquire this acreage where such acquisition is consistent with the local 5- year recreation plan.

**Action Statement:**

Local governments should be encouraged to adopt zoning ordinance regulations which require the provision of designated open space areas as part of the residential development approval process for large residential developments.

**Action Statement:**

Local governments and the county should jointly prepare, monitor, and update a peninsula-wide linked public trail system plan for the purpose of linking community centers and recreation facilities throughout the peninsula and facilitating long distance biking, hiking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling opportunities.

**Action Statement:**

The county and local governments should consider, in the development of park and recreation facilities, potential opportunities for local and peninsula-wide economic development opportunities which are in character with the peninsula.

**Objective:**

The county should continue to assist in the delivery of recreation opportunities as part of a more clearly defined recreation role.

**Action Statement:**

The county should consider the range of recreational roles most appropriate for it to adopt

including, but not limited to, maintenance of current facilities and operations only, expansion of services and site acquisitions, establishment of passive recreation parks, and/or coordination of and technical support to local governments in the provision of recreation opportunities.

**Action Statement:**

Upon the identification of the optimum recreation role of the county, additional policies and action statements should be adopted in pursuit of that role.

***Goal: Variety and safety of water recreation opportunities.***

**Objective:**

The county and local governments should encourage the continuation of a variety of water recreational activities while ensuring an adequate level of public safety between activities.

**Action Statement:**

The county and local governments should review current ownership interests in public shoreline parcels and where desirable, take the necessary steps to strengthen ownership ties through fee simple ownership.

**Action Statement:**

The county and local governments should jointly prepare an inventory of potential shoreline recreational acreage and take action to acquire acreage of recreation value where such acquisitions are consistent with the local 5-year recreation plans.

**Action Statement:**

Local governments with inland lakes should prepare coordinated regulatory provisions intended to identify permitted water surface activities within specific water surface use areas.

## **Appendix L**

### **Resources**

*Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2008-2013; Northwest Michigan Council of Governments (NWMCOG)*

*Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2002-2007; McKenna and Associates.*

*The Leelanau County General Plan; Leelanau County Planning Department*

*Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans.*

## **APPENDIX M: Approval Documentation**

### **Update to include 2013 Approval Documentation**

1. Official adoption of the Plan by the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
2. Official recommendation of adoption of the Plan by the Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission
3. Copy of the letter transmitting adopted Plan to the County Planning Agency
4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted Plan to the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments
5. Copy of letter transmitting Adopted Plan to the Grand Traverse County Planning Department
5. Copy of letter transmitting Adopted Plan to the Benzie County Planning Commission
6. Copy of Letter of Approval and Certification Checklist from Michigan Department of Natural Resources



# County of Leelanau

**MICHELLE L. CROCKER**  
Leelanau County Clerk  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

**Excerpt**

**LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ANNUAL STATUTORY SESSION – TUESDAY, December 17, 2013**

Tentative minutes – meeting recorded.

...

Action Items —

...

Parks and Recreation Commission – Plan Amendment Resolution to adopt the 2014-2019 Recreation Plan:

Discussion...

*Motion #401-12172013 Regular Session*

**MOTION BY RUSHTON AMENDED TO APPROVE THE 2014-2019 RECREATION PLAN AS A RESOLUTION WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:**

**Resolution #2013 – 020**

**Be it resolved, that the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners approves the 2014-2019 Recreation Plan with the following changes:**

- 1. Replace the word "Directors" with "Commissioners" (page 20).**
- 2. Strike Objective #3 on page 56, which currently reads: "Continue to investigate the feasibility of a dedicated County millage to support recreational facilities and programming".**
- 3. Strike the word "acquisition" in Objective #5, page 56.**
- 4. Strike the word "millage" and "revenue bond program" on page 56, item "A" under Action Strategy.**
- 5. Strike Objective #5 on page 57, which currently reads: "Pursue acquisition of additional park facilities, should they become available.**

**SECOND AMENDED BY BUNEK.**

Discussion...

**ROLL CALL: Watkoski – YES; Zemaitis – YES; Bunek – YES; Lautner – YES; Rentenbach – YES; Rushton – YES; Van Pelt – YES.**

**AYES – 7 NO – 0**

**MOTION CARRIED.**



State of Michigan  
County of Leelanau

I, Michelle L. Crocker, Clerk of said County and Clerk of Circuit Court for said County, the same being a Court of record having a seal, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Record now remaining in my office and of the whole thereof. In Testimony whereof, I have hereto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court the 24th day of January 2014.

Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk

8527 E. Government Center Dr., Suite 103 • Suttons Bay, MI 49682  
Phone: 231/256-9824 • Fax: 231/256-8295 • Email: mcrocker@co.leelanau.mi.us



# LEELANAU COUNTY

Leelanau County Government Center  
8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suite 101  
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

PHONE: (231) 256-9711 *in-state* 1-866-256-9711  
T.V. (231) 256-0120

**Excerpt**  
**LEELANAU COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING- NOVEMBER 20, 2013**

|            |                   |         |
|------------|-------------------|---------|
| Roll Call: | Steve Christensen | Present |
|            | Jean Watkoski     | Present |
|            | William Bunek     | Present |
|            | Robert Johnson    | Present |
|            | Glen Noonan       | Present |
|            | Brad Saxton       | Present |
|            | Mary Barrows      | Present |
|            | Greg Julian       | Present |
|            | Clayton Ball      | Absent  |
|            | Kyle Travis       | Absent  |

**Action Item:**

IV. Motion by Julian, second by Bunek to adopt this updated 2014 – 2019 Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Plan and recommend this plan to the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners for their approval or acceptance.

AYES – 7    NO – 1 (Saxton)    Absent – 2 (Ball, Travis)    Motion Carried.

Steven R. Christensen, Chairman  
Leelanau County Parks & Recreation Commission

Dated: December 5, 2013



## Leelanau County Government Center Planning and Community Development

County website: [www.leelanau.cc](http://www.leelanau.cc)

8527 E. Government Center Dr.  
Suite 108  
Suttons Bay MI 49682  
Phone: (231) 256-9812 or  
Toll Free (866) 256-9711, Ext. 6  
Fax: (231) 256-0174

**Trudy J. Galla, AICP**  
*Planning Director*

**Kristin K. Smith**  
*Senior Planner*

**Karen J. Hall**  
*Secretary*

**Diane Kiessel**  
*Housing Manager*

January 27, 2014

Greg Julian, Chairman  
Leelanau County Planning Commission  
8527 E Government Center Dr, Suite 108  
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

Dear Mr. Julian,

Enclosed, please find a copy of the Leelanau County Parks & Recreation Plan. The Plan is also available online at: <http://www.leelanau.cc/coparksandrec.asp> The Plan was adopted by the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners at a regular scheduled meeting held on December 17, 2013.

The Plan will serve as a guide for county recreation projects over the next 5 years. The County Planning Department will keep the Parks & Recreation Plan on file to promote local and regional cooperation in providing recreations services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Trudy Galla'.

Trudy Galla  
Planning Director  
Leelanau County Planning & Community Development

---

*Address Administration - Brownfield Redevelopment - Census Data  
Community Development - GIS Data & Mapping - Growth Management - Housing Program  
Land Use Issues - Master Plans - Planning Commission - Recycling - Solid Waste Issues - Zoning*



# LEELANAU COUNTY

*Chet Janik, County Administrator*

Leelanau County Government Center  
8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suite 101  
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

PHONE: (231) 256-9711 or toll free 1-866-256-9711  
FAX: (231) 256-0120

## BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

JUAN I. WATROSKI, DISTRICT #1  
DEBRA L. RUSHLOS, DISTRICT #2  
WILLIAM J. BUNER, DISTRICT #3  
TOM VAN PELT, DISTRICT #4  
KAREN ZEMMANN, DISTRICT #5  
CAROLYN REMENBAUGH, DISTRICT #6  
MELINDA C. LAUFNER, DISTRICT #7

January 27, 2014

Mr. Matt McCauley  
Northwest Michigan Council of Governments  
POB 506  
Traverse City, MI 49685-0506

Dear Mr. McCauley:

Please access the Leelanau County Parks & Recreation Plan online at  
<http://www.leelanau.cc/coparksandrec.asp>  
The Plan was adopted by the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners at a regular scheduled meeting held on December 17, 2013.

The Plan will serve as a guide for county recreation projects over the next 5 years. The County requests that your office keep the Parks & Recreation Plan on file to promote local and regional cooperation in providing recreation services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Van Pelt  
Chairman, Leelanau County Board of Commissioners



# LEELANAU COUNTY

*Chet Janik, County Administrator*

Leelanau County Government Center  
8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suite 101  
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

PHONE: (231) 256-9711 or toll free 1-866-256-9711  
FAX: (231) 256-0120

## BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

JEAN L. WAIKOSKI, DISTRICT #1  
DORIS L. RUSHON, DISTRICT #2  
WILLIAM J. BUNER, DISTRICT #3  
TOM VAN PELT, DISTRICT #4  
KAREN ZEMALIS, DISTRICT #5  
CAROLYN RENTENBACH, DISTRICT #6  
MELINDA C. LAUTNER, DISTRICT #7

January 27, 2014

Mr. John Sych  
Grand Traverse County Planning Department  
400 Boardman Avenue  
Traverse City, MI 49684

Dear Mr. Sych:

Please access the Leelanau County Parks & Recreation Plan online at  
<http://www.leelanau.cc/coparksandrec.asp>

The Plan was adopted by the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners at a regular scheduled meeting held on December 17, 2013.

The Plan will serve as a guide for county recreation projects over the next 5 years. The County requests that your office keep the Parks & Recreation Plan on file to promote local and regional cooperation in providing recreation services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Van Pelt".

Tom Van Pelt  
Chairman, Leelanau County Board of Commissioners



# LEELANAU COUNTY

*Chet Junik, County Administrator*

Leelanau County Government Center  
8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suite 101  
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

PHONE: (231) 256-9711 or toll free 1-866-256-9711  
FAX: (231) 256-0120

## BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

JEAN L. WAIKOSKI, DISTRICT #1  
DIORA L. RUSSELL, DISTRICT #2  
WILLIAM J. BONSLE, DISTRICT #3  
TOM VAN PELT, DISTRICT #4  
KAREN ZEMALIS, DISTRICT #5  
CAROLYN RENTENBACH, DISTRICT #6  
MELINDA C. LAUTNER, DISTRICT #7

January 27, 2014

Ms. Dawn Olney  
Benzie County Clerk  
Upper Level, Government Center  
448 Court Place  
Beulah, MI 49617

Dear Ms. Olney,

Please access the Leelanau County Parks & Recreation Plan online at  
<http://www.leelanau.cc/coparksandrec.asp>

The Plan was adopted by the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners at a regular scheduled meeting held on December 17, 2013.

The Plan will serve as a guide for county recreation projects over the next 5 years. The County requests that your office keep the Parks & Recreation Plan on file to promote local and regional cooperation in providing recreation services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Van Pelt".

Tom Van Pelt  
Chairman, Leelanau County Board of Commissioners



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



KEITH CREAUGH  
DIRECTOR

March 12, 2014

Ms. Trudy J. Galla  
Planning Director  
Leelanau County  
8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suite 108  
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

Dear Ms. Galla:

SUBJECT: Leelanau County Recreation Plan

Please find attached your copy of the recreation plan checklist recently submitted to our office for approval. Your recreation plan has been approved.

**Your recreation plan will expire December 31, 2018.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Our address is: **Grants Management, Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909-7925.**

Sincerely,

Christie Bayus, Grant Coordinator  
Grants Management  
517-284-5923  
[bayusc@michigan.gov](mailto:bayusc@michigan.gov)

CB:lh  
Attachment



Michigan Department of Natural Resources-Grants Management

**COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND  
GREENWAY PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST**

*By Authority of Parts 19, 703 and 716 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, as amended, submission of this information is required for eligibility to apply for grants*

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete, obtain certification signatures and submit this checklist with a locally adopted recreation plan.

All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). To be eligible for grant consideration, plans must be submitted to the DNR prior to the grant application deadline with a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan.

| PLAN INFORMATION  |          |   |
|---|----------|---|
| Name of Plan:<br>Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Plan                |          |   |
| List the community names (including school districts) covered by the plan | County   | Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body |
| Leelanau County   | Leelanau | December 2013   |
|   |          |   |
|   |          |   |
|   |          |   |

| PLAN CONTENT   |
|--|
| <p><b>INSTRUCTIONS:</b> Please check <u>each</u> box to certify that the listed information is included in the <u>final</u> plan.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current Funding Sources</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Role of Volunteers</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations</li> <li><b>Regional Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only</b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Articles of Incorporation</li> </ul> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>3. RECREATION INVENTORY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessibility Assessment</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities</li> </ul> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS</b></p> |

**6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS**

- Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, Including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received
- Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment
  - Date of the Notice October 10, 2013
  - Type of Notice Legal
  - Plan Location Administrator's Office
  - Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) October 10, 2013 - November 20, 2013
- Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)
  - Date of Notice November 7, 2013
  - Name of Newspaper The Leelanau Enterprise
  - Date of Meeting November 20, 2013
- Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

**7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**8. ACTION PROGRAM**

**9. POST-COMPLETION SELF-INSPECTION REPORT**

**PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION**

Plans **must** be adopted by the highest level *governing body* (i.e., city council, county commission, township board). If planning is the responsibility of a Planning Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Recreation Advisory Board or other local Board or Commission, the plan should **also** include a resolution from the Board or Commission recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body.

The local unit of government must submit the final plan to both the County and Regional Planning Agency for their information. Documentation that this was done must be submitted with the plan to the DNR.

Items 1, 3 and 4 below are **required** and must be included in the plan.

**APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION:** For multi-jurisdictional plans, each local unit of government must pass a resolution adopting the plan. Prepare and attach a separate page for each unit of government included in the plan.

- 1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: December 17, 2013
- 2. Official resolution of the \_\_\_\_\_ Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: January 27, 2014
- 4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: January 27, 2014

**OVERALL CERTIFICATION**

**NOTE:** For multi-jurisdictional plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of each local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page for each unit of government included in the plan.

I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

Leelanau County  
(Local Unit of Government)  
above and as set forth by the DNR.

includes the required content, as indicated

Tom Van Pelt February 18, 2014  
Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government Date

This completed checklist must be signed and submitted with a locally adopted recreation plan to:

GRANTS MANAGEMENT  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
PO BOX 30425  
LANSING, MI 48909-7925

**DNR USE ONLY - APPROVAL**

The recreation plan is approved by the DNR and the community (ies) covered by the plan, as listed on page 1 of this checklist is/are eligible to apply for recreation grants through

December 31, 2018  
Date

By: Christel Bayes 3-11-14  
Grants Management Date