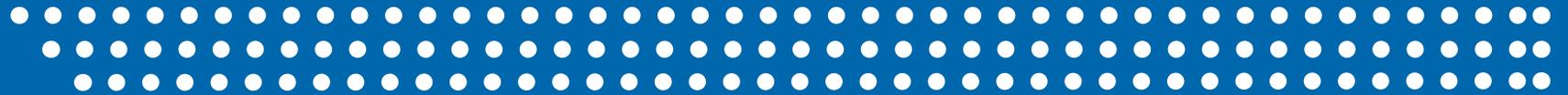


Parks & Recreation Inventory



INVENTORY OF EXISTING PARKS, NATURAL AREAS, AND RECREATION FACILITIES

REGIONAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

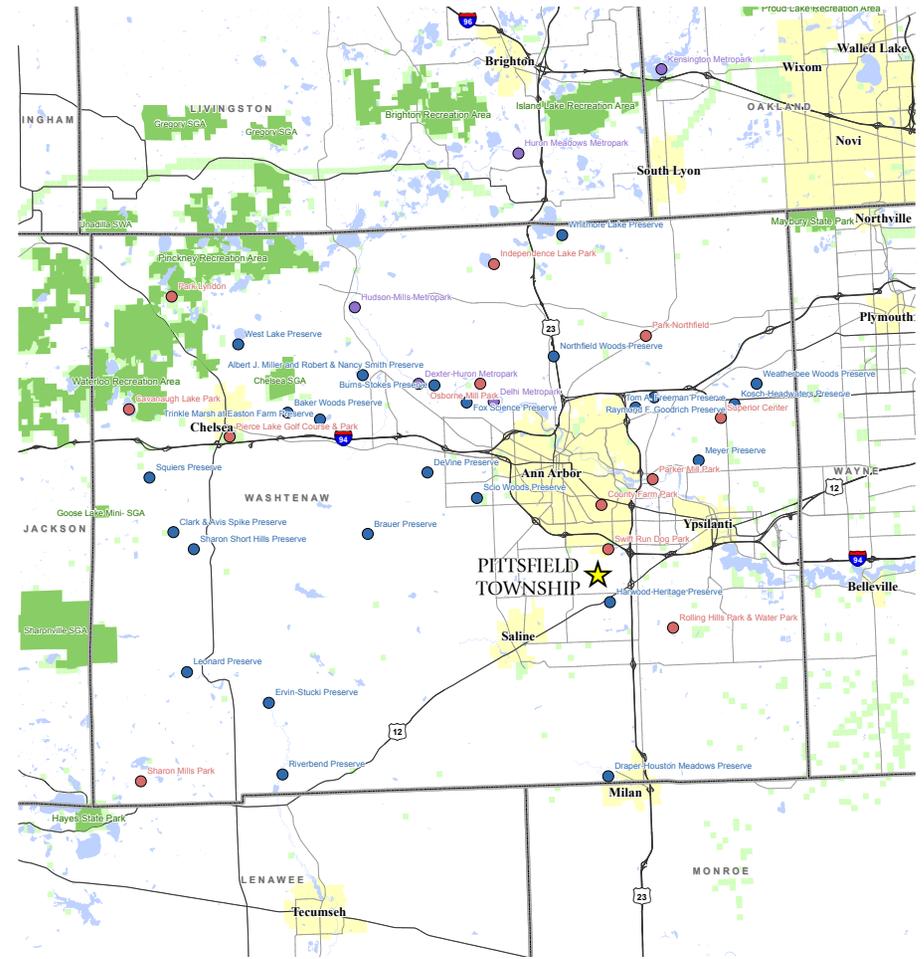
As seen from the map on the right, Pittsfield Township is in close proximity to a variety of recreational opportunities. Within Washtenaw County, there are about 15 preserves, 12 county parks, and three metro parks, as well as three state parks in the northwestern section of the county. In addition, there are several lakes that provide unique recreational opportunities such as fishing, kayaking and canoeing, and swimming. Among the different types of open space, Pittsfield residents can enjoy both passive and active outdoor activities.

ACCESSIBILITY EVALUATION

	Description
1	None of the facilities/parks meet accessibility guidelines
2	Some of the facilities/parks meet accessibility guidelines
3	Most of the facilities/parks meet accessibility guidelines
4	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines
5	The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design

Pittsfield Township's accessibility rankings span the entire range of scores 1-5. Of the 18 recreational areas evaluated, the average of scores was 2.9. The lower scores of "1" were mainly attributable to undeveloped sites which did not have trails, facilities, or parking lots to accommodate visitors. A score of "1" means that neither the park nor the facilities meet the accessibility guidelines. Only Hickory Woods was rated a "5" because the park and its facilities are well developed and use the principles of universal design. Some of the features attributed to its high score are a paved parking lot and a ramp leading to the park's several amenities: sidewalk, picnic pavilion, restrooms, and the play structures.

While all parks in Pittsfield Township have most of these amenities, the Township would like to apply for grants to both improve/expand restroom facilities and provide for universal access at parks. More thorough accessibility evaluations are included in the Inventory Table in the Appendix.



Regional Parks

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Pittsfield Township, FEMA, Washtenaw County GIS

Legend

- ★ Pittsfield Township
- Cities
- DNR Lands
- Lakes
- Counties
- Major Roads
- Michigan State Game, Wildlife and Park Boundaries
- Metroparks
- County Parks
- Preserves



PARKS AND RECREATION INVENTORY

An inventory of existing parks and recreation facilities owned and operated by Pittsfield Township occurred in October 2015. The Beckett & Raeder Team visited each park to take a detailed inventory of the recreation equipment and facilities, including the number, type and condition of the existing equipment. Detailed inventory sheets with this data, as well as observations, can be found in Appendix B. The parks and recreation areas range from mini parks of .34 acres to vast stretches of preserves, some as large as 500 acres. Only two parks were reported as having low use level. Since 2009, Pittsfield has installed about 7 miles of greenway (10' pathways) including the Platt Road Greenway and the Lohr-Textile Greenway (Pittsfield-mi.gov/transportation). Since their installation, these amenities have become an integral part of the community with the Lohr-Textile Greenway averaging daily use of over 200 pedestrians and cyclists.

When survey respondents were asked which of the five basic park features they enjoyed the most, a majority of respondents said they enjoyed trails (78%) and nature and wildlife viewing (59%). Playgrounds (45%) and picnic pavilions (31%) followed; athletic fields were favored by the fewest respondents (23%).

Trails dominated the list of 16 park amenities residents were asked to prioritize, taking the top two spots with "Pedestrian and bicycling trails" and a general "trails" choice. A closer look at these two results shows that pedestrian and bicycling trails were rated as the top priority by a solid margin over all trails, showing a preference for non-motorized transportation uses over recreational uses such as nature trails. Also interestingly, the response count for this item was 30 higher than for any other. This means that those respondents prioritized pedestrian and bicycling trails so highly they just marked that and moved on. With regard to specific forms of non-motorized connectivity, 10' wide pathways/greenways were the most highly prioritized, over sidewalks, bike lanes, bus transit respectively. Protected bike lanes were mentioned frequently in the open-ended comments. It is worth noting that the majority of respondents agree they can walk or bike to Township parks, and especially the 26% who strongly agree, are documenting success in this regard.

Lillie Park was the only park that a majority of respondents (65%) said they visit at least once a year, and it was also the most visited park overall. Montibeller and Pittsfield Preserve followed, each visited by 40% of respondents in a typical year. These responses highlight the need to provide parks such as Woolley and Hickory Woods that are closer to residential neighborhoods, particularly those in the northeastern and northwestern parts of Pittsfield.

Thirty percent of survey respondents noted that they had registered for a recreational program in the past two years. When asked which program, youth soccer had the highest participation rate among respondents at 9.8%, followed by youth special events with 8%. About or just under 5% of respondents' families had participated in youth T-ball, youth swimming, and adult fitness classes. For future prioritization, public input points to a need to expand adult recreational programming. Suggestions included adult beginner-level sport leagues, service focused programs, early-morning or after-work fitness program, drop-in activities, and dropping age restrictions on some seniors programs such as mahjong and sewing.



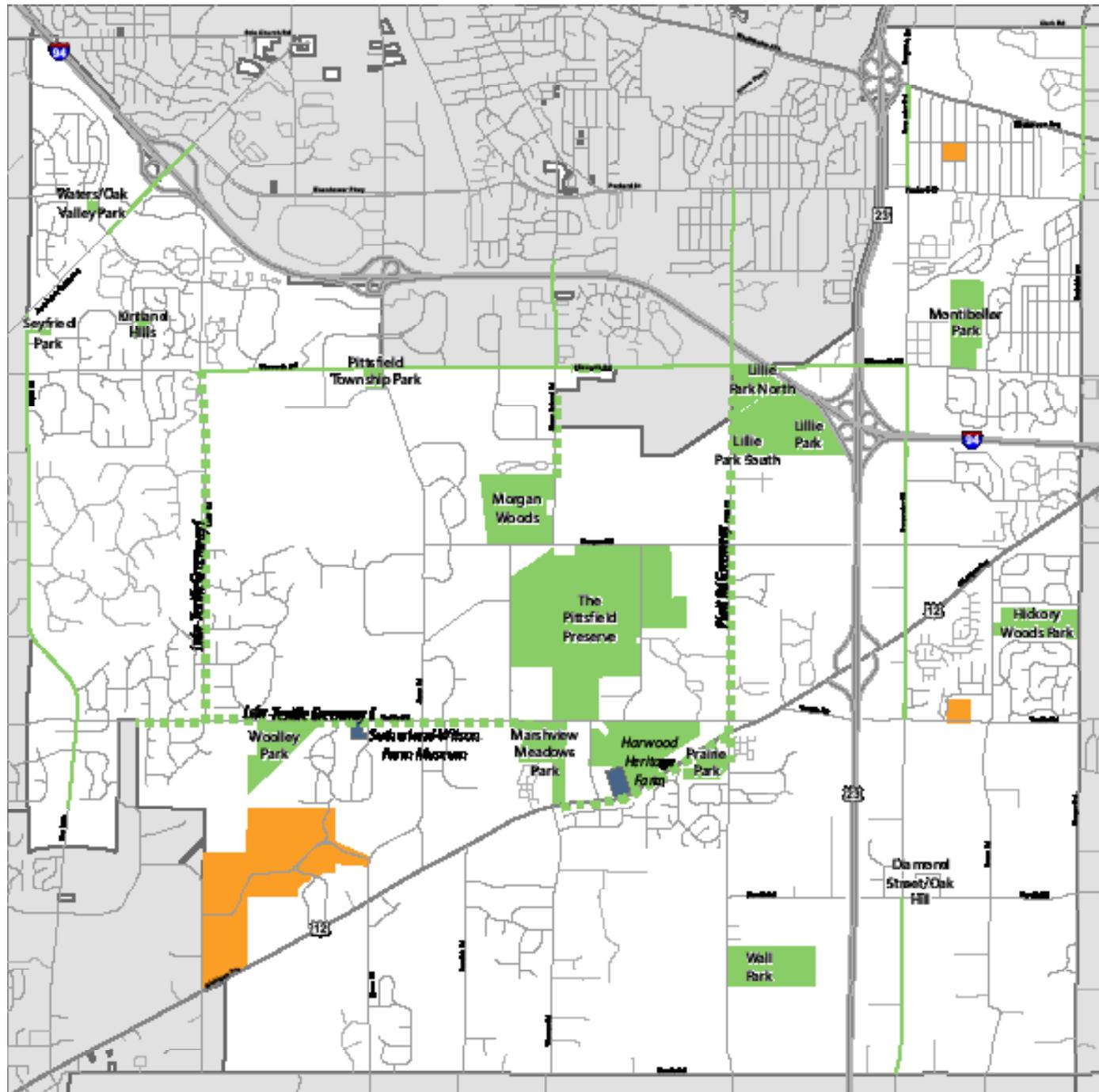
Park/Facility	General Purpose	Service Area <small>(Refer to Appendix D for definitions)</small>
Hickory Woods Park	Community Park. Multi-use trails, bio swales, wet meadows, picnic areas, play structure, small pavilion, butterfly garden	Community
Kirtland Hills Park	Trails, Swing Set	Neighborhood
Lester J. Montibeller Memorial Park	Community Park. Baseball and softball fields, multi-purpose courts, play structures	Community
Lillie Park (South, East, Central)	Large, urban park. Picnic facilities, paved trail way system, play area and multi-purpose building, soccer, lacrosse, ultimate frisbee	Regional
Lillie Park (North)	Community Park. Picnic areas, grills and a shelter, trails, fishing docks	Community
Lohr-Textile Greenway	Biking and walking trails	Greenway
Marsh View Meadows Park	Community Park. Trails, play structures, and picnic areas, restroom	Community
Oak Hill Neighborhood Park	Mini-park. Undeveloped, small wooded area	Community
Pittsfield Preserve, Morgan Woods	Natural Resource Area. Open space with wooded area with no formal trails	Regional
Pittsfield Preserve, South East [Old Hickory Trail]	Natural Resource Area. Walking paths through woods and farmland.	Regional
Pittsfield Preserve North	Natural Resource Area. Walking paths near woods, farmland, wetlands, grasslands	Regional
Pittsfield Township Park	Ball field, picnic areas, grills and a pavilion, play structure	Community
Platt Road Greenway	Biking and walking trails	Greenway
Prairie Park	Neighborhood Park. Play structures, trails, picnic areas	Neighborhood
Seyfried Park	Bee Apiary	Neighborhood
Sutherland-Wilson Farm	Natural Resource Area. Historic District	Community
Wall Park	Community Park/recreational facility. Soccer fields and a lacrosse field	Community
Woolley Park	Community Park. Soccer field, disc golf, basketball courts, play structures, picnic areas, trails, butterfly garden	Neighborhood





RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Pittsfield Township



Pittsfield Township Network

- Township Parks
- Historic Districts
- School Facilities
- Greenways
- Bike Lanes



PREVIOUS GRANT ASSISTANCE

All of the grants that Pittsfield Township have received are closed, meaning they have been completed according to grant stipulations. The Township has a long-standing history with receiving grant assistance for their park system. Dating back to 1971, the Township has received a number of six grants total for a combined value of over \$4.5 million dollars.

The post-completion, self-certification inspection forms and photos are in the Appendix. The six grants have helped fund land acquisitions and improvement for the following projects:

1. Montibeller Park (1971)	
Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$ 157,600
2. Central Area Rural Reserve - Phase 1 (2003)	
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund	\$340,800
3. Lillie Park (1995)	
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund	\$187,500
4. Lillie Park Restoration and Development (1999)	
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund	\$219,724
5. Lillie Park South and East (2000)	
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund	\$386,720
6. Hickory Woods Park Development (2009)	
Michigan Natural	\$300,000
7. Platt Road Greenway (2008)	
MDOT/STP-E	\$575,000
8. Lohr-Textile Greenway, Phase I (2012)	
Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation	\$790,000
9. Lohr-Textile, Phase II (2016)	
Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation	\$250,000
MDOT/TAP	\$1,364,708

RESOURCE INVENTORY

The Inventory is used to identify any lands that the Township may want to acquire in the future, as well as prioritizing any acquisitions. A map of each type of resource or feature that could be conserved, shown in relation to each other and to features of the built environment such as roads and boundaries, is a useful tool in the decision-making process.

The Resource Inventory map shows the location of wetlands, floodplains, farmland, forest land, preserves, and lakes. The map shows that preserves are located in the center of the Township with cropland interspersed throughout the township, although less so along the periphery of Pittsfield's boundaries. The map also shows that the north western and north eastern corner of the Township has relatively fewer parks.





Resource Inventory

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Pittsfield Township, FEMA, Washtenaw County GIS

Legend

- Township Parks
- Conservation Easement
- DNR Lands
- Forest Land
- Farmland/Open Space
- Pittsfield Preserve
- Wetland
- 100-Year Floodplain
- 500-Year Floodplain
- Regulatory Floodway
- Lakes
- Rivers
- Major Roads
- Minor Roads

Regional Network Parks

- University of Michigan
- City of Ann Arbor
- Ann Arbor Township
- Washtenaw County
- City of Saline

