

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD OAKLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN



RECREATION PLAN 2003 – 2008



Moving Forward Together

Charter Township of Waterford RECREATION PLAN

Prepared by
Charter Township of Waterford
Community Planning and Development Department
And
Parks and Recreation Department
October 2003

Adopted by the Waterford Parks and Recreation Board
January 2004

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SECTION I INTRODUCTION

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The Charter Township of Waterford is a community of over 73,000 people in Oakland County striving to meet the recreational and open space needs of its existing residents, as well as planning to ensure that the Township's recreation and open space capacities are expanded to accommodate its future residents. The Township has a number of recreation facilities and parks that are intended to meet a diverse range of interests - from activities such as soccer and baseball, to passive enjoyment of Waterford's natural surroundings, and to educational enjoyment and appreciation of Waterford's history. While Waterford currently possesses a diverse parks and recreation system, there are many improvements and additions that need to be made to satisfy the area's recreation capacity needs. The purpose of this Plan is to identify the future needs of Waterford Township between the years 2003 and 2008 by analyzing trends, studying the existing facilities and programs, identifying issues and creating goals to address the issues. The Township understands that this analysis cannot be done in a vacuum; the active participation of citizens in the needs assessment process is required to ensure that the expression of the community's recreation needs are properly reflective of the community as a whole.

The Township developed the goals and action items of this Recreation Plan through the comprehensive citizen participation process that was used by the Township during 2001 and 2002 to develop its Comprehensive Master Plan. The recreation goals and action items developed through this process represent realistic and reasonable solutions to the recreation and open space challenges faced by a large community. The Township utilized this citizen participation process for both its Master Plan and Recreation Plan to secure a strong level of support from the various segments of the community. The following sections describe the process used, the community analyses developed as the foundation of this Plan, the goals and action items developed by the citizen Master Plan subcommittee responsible for reviewing recreation and open space issues, as well as the documents related to the formal review and adoption of this 2003-2008 Recreation Plan for Waterford Township.

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**SECTION II
DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING AND PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

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The Charter Township of Waterford began planning to develop a new Community Master Plan in early 2000. The Township also decided to incorporate the development of a new five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan as part of the overall master planning process. As mentioned in the introduction, the primary emphasis of the planning process was citizen participation. The planning process consisted of six phases. The first phase involved a preliminary visioning workshop for community stakeholders to ascertain basic goal themes to guide the next phase of the planning process. The second phase involved conducting background research as well as assembling all interested citizens to serve on a Master Plan Citizen Committee to assist the Planning Commission with the development of community goals and objectives. Each citizen was also asked to serve on one of nine subcommittees dealing with specific subject areas; one of the subcommittees was responsible for the topics of recreation and open space. The third phase was concerned with conducting town forums and a final public hearing where the whole community was invited to review the work of the Master Plan Citizen Committee and Planning Commission. The fourth phase of the process was completion of the Comprehensive Master Plan document as well as to conduct the final master plan adoption process. The fifth phase was the development and adoption of the Master Plan Implementation Schedule. The final phase involved the completion of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan document as well as to conduct the final recreation plan adoption process.

PHASE I

The first phase began when the consulting firm Project Innovations, Inc. was hired to conduct the visioning workshop and prepare a final report for the Planning Commission. Thirty-one community stakeholders were invited and 24 participated in the workshop. On Saturday, June 17, 2000, after extensive discussion and several group exercises, five vision areas were recommended by the participants: commercial corridor improvement, environmental preservation, development of a central business district, creation of neighborhood nodes such as a Drayton Plains “village” center, and construction of a community recreation building. Recommendations resulting from the session were to develop strong public involvement and to use the five areas identified in the visioning workshop as the foundation for determining community goals and objectives through the Township master planning process. The report resulting from this workshop included as Appendix A of this Recreation Plan.

In a related matter, during the autumn of 2000, the Township’s Economic Development Corporation (EDC) hired the consulting firm Beckett and Raeder, Inc. to conduct a walkability study of Waterford as part of an effort to encourage and promote walkability in the Township. In order to incorporate the walkability study into the preliminary master plan process, the Planning Commission asked the EDC to conduct the study after the conclusion of the visioning workshop. Both the EDC and the consultant agreed to this request. In the autumn of 2000, Beckett and Raeder began their study of walkability in Waterford. The walkability study also included a community workshop on January 15, 2001 and a children’s workshop on January 16, 2001. The consultant completed a report on their findings and presented it to the EDC on May 17, 2001. The report was accepted by the Township Board in May 2001 and was provided to the Planning Commission for use in the development of the new Master Plan. The Walkability Study is included as Appendix B of this Recreation Plan.

PHASE II

Once the walkability study was underway and the visioning workshop report was received and reviewed by the Planning Commission, the next phase began with the creation of the Master Plan Citizen Committee of the Whole which would provide for active citizen involvement. The Commission decided to create from the Master Plan Committee of the Whole, nine subcommittees, with each subcommittee focusing on a specific topic. Each of the nine Commissioners would have the responsibility for chairing one of the subcommittees. Since the visioning workshop included focal points of the commercial corridors, environment, recreation, and the concept of neighborhood nodes, four of the subcommittees were created to address these issues. Transportation was added to the commercial corridor issues and would be reviewed by the Transportation and Commercial Corridor Subcommittee. The Environment

Subcommittee would review environmental issues. The Recreation and Open Space Subcommittee would review not only the community recreation building concept, but also other recreation issues and the concept of open space. The concept of neighborhood nodes was merged with the issues surrounding the Waterford Village Historic District for the Historic District and Neighborhood Nodes Subcommittee to investigate. Five additional subcommittees were created to review issues normally associated with master planning: the Capital Improvements and Municipal Services Subcommittee, the Economic Development Subcommittee, the Education and Public Services Subcommittee, the Housing and Demographics Subcommittee, and the Zoning Ordinance and Landscape Aesthetics Subcommittee. Each Subcommittee, chaired by a Planning Commissioner, included five to seven members of the Master Plan Citizen Committee and one of the Township planners served as the Subcommittee staff member.

The Recreation and Open Space Subcommittee met five times during May through August 2001. The members of the Subcommittee represented a cross section of Waterford Township's population. The mission of the Recreation and Open Space Subcommittee was to review and inventory the Township's dedicated recreational areas and the current Recreation Plan, to investigate means of preserving and enhancing the Township's open space, and to discuss and determine the most effective tools for protecting these resources. The Subcommittee discussed topics relating to recreation such as the available Township, County and State parks, public school playgrounds, athletic fields, as well as the numerous private recreation opportunities. The Subcommittee also reviewed Waterford's existing park network, parkland distribution, and the activities offered. Information was gathered about existing conditions, population, demographic changes, visioning workshops, land use exercises, residential surveys and interviews with key community persons. Many of the Subcommittee members also participated in the Walkability Study. The Subcommittee meetings were focused on exploring the diversity and distribution of park recreation areas, and the preservation of natural open space areas.

The following is a synopsis of the Subcommittee's review and discussions. These discussions and review ultimately led to the development of recreation and open space goals and objectives for review by the Master Plan Committee of the Whole. Waterford Township is home to numerous and varied public and private recreational opportunities. There are currently fourteen Township-owned parks, covering approximately 640 acres, as well as State and County-owned recreational facilities. The current Recreation Master Plan was completed in 1997 and is undergoing review as part of this Master Plan process. The current Recreation Master Plan documents the existing park and recreational facilities available to Township residents. The park component of the Recreation Master Plan identified a list of goals summarizing public desire to fulfill and expand the increasing recreational needs of the community. The Recreation and Open Space Subcommittee identified many of the same concerns and goals for the recreational needs of the community, as well as promoting ideas on open space preservation. The Subcommittee considered ways in which Waterford, Oakland County's most populated township, could actively pursue the preservation of open space in new developments. Estimates of developed area put Waterford in the ninetieth percentile range, and consequently, there is little natural area left to protect. However, Waterford is fortunate to have beautiful and rare natural areas that should be given priority in establishing conservation areas. One such example of open space protected by the Township is the Elizabeth Lake Woods Conservation Area, located between Elizabeth Lake Road and Cooley Lake Road. The Clinton River flows through this nature preserve, which is home to rare and endangered species, important riparian wetlands, and forested uplands. Studies continue to support the need for open and natural spaces in promoting the overall health and vitality of a community. Parks, open space, and nature preserves positively impact surrounding property values, provide great economic benefits by attracting and retaining businesses and residents, help protect our water quality, and regulate the quantity of storm water runoff. The Subcommittee members concluded that Waterford Township has a small window of opportunity to take steps to ensure that its remaining, high quality natural areas are protected and preserved. Results of surveys and workshops continually express the residents' interest in protecting our natural areas and making Waterford a place where people want to live and take pride in their community. The complete record of the Recreation and Open Space Subcommittee minutes is included as Appendix C of this Recreation Plan.

As part of the second phase background research, ten key stakeholders representing members of the Township Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Township department heads, and the Road Commission for Oakland County were interviewed. The results of the interview indicated that the key stakeholders shared the same opinions on Waterford's strengths and weaknesses as the Master Plan Committee members. Some of the recurring points among the key stakeholders were:

- the need for an improved and expanded nonmotorized path system
- strong emphasis on walkability, and
- the need for a strong community center and activities for Township youth.

The key stakeholders expressed as part of their views that the Township has historically done well in protecting the lakes and establishing a park system and bikepath system within the Township. Among the key stakeholders' identified potential threats to the future well-being of the Waterford community were continued development on the lakes, lack of land for park and recreation expansion, and balancing government expenses with the revenues needed to mitigate these potential threats.

The Planning Commission wanted to find out if the Committee members also reflected and shared the opinion and values of the general public, so as part of the background research, the Commissioners decided to use a scientific poll to measure public opinion. In order to obtain the best possible cross-section of public opinion on the ideas being discussed by the Subcommittees, the Township decided to hire the professional polling firm of EPIC/MRA to conduct a scientific telephone survey. The process used involved the Subcommittees developing draft questions, then submitting these questions to EPIC/MRA. EPIC/MRA then developed a survey document based on the questions and conducted the survey July 7 through 10, 2001. The survey results are based on a population sample size of 298 respondents, with a ± 5.7 percent error rate. A complete description of the methodology used and a report on the results can be found in Appendix D.

The population sample used for the survey involved a substantial majority of 68 percent, who have lived in Waterford for more than ten years. A majority of those surveyed were also Waterford property owners. As measured by the survey, Waterford citizens were generally satisfied with their community. While the consensus was that the biggest problem or issue facing the Waterford Township government is taxes, 56 percent expressed the opinion that there is nothing they dislike about Waterford Township. Over 82 percent say location, sense of community, neighbors, and the lakes are what they like the most about living in Waterford Township. The survey focused on gaining public insight into ten topics, including recreation. Those surveyed supported many of the concepts presented to them regarding recreation. The most significant findings in the recreation topic area is as follows.

Existing parks were strongly supported by the citizens, but opinion was evenly split between adding active parks or adding passive parks. People were divided on supporting a millage to pay for acquisition of land for additional active parks, but the level of support increased to strong majority for requiring developers to set aside land in their developments for parks. There was support for constructing and developing a community center, but the majority of respondents clearly did not want other services cut to fund a center. Nearly 60 percent would support a millage to pay for a community center, provided that the annual additional property tax they pay was less than \$80.00.

The remainder of the background research conducted as part of Phase II can be found in Sections III through V of this Recreation Plan. This background research includes a description of the Township's physical features, including location, climate, soils, topography, natural features, hydrology, vegetation, wildlife, sites of environmental contamination, historic sites, and a description of the area's transportation network. The research also includes descriptions of the Township's social features such as existing population, analyzes past trends and projects the area's population. Population features including age/sex distribution, racial distribution, people with physical disabilities, types of households, employment and income status. Finally, the background research concludes with a description of the recreation facilities in and around Waterford. A description of the Township facilities, school facilities, and major recreation facilities in the area are included in the inventory.

PHASE III

After the conclusion of Phase II in September 2001, two public town forums and one official public hearing were held between October 2001 and November 2002 to provide additional community input into the Master Plan goals and objectives developed by the Citizen Committee and the Planning Commission. The following is a brief description of the results of these public forums as they relate to recreation.

A town forum workshop was scheduled for October 17, 2001 at Waterford Mott High School. The intent of the town forum was to invite the public to attend and participate in evaluating the major master plan themes developed from the Subcommittee goals and objectives. Forty-seven citizens attended the town forum and participated in the workshop. Two views, one pro and one con, of twenty issues were presented to the participants for discussion. Five of the issues presented were related to recreation. From the results, it became apparent that a majority of the groups agreed with the majority of the principles for each issue. Only one issue was considered undecided. Weighing how the groups voted and taking into account the importance point totals, below is a summary list of how the different recreation issues were evaluated.

STRONGLY AGREED

- The Township should construct a community center building
- The community center building should have a pool
- The Township should build interconnected pedestrian pathways throughout the community
- Pedestrian safety improvements along M-59 and Dixie Highway should be a high priority

UNDECIDED

- The Township should purchase land for parks and preservation of environmentally sensitive land (*Please Note: This issue appears in the undecided column because the group votes measured during this exercise showed opinion split evenly on this issue. The individual votes appeared to lean slightly towards favoring this issue.*)

In addition, the participants were asked to choose their three most important issues out of the combined list of pro and con items. Because of the voting technique used, there were 282 votes available for deciding the most important issue. Once the votes were tallied, the most important issue, with 13 percent of the votes, was the development of a community center. Another of the top five ranked items, at six percent, was the construction of a community pool. Among the general public participating in this town forum, there seemed to be little to no disagreement with the recreation goals and objectives developed by the Master Plan Subcommittees. The details on the process used and results of the first town forum are described in Appendix E.

The second town forum workshop was held on May 1, 2002, at the Hess-Hathaway Park Community Building. The goal of this second workshop was to provide the general public with a progress report on the future land use component of the master plan process and the opportunity to participate in evaluating the new land use designation components proposed for the new Master Plan. Twenty-six citizens attended the town forum and participated in the workshop. There was strong support among the participants for the Township to implement the walkability concepts as part of the new Master Plan. However, there were some strong concerns raised about one particular objective of the walkability goal. The objective of creating a riverwalk along the Clinton River had both strong support among many of the town forum participants and vehement opposition from a group of participants who live along the Clinton River. These participants were strongly opposed to any efforts to locate a riverwalk along the Clinton River in areas where the property is privately owned and used for single-family residences. This particular group of town forum participants believed so strongly in their position that they placed all of their opposition votes on the riverwalk issue. Therefore, while the overall concept of the riverwalk appears to be supported by the community, this support needs to be tempered with the understanding that the objective of establishing a riverwalk system must also contain the requirement that it will not be constructed along those segments of the Clinton River where single family residences are constructed and the riparian rights belong to the owners of these residential properties. Township staff will work with the property owners in these residential areas to determine an effective linkage between riverwalk segments

that do not negatively affect the quality of life for those property owners with residences located along the Clinton River. The details on the process used and results of the second town forum are described in Appendix E.

After the conclusion of the second town forum, the drafting of the final Master Plan document began. Three public master plan review sessions were held during the July 9, 2002, August 13, 2002, and September 10, 2002, regularly scheduled Planning Commission meetings. In addition to these public meetings, the initial draft was submitted to stakeholder agencies and all of the adjacent municipalities for their review and comment. The Township received comments from only one municipality, Commerce Township. The Commerce Township Supervisor and Township Planning Director both complimented Waterford on the citizen involvement in the master plan process and asked about the costs involved in Waterford's process. There were no objections to any of the goals, objectives, or proposed future land uses.

On November 26, 2002, at 6:30 p.m., in the Waterford Township Auditorium, the Planning Commission held the public hearing on the new Master Plan. The Township worked on notifying the public of the Master Plan public hearing throughout October and November 2002. Besides the required printed legal notifications, notifications were posted on the Township's website and the municipal cable station. Announcements were made publicly by the Township Supervisor at two Township Board meetings, which are telecast live on cable. The Planning Commission Chair also announced the public hearing date during the live telecast of the October 22, 2002, Planning Commission meeting. Displays of the draft future land use map were posted on each floor of Township Hall and at the Library, along with copies of the public hearing notice.

After the Township staff made a brief presentation on the proposed goals, future land use map, and land use designations, the Planning Commission opened the public hearing. There were no objections to any of the recreation goals, objectives, or proposed future land uses. The Planning Commission then closed the public hearing and instructed Township staff to complete work on the final draft for Planning Commission review prior to final adoption.

PHASE IV

Township staff continued to work on completing the final draft Master Plan between the conclusion of the public hearing and the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting on December 10, 2002. The Planning Commissioners were provided a rough final draft for their review. The Planning Commission held special meetings on both December 19, 2002 and January 2, 2003 to discuss and review the final Master Plan draft. At the January 2, 2003 meeting, the Planning Commission decided that the final Master Plan draft prepared by Township staff was complete and fully expressed the long-range land use goals for Waterford. Therefore, the Planning Commission adopted the final draft, dated December 30, 2002, as Waterford's new Master Plan. The final form of the document was then completed, assembled, and submitted to Oakland County for their review and approval. The County completed their review and formally approved Waterford's Master Plan on May 13, 2003.

PHASE V

An implementation schedule and timeline was then developed for all of the Master Plan action items. This schedule and timeline was then presented and discussed at a joint meeting of the Township Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Economic Development Corporation on June 18, 2003. Each board adopted the Master Plan goals and objectives as the road map to guide their respective decision-making during the next twenty years, as well as adopt and support the implementation schedule and timeline.

PHASE VI

The final Recreation Plan for 2003-2008 was then finalized and submitted to the Parks and Recreation Board and the Township Board for approval and adoption.

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SECTION III ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

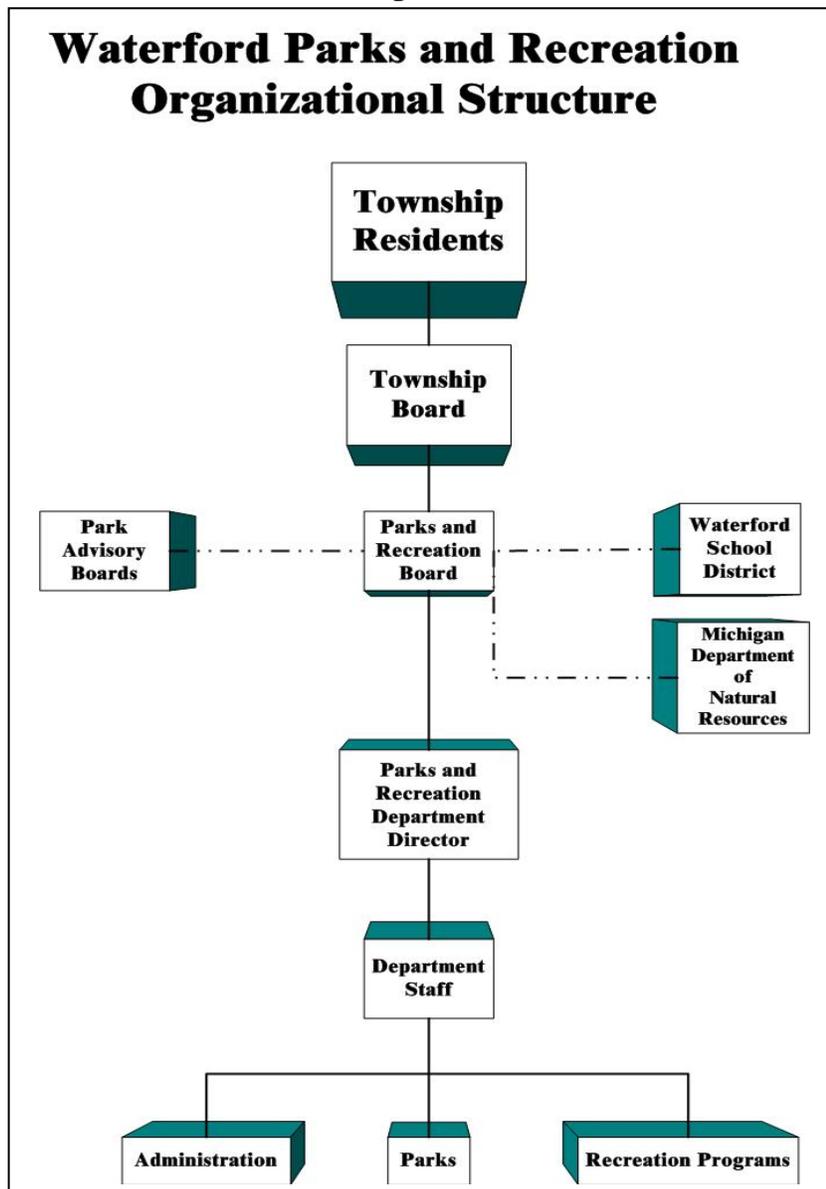
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Waterford Township is organized to provide governmental services to the citizens within its municipal boundaries pursuant to the State of Michigan's Charter Township Act. This particular State Act permits a general law township to incorporate as a charter township, which allows certain additional authority to perform desired governmental functions and services and the ability to levy a general tax of up to 5 mills for municipal purposes. The Charter Township Act also provides substantial relief from annexation of township territory to an adjoining city. Waterford was one of the first townships to incorporate under the Charter Township Act, operating as a Charter Township since September 12, 1961. The Township is governed by the seven member Township Board; the members consisting of the Township Supervisor, Township Clerk, Township Treasurer, and four Trustees. The Township Supervisor is also the chief administrative official of the Township, overseeing the daily operations of nine departments, Assessing, Building & Engineering, Community Planning & Development, Fire, Fiscal & Human Resources, Library, Parks & Recreation, Police, and Public Works.

The Township Board established a Recreation System Ordinance to govern the operation and maintenance of a park system and recreation services for Waterford citizens. The Ordinance established an appointed seven member Recreation Board to adopt rules, regulations, and policies necessary to conduct the affairs and operation of the Township's recreation system. All such actions are subject to the approval of the Township Board. The Ordinance also provides for the establishment of a Parks and Recreation Department and the hiring of a Parks and Recreation Director and the necessary support staff. The Department functions as a line agency reporting to the Township Supervisor and responsible for implementing recreational programs in accordance with the policies adopted by the Recreation Board and the Township Board. The Ordinance permits the Recreation Board to prepare and submit an annual budget, which is generally completed through the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Department Director and support staff. Parks and Recreation staff cooperate with other Township departments, local service clubs, other governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private sector to enhance the efforts to provide a diverse offering of recreation facilities and programs to Waterford citizens. Agencies such as the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission's facility at Waterford Oaks County Park, the Waterford School District's recreation facilities, and the adoption of Township parks by local service clubs are examples of that cooperative programming.

Responsibilities for Township recreational programs rests with the Parks and Recreation Board as indicated above. Day to day management is the responsibility of the Director, who oversees program and policy implementation by the department staff. The staff also provides office support services and the manpower necessary to maintain and operate Township recreational facilities and park sites. The staff currently consists of a senior programs supervisor, a recreation programs supervisor, a parks foreman and clerical staff. (Please refer to Figure III-1 for the general Department organizational structure).

Figure III-1



The Parks and Recreation Department has adopted the following as its mission statement:

The Waterford Township Parks and Recreation Department through its Board of Commissioners, staff, programs, services and facilities seeks to enhance the quality of life and the environment, to acquire, conserve, and protect natural resources, and to provide leisure time opportunities for the benefit of the citizens and families of Waterford Township.

The Department has also established the following policies and procedures to assist them in achieving their mission:

1. A minimum of every five years the Township will evaluate the extent to which the Waterford citizens' recreational needs are met, the Township will then prepare an updated Parks and Recreation Master Plan using criteria from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

2. The Township will coordinate planning efforts with neighboring communities/governments in a regional effort to provide better services to residents.
3. The Township will continue to work cooperatively with the Waterford School District to provide, whenever possible, recreation facilities, programs and open space at school sites.
4. The Township will pursue the inclusion of sensitive environments, such as wetlands, floodplains, and woodlands, into a network of linked open space through targeted acquisition, donations, and development designs that protect these areas.
5. The Township will annually review its "Fees and Charges Policy" to reflect responsible fiscal management of community resources and tax dollars. Within these parameters, services should be priced within a range which reflects the ability of a family with a median income to afford the service. Individuals who need financial assistance should be identified and supported through the scholarship/financial assistance program.
6. The Township provides equal and quality recreation for community members with disabilities. Parks and Recreation strives to ensure that people with disabilities have the necessary accommodations or support to participate in any recreation program at their highest level of independence. Specialized programming is also offered to increase opportunities and meet unique needs of individuals.

Staff members will be involved as necessary in cooperative programs with other recreational agencies operating in the area to achieve the Township's recreation goals. From a practical standpoint, the Parks and Recreation staff will participate most actively and frequently with the Waterford School District regarding the cooperative recreational use of school sites. These facilities are also publicly owned and are of great value in fulfilling local neighborhood recreational needs, play field facilities, and senior citizen services/programs. The cooperative arrangements between the Township and School District represents an optimum utilization of public properties through an improved economy in providing services and facilities.

Cooperative efforts with state and county recreational facilities provide incidental achievement of recreation goals, but the relative value in fulfilling the ongoing needs of local residents is minimal. This is not a reflection of inadequacies of these other facilities; to the contrary, they are excellent regional resources and consequently attract extensive volumes of users from the surrounding communities in addition to Waterford residents.

Based upon the factors explained above, Waterford Township together with the critical contribution of School District facility resources remains as the primary provider of neighborhood, play field, and community park facilities. It is anticipated that this team provider of recreation will continue into the foreseeable future.

The Township has historically provided funds for recreational purposes, which have risen from some \$550,000 in the early 1980s to approximately \$2,000,000 in 2003. This increase in dollars also represents an increase in Parks and Recreation's share of the Township general fund budget, from 4.7 percent in 1981 to 8.4 percent in 2003. While some fluctuations in funding have occurred when inflation is factored in, the Township Board has remained committed to providing reasonable funding for recreation facilities and programs.

Table III-1 identifies a summary of the Parks and Recreation Department actual and estimated expenditures over the past five years. Overall, expenditures increased by nearly 42 percent during the period starting in 1999 and going through 2004. The Township Board approves the Department's budget and the expenditures are paid with the revenues generated by taxes , user fees, and other sources where available.

Table III-1
Charter Township Of Waterford Parks and Recreation Department
1999-2004 Expenditures

Category	1999 (actual)	2000 (actual)	2001 (actual)	2002 (actual)	2003 (budgeted)	2004 (budgeted)	Six Year Change (in percent)
Employee Salaries, Training and Benefits	\$ 932,520	\$ 993,160	\$1,073,452	\$1,214,035	\$1,274,232	\$1,482,205	58.9
Supplies, Utilities, Miscellaneous	\$ 166,586	\$ 154,501	\$ 196,358	\$ 205,818	\$ 241,150	\$ 287,980	72.9
Repair and Maintenance	\$ 47,073	\$ 40,350	\$ 39,687	\$ 38,466	\$ 64,575	\$ 124,115	163.7
Recreation Activities	\$ 472,605	\$ 519,775	\$ 500,012	\$ 659,164	\$ 452,200	\$ 448,233	-5.2
Capital Improvements	\$ 41,751	\$ 40,049	\$ 4,747	\$ 20,083	\$ 8,200	\$ 9,523	-77.2
<i>Total</i>	\$1,660,535	\$1,747,835	\$1,814,256	\$2,137,566	\$2,040,357	\$2,352,056	41.6

Source: Charter Township of Waterford

SECTION IV PHYSICAL FEATURES

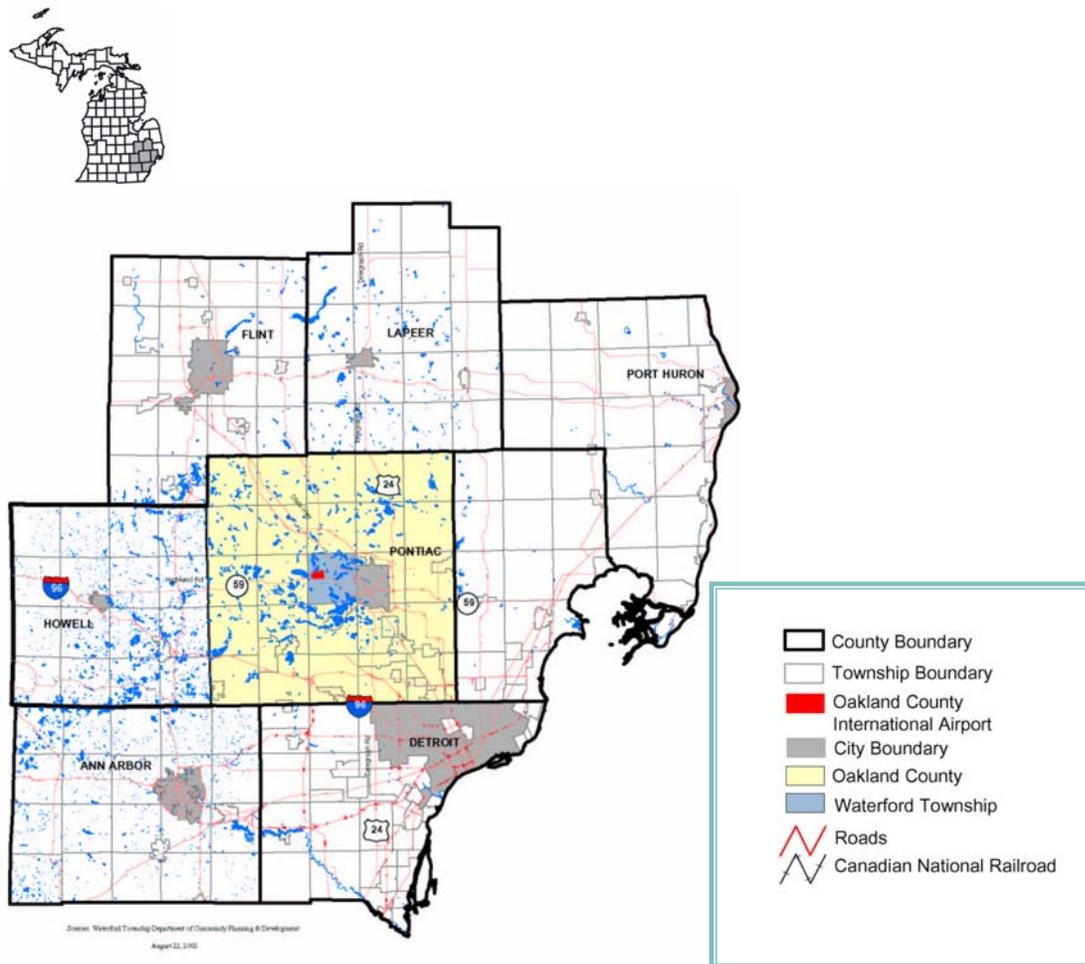
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The Physical Features Section of This Plan describes many of the area's natural and built features. The purpose of this section is to provide users of the Plan with an overview of the physical features since recreation activities are so closely related to physical attributes.

GEOGRAPHY

Waterford Township, comprising approximately 35 square miles, is located in the geographic center of Oakland County, Michigan. As shown in Map IV-1, the general location of the Township is in the northwestern portion of the greater Detroit metropolitan area. Waterford borders the Cities of Lake Angelus, Pontiac, and Auburn Hills on the east; the Townships of Springfield, Independence and Orion on the north; the Township of White Lake on the west; and the cities of Sylvan Lake and Keego Harbor, and the Townships of Commerce and West Bloomfield on the south. Waterford is 30 miles northwest of downtown Detroit, 25 miles southeast of Flint, 55 miles east of Lansing, and 35 miles northeast of Ann Arbor.

**Map IV-1
Location of the Charter Township of Waterford**



GEOLOGY

The geology of Waterford Township has been visibly influenced by the glacial history of the United States. Large areas of glacial deposition occurred in the south-central portions of Michigan, including Waterford Township, as evidenced by the existing topography, deposits of glacial drift, and the presence of the many lakes in the Township. The topography of the Township is generally low rolling hills with variations on a minor scale, existing throughout the majority of the area. Land elevations differ between 930 feet and 1,104 feet above sea level.

CLIMATE

The climate of this area is typical of that of the rest of the State of Michigan and other Midwestern states. There are four distinct seasonal changes in the climate, with a moderate growing season from late April to early October. The temperature ranges from an average maximum of 82° Fahrenheit in July to an average minimum of 16° Fahrenheit in January, with an annual mean temperature of 48° Fahrenheit. Annual precipitation averages about 30 inches, with February averaging the lowest monthly precipitation at 1.49 inches and June averaging the highest monthly precipitation at 3.16 inches.

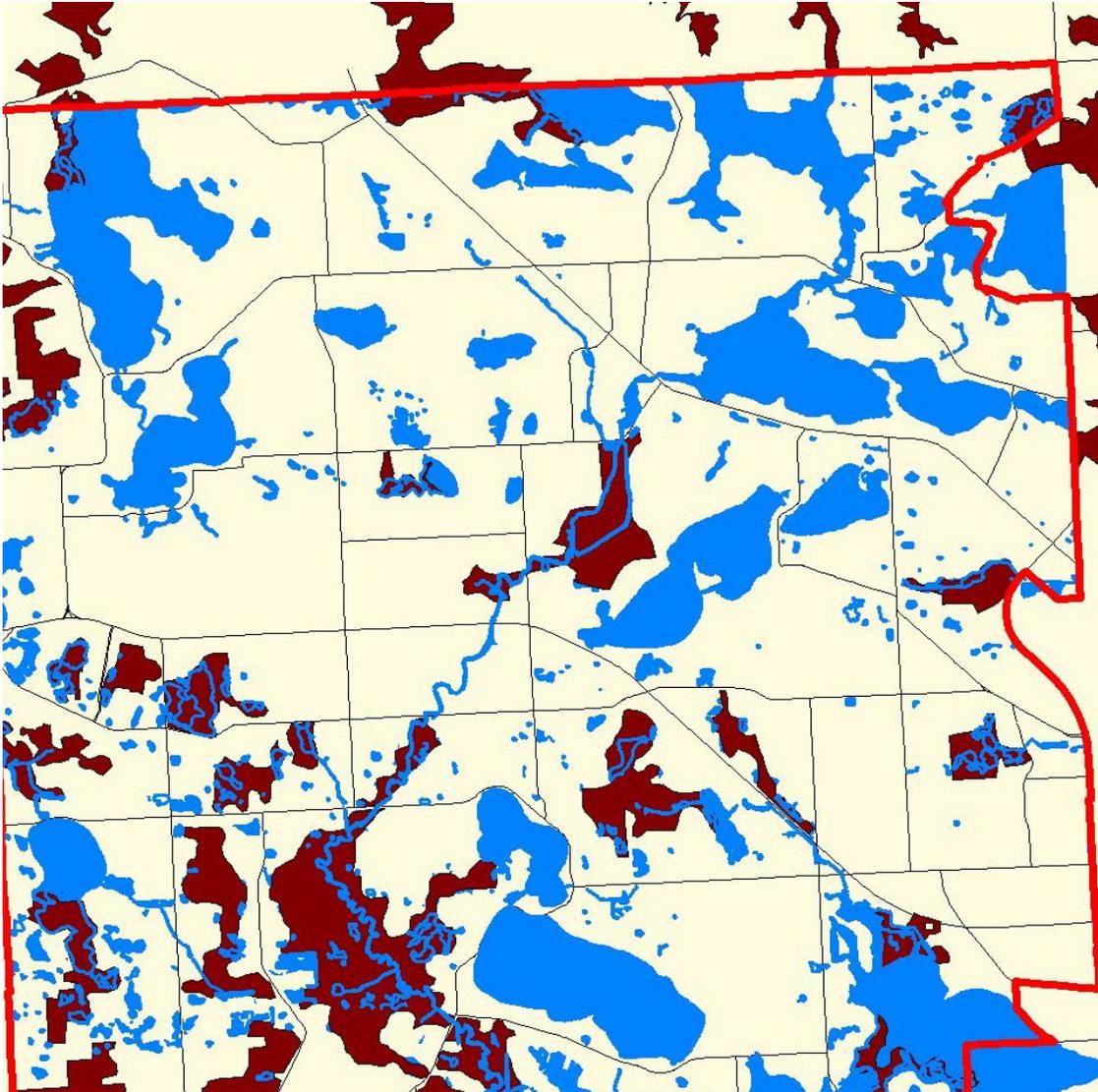
NATURAL FEATURES

Perhaps the most outstanding natural attraction in Waterford Township is the abundance of water bodies. To a great extent, the opportunity to live near one of these water bodies has been the prime catalyst for Waterford's population growth. Waterford has more than 34 lakes, containing 3,080 acres, which provide ample year round recreational activities. In addition, the main branch of the Clinton River runs through the approximate center of the Township from north to south. Several large wetland areas are also located throughout the Township, particularly in the southwest quadrant of the Township and adjacent to the Clinton River flood plain.

The identification of natural features that exist in a community is an important component of the physical features analysis. With such information, the Township can make informed decisions regarding the use of land for recreation while also preserving and protecting the community's natural resources.

The Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) was contracted by Oakland County to survey areas of important natural features. MNFI maintains a continuously updated information base, the only comprehensive, single source of data on Michigan's endangered, threatened, or special concern plant and animal species, natural communities, and other natural features. MNFI has responsibility for inventorying and tracking the State's rarest species and exceptional examples of the whole array of natural communities. MNFI also provides information to resource managers for many types of permit applications regarding these elements of diversity. The areas identified by MNFI are shown in Map IV-2.

Map IV-2
Natural Features Areas in Waterford Township



In addition to the lakes and the Clinton River, Waterford Township is fortunate to have two state parks located within its boundaries. Dodge Park No. 4 features an excellent beach on Cass Lake. Pontiac Lake State Park, in addition to a large lake and beach, offers archery and rifle ranges as well as hiking and biking trails that attract outdoor enthusiasts from around southeast Michigan. Combined, the two parks total six square miles of state owned park recreational land. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) also maintains access sites on six of the large lakes located in Waterford. These lakes are Oakland, Loon, Maceday, Pontiac, Crescent, and Cass. A locally recognized nature preserve called the Drayton Plains Nature Center is located on the Clinton River and encompasses 148 acres in the center of the Township. The Nature Center provides a haven for waterfowl and wildlife and is a stopover site during spring and fall bird migrations. The Nature Center has an education facility that provides outdoor science programs for local school children and for the citizens of Waterford to learn about their natural environs. Within this Nature Center, the DNR utilizes several rearing ponds each spring to raise native game fish, such as Pike and Walleye, which it stocks in lakes and rivers throughout the State. There are also over 700 acres of Township-owned recreation land and over 400 acres of School District-owned recreation land. About one-third of the total recreation land owned by the Township is contained in its largest park, Elizabeth Lake Woods, a natural conservation area located in the south central part of the Township. The first parcels of this park were purchased in the early 1990s with funds provided by The Nature Conservancy and a State of Michigan grant. The parcels were then deeded to the Township. These parcels contain a mature oak forest occurs on sandy knolls paralleling the Clinton River. The oak forest is bordered on either side by floodplain forest and southern swamp. This forest type is of local and regional ecological significance, as estimates show that less than one percent of the original oak forests of Michigan remain intact. In 1987, of the remaining forests types surveyed by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory, Elizabeth Lake Woods ranked second in sites of statewide importance. The sandy tree-covered hills also provide protection for the rare and endangered freshwater mussel communities, which occur in this section of the Clinton River, but are rapidly disappearing in other parts of the State. The park provides a tranquil setting for canoers, hikers, and wildlife enthusiasts looking for an escape into nature.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

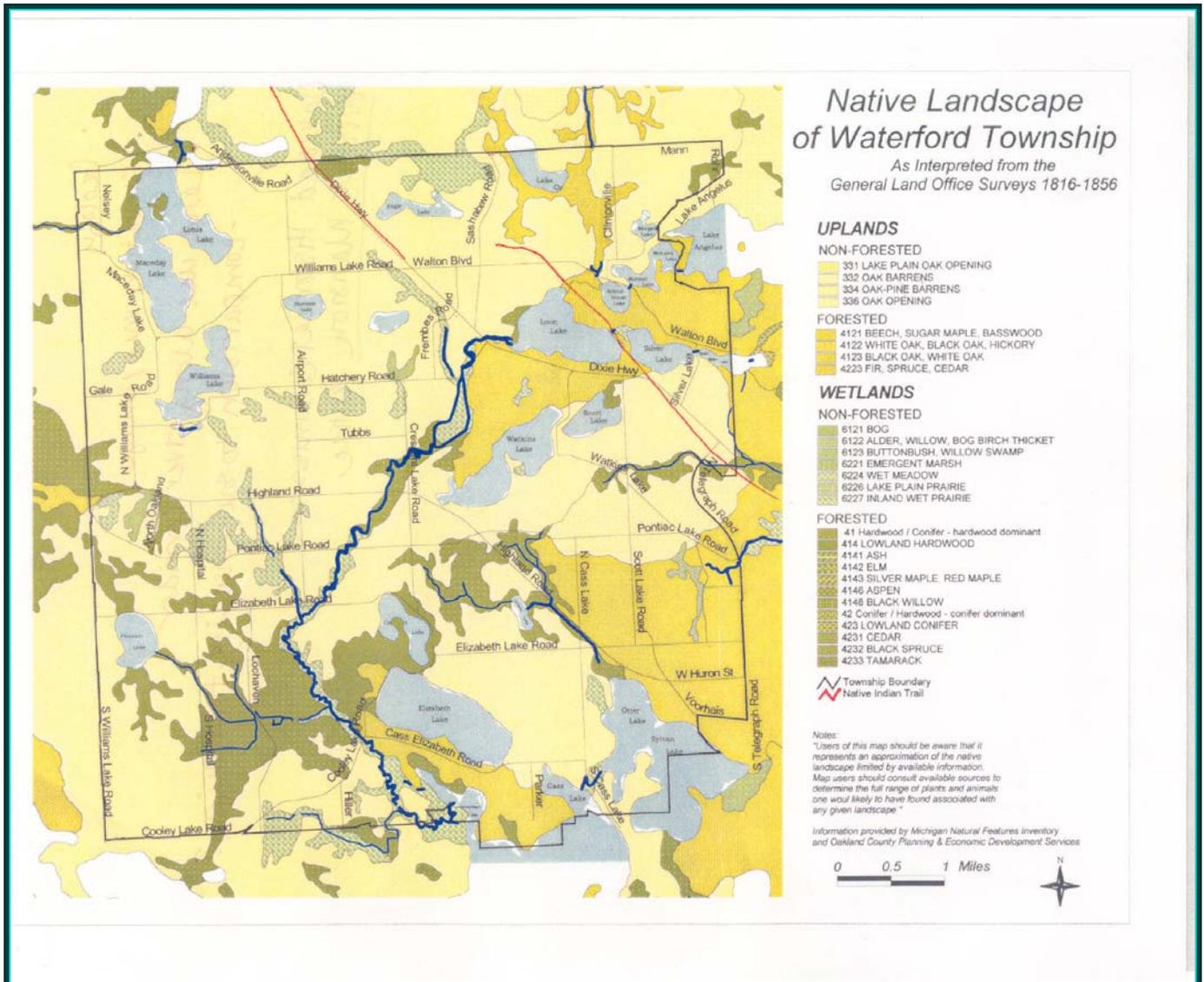
Waterford Township was primarily woody scrublands in the 1800s with substantial wetland and water cover, as well as forest cover, as is shown in Table IV-1 and Map IV-3. Nearly 13,000 acres, or 58 percent of Waterford's land was covered by woody scrublands depicted as the open savannahs and barrens on Map IV-3. These were areas of scattered oaks mixed with tall grass prairie. Wetlands, lakes, and rivers covered nearly 6,400 acres, or 28 percent. The remaining 3,099 acres, or 14 percent, of land was covered by broadleaf and evergreen forest. For comparison purposes, the existing land use in 2001 is developed on 55 percent of Waterford's land, with 10,443 acres used for residential and 2,126 acres used for commercial and industrial purposes. Approximately 3,570 acres, or 16 percent, was used for public and recreational purposes in 2001. Fifteen percent, or approximately 3,283 acres, of the Township land remains as water in 2001. The transformation of Waterford's landscape during the past 200 years had the greatest impact on the amount of oak habitats, with the majority of this land cleared for development of the Township's residential and commercial uses. The second largest impact can be seen in the reduction of the amount of land designated as wetlands, lakes, and rivers. The greatest share of this reduction can probably be attributed to the development practices prior to the mid-1970s where wetlands were typically filled and developed.

**Table IV-1
 Native Land Cover Distribution
 Waterford Township
 1816-1856**

Land Cover	Acres	Percent
Broadleaf Forest	2,854.4	12.7
Spruce/Fir/Cedar Forest	244.5	1.1
Forested Wetlands	2,401.5	10.7
Woody Shrub/Scrub	12,992.2	57.9
Non-Forested Wetlands	1,224.1	5.5
Lake/River	2,736.2	12.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>22,452.9</i>	<i>100.0</i>

Source: Michigan Natural Features Inventory

Map IV-3
Native Landscape of Waterford Township

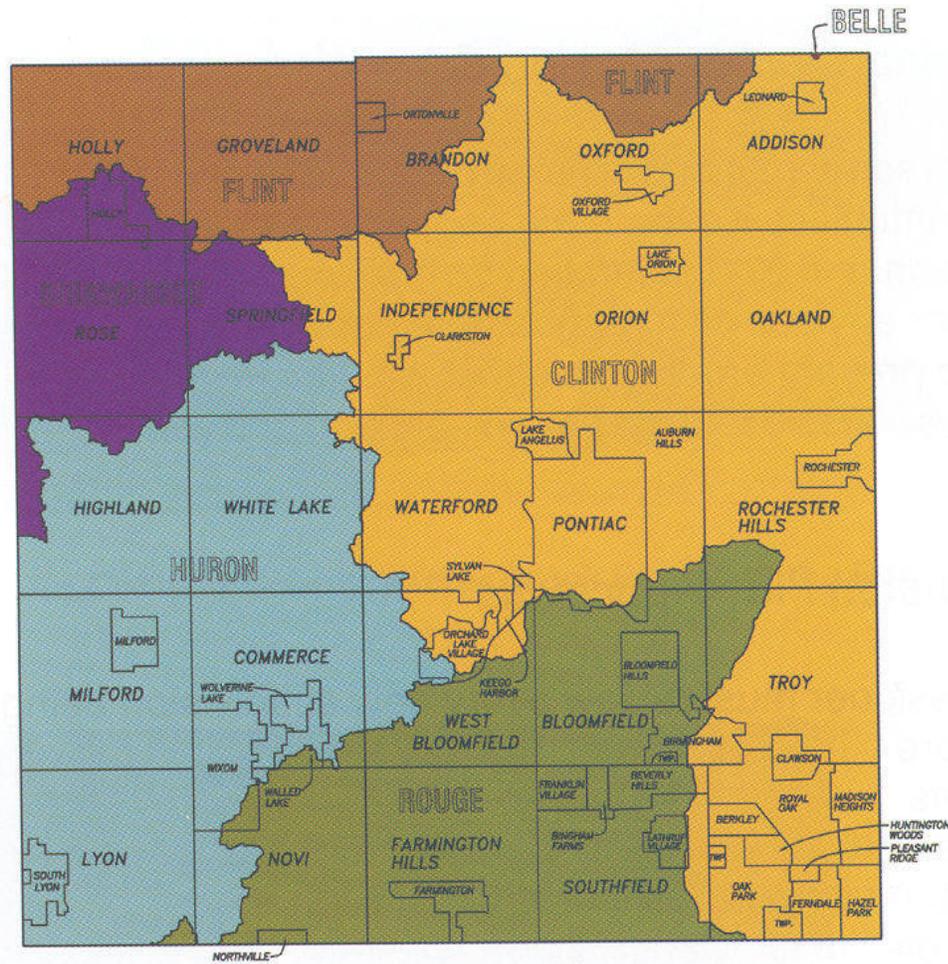


Source: Michigan Natural Features Inventory, Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

WATERSHED

A watershed is the land that catches rain or snow and drains or seeps into a common marsh, stream, river, lake, or groundwater. The headwaters of five major drainage areas begin in Oakland County, the Clinton, the Huron, the Rouge, the Flint, and the Shiawassee. The general location of each watershed in the County is shown on Map IV-4. The majority of Waterford is located in the Clinton River Watershed. Waterford's location within the Clinton River Watershed is shown on Map IV-5. The entire Clinton River watershed covers approximately 768 square miles in four Southeast Michigan counties – about 40 percent of eastern Oakland County, most of Macomb County, and small portions of southern Lapeer and St. Clair Counties. The Clinton River and its tributaries flow through 60 rural, suburban, and urban communities with a total population of more than 1.6 million.

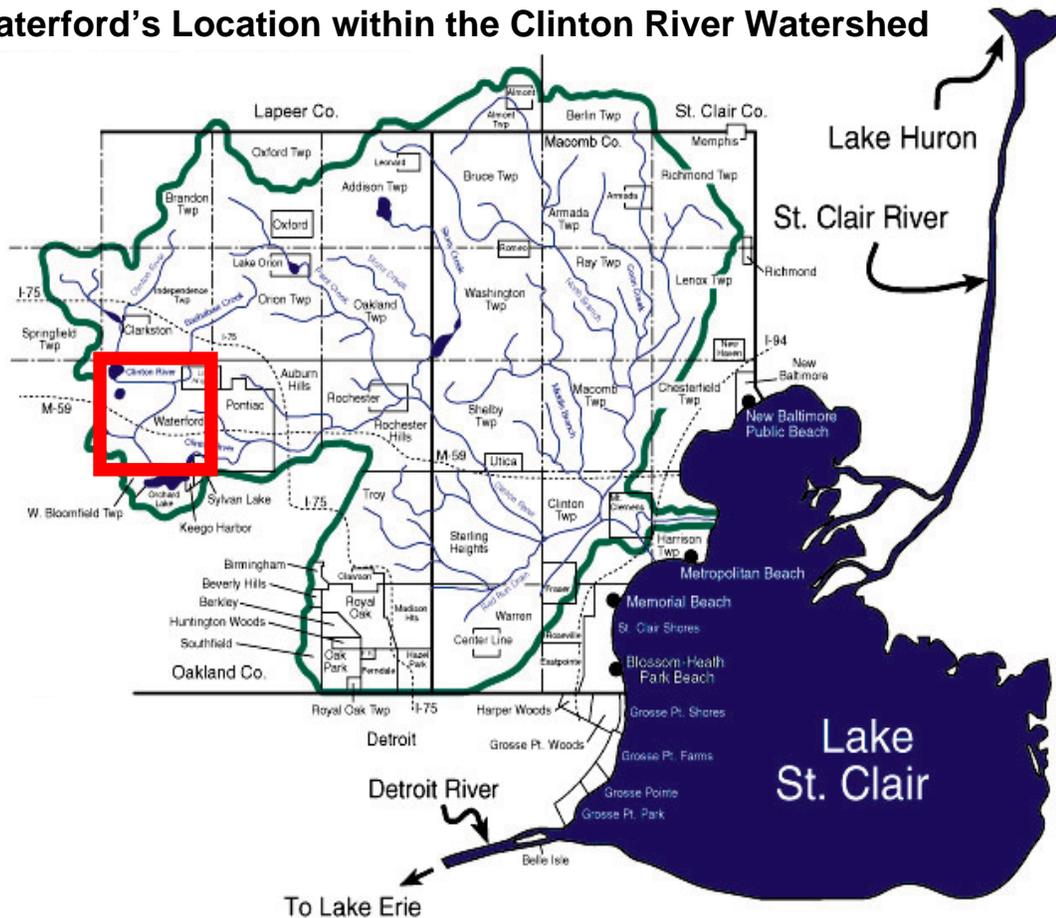
**Map IV-4
 Watersheds in Oakland County**



Source: Oakland County Drain Commissioner

Map IV-5

Waterford's Location within the Clinton River Watershed



Source: Clinton River Watershed Council

Waterford is located near the headwaters of the Clinton River watershed in Springfield and Independence Townships. Land use in Waterford has the potential to impact the water quality within an approximate 330 square mile area. While sections of the watershed in the northern reaches of the county contains several cold water trout streams, Waterford hosts a warm-water fishery influenced by low gradient and abundant lakes (1997 Aquatic Habitat Survey of the Clinton River Watershed, Clinton River Watershed Council, 1998). The western portion of the watershed is often referred to as the lakes area in reference to the numerous inland lakes. The diverse river basin includes a number of ecosystems such as wetlands, prairies, and hardwood forests. These ecosystems contain a variety of wildlife and vegetation types.

WATER RESOURCES

As stated in an earlier section, Waterford's primary environmental landmark is its water resource network of lakes, the Clinton River, streams, and wetlands. The 34 lakes make up the largest component of the water resources. Historically, residential use has surrounded the lakes, first as summer cottages and then as full-time residences. Activities such as boating, fishing, and swimming are enjoyed by the lakefront residents. Certain lakes have public access, Cass Lake, Crescent Lake, Lake Oakland, Loon Lake, Maceday Lake, and Pontiac Lake. Since the Township's water resource network serves multiple functions, it is crucial to ensure its health and viability for the benefit of present and future residents of the Township.

The survey of land use indicates approximately 3,282 acres of surface area in Waterford is composed of surface water, this constitutes 15 percent of the total land area. The water resources that are located totally within the political boundaries of the Township range from ponds of several acres to one lake over 360 acres. When the lakes that extend into adjoining communities are included, the total water surface area involved approaches 5,000 acres. In addition, the Clinton River flows through the Township from north to south and is another of Waterford's environmental landmarks. Creeks and streams are another link in the water resources system, connecting lakes and wetlands with each other. Storm water run-off is conveyed from wetlands and upland areas to downstream lakes and eventually to the Clinton River.

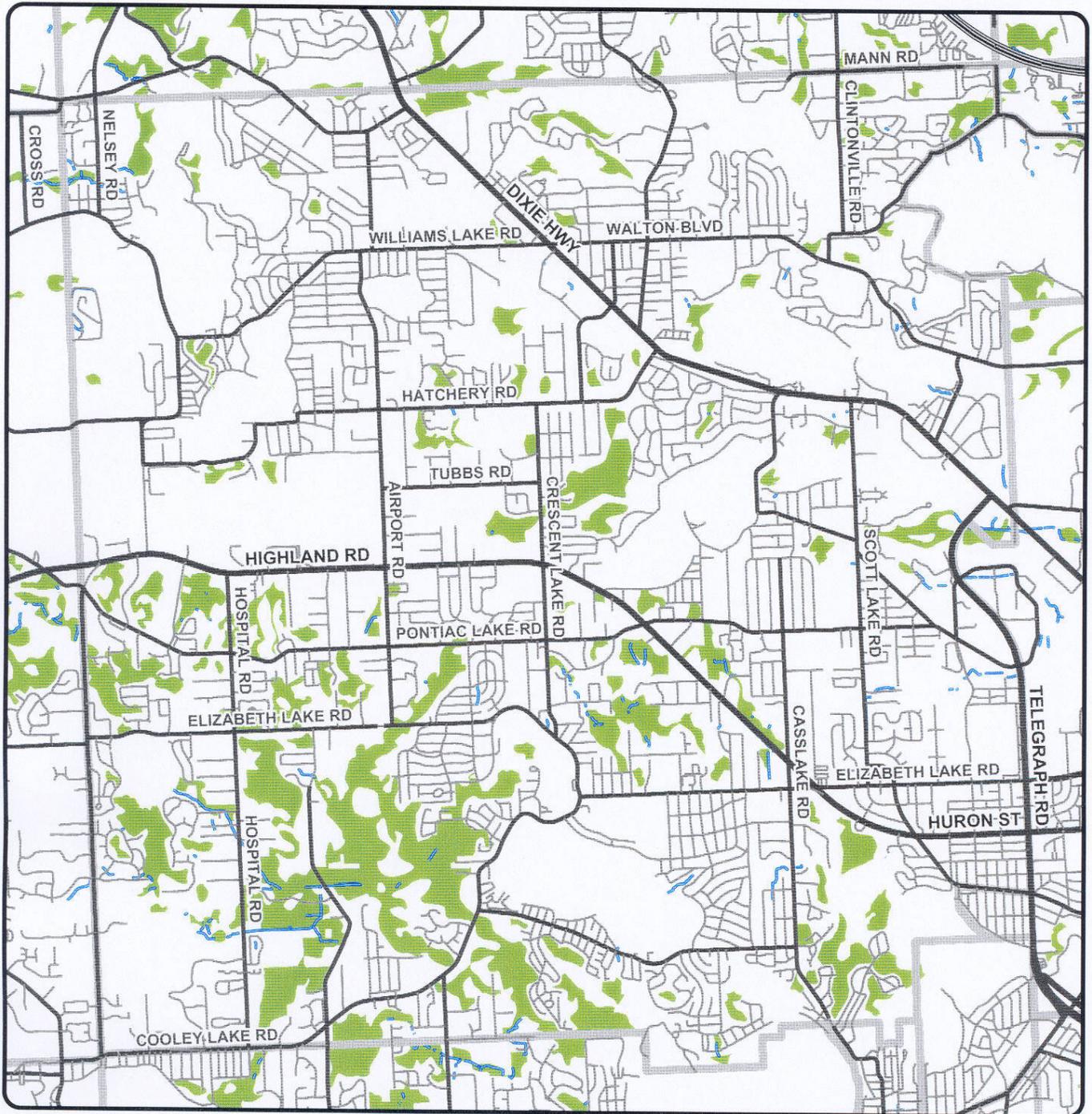
Sources of water include rainfall, surface runoff, springs, and aquifers. Aquifers are essentially underground formations composed of water-bearing earth, sand, gravel, permeable stone or fractures in non-porous stone or clay. These aquifers are located at varying depths and each such layer may vary greatly in its depths in differing locations. Aquifers are the source of many domestic, commercial and industrial water supplies through wells of varying sizes and depths. Waterford Township derives its municipal water supplies from wells. Prudent management of surface area discharges is required to minimize any risk of contamination to our resources.

WETLANDS

The protection of wetlands continues to be a priority concern for Waterford. The term "wetlands" encompasses a variety of wet environments, inland marshes, wet meadows, mudflats, ponds, bogs, bottomland hardwood forests, and wooded swamps. Wetlands perform three basic functions. First, wetlands affect the quantity of water by controlling the flow of water. During periods of heavy rainfall, wetlands act as retention basins for runoff, thereby helping to minimize the inundation of flood waters in other areas. Second, wetlands affect the quality of water. The wetlands provide a filtering area for waters entering lakes, streams, etc., and facilitate recharging of ground water supplies by filtering sediment and trapping nutrients from upland runoff, thus cleansing water before it enters adjacent water bodies and reducing stream bank erosion caused by storm water runoff. Third, wetlands contribute to environmental health and diversity by providing breeding, nesting, resting and feeding grounds for myriad forms of wildlife.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) governs wetlands of five acres or more in counties with populations over 100,000, including Oakland County, under the Goemaere-Anderson Wetland Protection Act. Waterford Township regulates wetlands of two acres or more in size through its Wetland Ordinance. The general location of wetland areas within the Township are shown in Map IV-6. It should be noted that the wetland boundaries shown on Map IV-6 are general in nature and should not be considered as actual wetland limits.

Map IV-6
Major Wetland Areas within Waterford Township



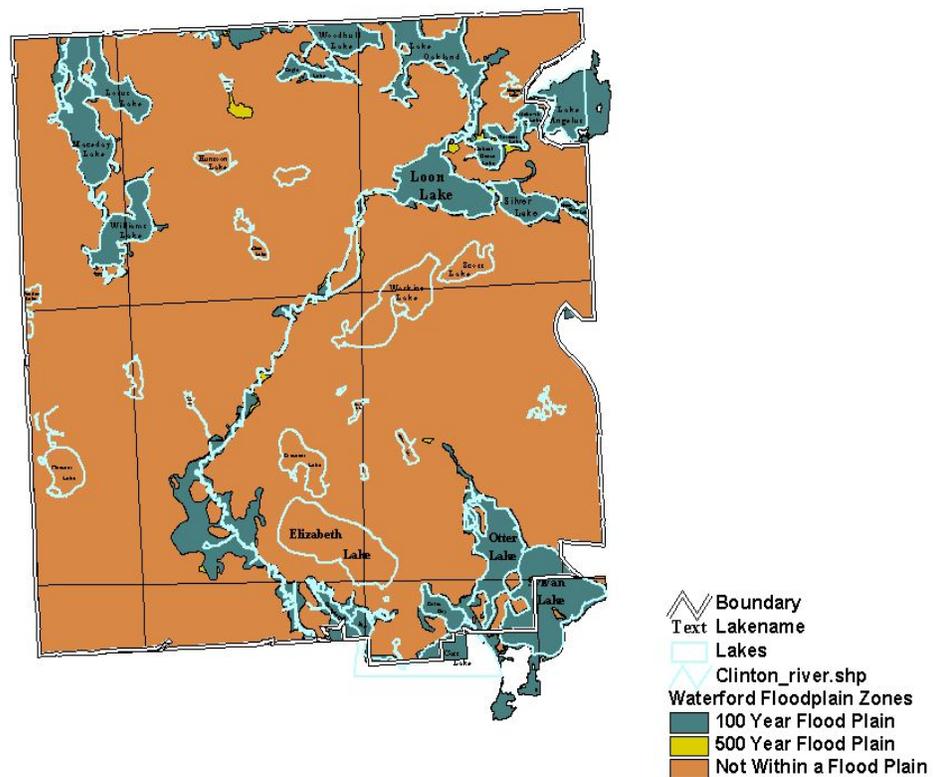
Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

FLOOD PLAINS

A flood plain is an area adjoining a lake, stream, river, or pond that receives excess water from occurrences such as a severe rainstorm that results in flooding conditions. A delineated flood plain is produced where flooding occurs with frequency and predictability within an area due to natural topography and proximity to a body of water. Water exceeding the normal average level is stored as a temporary lake across a flood plain. As long as the overflow remains on the flood plain, this volume is not added to the floodwater moving downstream. When flood plain storage is prevented by restricting the water flow to a channel, the volume and size of the flood may be increased downstream causing higher water levels and more damage.

Flood plain areas are delineated to indicate the chance of a flood occurring at a given location. This measuring or delineating is done regarding the probability of flooding, usually once in 50, 100, or 500 years. Flood plain delineation is required for home and business construction loans and the Federal Flood Insurance program. Flood plain delineation is also useful in determining locations for recreation facilities that will not be negatively impacted by flood plains. The delineated flood plain areas in Waterford are shown in Map IV-7.

**Map IV-7
Flood Plain Areas within Waterford Township**

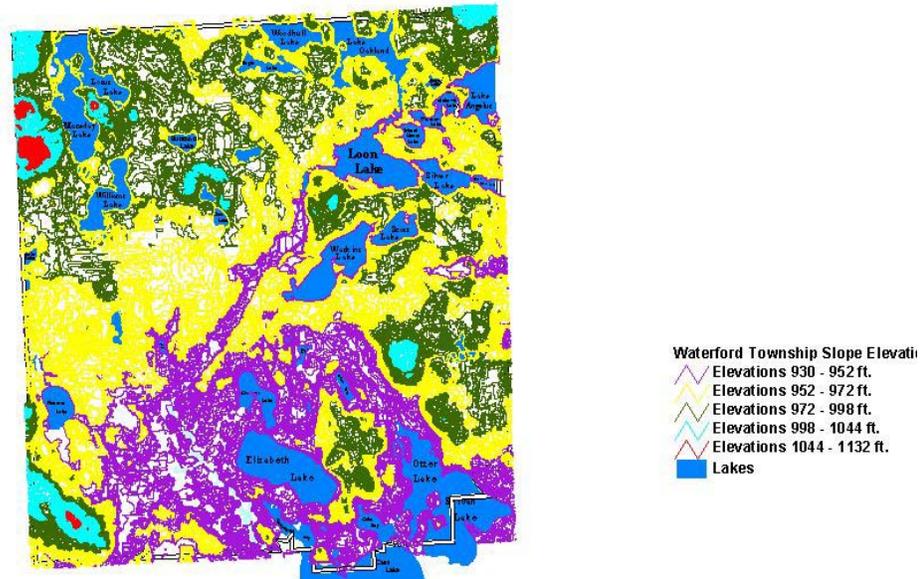


TOPOGRAPHY

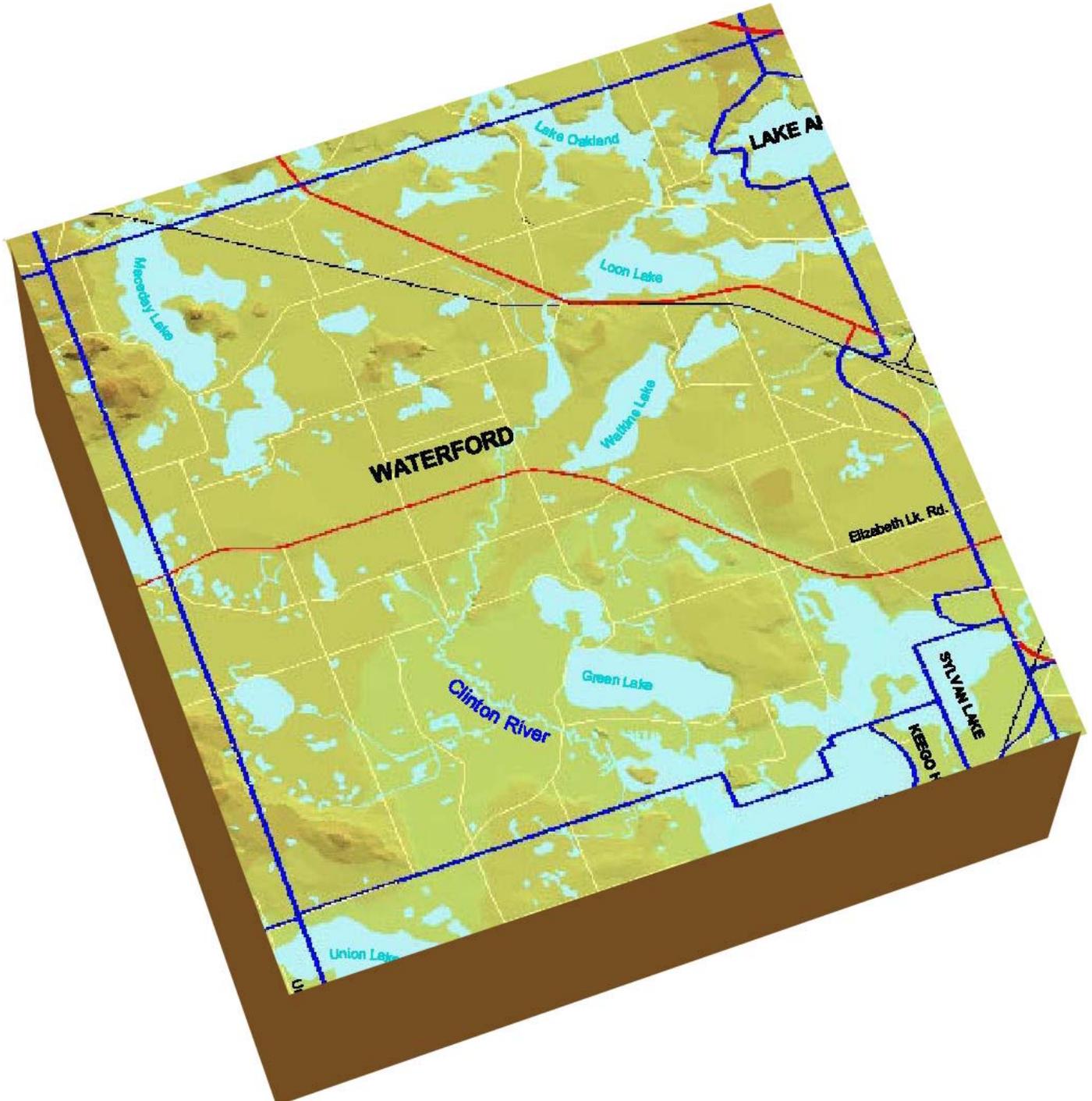
Waterford Township is located in the Jackson Interlobate physiographic region of southeastern Michigan. The Jackson Interlobate region was created as a result of glacial activity 10,000 to 12,000 years ago, and is made up of coarse-textured end moraine, outwash and ice contact topography. The Interlobate region contains broad expanses of outwash sands that surround sandy and gravely end moraines and ground moraines. The topography of Waterford Township is generally low rolling hills with variations on a minor scale, consistent with outwash channels and ground moraine ridge formations of zero to six percent slopes, which are portrayed in Map IV-8. Drainage conditions on the outwash areas in this region are highly variable from excessively drained to very poorly drained. Most of this district was surveyed by State land surveyors between 1816 and 1825. Most of the land was cleared for agriculture by the mid-nineteenth century. (Michigan's Native Landscape, Michigan Natural Features Inventory, 1995).

Waterford's natural land elevations range between 930 feet and 1,122 feet above sea level, which are depicted on Map IV-9. One man-made feature, a former landfill in the northwest quarter section of the Township, is the highest elevation point at 1,132 feet above sea level. Elevation changes are generally gradual, with the direction of flow from the northwest to the central south and southeast.

Map IV-8
Slope Elevations in Waterford Township



Map IV-9
Topographical View of Waterford Township



Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

SOILS

An understanding of soil characteristics is essential to the development of a community in a manner that minimizes construction costs, risks to public health, and environmental impact. There are four soil associations, or groups of soils, in Waterford Township. The following soils information, taken from the Soil Survey of Oakland County, Michigan describes the broad characteristics of the Township's soils. The general soil map shows broad areas that have a distinctive pattern of soils, relief, and drainage. Each map unit on the general soil map is a unique natural landscape. Typically, a map unit consists of one or more major soils and some minor soils. It is named for the major soils. The soils making up one unit can occur in other units but in a different pattern.

The general soil map can be used to compare the suitability of large areas for general land uses. Areas of suitable soils can be identified on the map. Likewise, areas where the soils are not suitable can be identified.

Because of its small scale, the map is not suitable for planning the management of a farm or field or for selecting a site for a road or building or other structure. The soils in any one map unit differ from place to place in slope, depth, drainage, and other characteristics that affect management.

Fox-Oshtemo-Houghton

Nearly level to hilly, well drained and very poorly drained loamy, sandy, and mucky soils - on outwash plains, moraines, and beach ridges and in bogs.

This map unit makes up about 10 percent of the county. It is about 50 percent Fox soils, 30 percent Oshtemo soils, 12 percent Houghton soils, and 8 percent soils of minor extent.

The Fox and Oshtemo soils are on knolls, ridges, and side slopes along drainage ways, streams, lakes, and depressions. The Houghton soils are in depressions and drainage ways.

The Fox soils are nearly level to hilly and are well drained. The surface layer is very dark grayish brown sandy loam about 9 inches thick. The subsurface layer is brown gravelly sandy loam about 7 inches thick. The subsoil is cars brown, firm gravelly sandy clay loam about 14 inches thick. The substratum to a depth of 60 inches is brown, calcareous gravelly sand.

The Oshtemo soils are nearly level to hilly and are well drained. The surface layer is dark brown loamy sand about 7 inches thick. The subsurface layer is yellowish brown loamy sand about 11 inches thick. The subsoil is about 37 inches thick. In the upper part it is reddish brown, friable sandy loam, and in the lower part it is yellowish brown, very friable loamy sand. The substratum to a depth of about 60 inches is pale brown, calcareous stratified sand and gravelly sand.

The Houghton soils are nearly level and are very poorly drained. The surface layer is black muck about 8 inches thick. The underlying layers to a depth of 60 inches are black muck.

Oshtemo-Spinks-Houghton

Nearly level to steep, well drained and very poorly drained sandy and mucky soils; on outwash plains, beach ridges, and moraines and in bogs.

This map unit makes up about 12 percent of the county. It is about 40 percent Oshtemo soils, 30 percent Spinks soils, 14 percent Houghton soils, and 16 percent soils of minor extent.

The Oshtemo and Spinks soils are on plains, knolls, and ridges and on side slopes along drainage ways, lakes, and swamps. The Houghton soils are in depressions and drainage ways.

The Oshtemo soils are nearly level to steep and are well drained. They have a surface layer of dark brown loamy sand about 7 inches thick. The subsurface layer is yellowish brown loamy sand about 11

inches thick. The subsoil is about 37 inches thick. In the upper part it is reddish brown, friable sandy loam; and in the lower part it is yellowish, brown, very friable loamy sand. The substratum to a depth of 60 inches is pale brown, calcareous, stratified sand and gravelly sand.

The Spinks soils are nearly level to steep and well drained. They have a surface layer of dark brown loamy sand about 9 inches thick. The subsurface layer is pale brown sand about 17 inches thick. The next layer to a depth of about 60 inches consists of brown, loose sand and thin strata of reddish brown, very friable loamy sand.

The Houghton soils are nearly level and are very poorly drained. They have a surface layer of black muck about 8 inches thick. The underlying layers to a depth of 60 inches are black muck.

Urban Land-Marlette-Capac

Urban land and nearly level to hilly, well drained to somewhat poorly drained loamy soils, on till plains and moraines.

This map unit makes up about 18 percent of the county. It is about 60 percent Urban Land soils, 20 percent Marlette soils, 12 percent Capac soils, and 8 percent soils of minor extent.

Urban Land generally is nearly level, but in some places it is gently sloping to sloping. It is covered by streets, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, houses, and other structures that so obscure or alter the soils that identification of the soils is not possible.

The Marlette soils are on plains, knolls, ridges, and side slopes and are nearly level to hilly. These soils are well drained or moderately well drained. The surface layer is dark grayish brown sandy loam about 8 inches thick. The firm subsoil, which is about 23 inches thick, is dark yellowish brown clay loam in the upper part and yellowish brown, mottled clay loam in the lower part. The substratum to a depth of about 60 inches is yellowish brown and pale brown, mottled, calcareous loam.

The Capac soils are in broad areas that have some low knolls and ridges. They are nearly level or gently sloping. These soils are somewhat poorly drained. The surface layer is very dark grayish brown sandy loam about 8 inches thick. The firm subsoil, which is about 24 inches thick, is brown and grayish brown, mottled clay loam. The substratum to a depth of about 60 inches is pale brown, mottled, calcareous loam.

Urban Land-Spinks-Oshtemo

Urban land and nearly level to rolling, well drained sandy soils, on outwash plains, beach ridges, and moraines.

This map unit makes up about 13 percent of the county. It is about 60 percent Urban Land, 20 percent Spinks soils, 10 percent Oshtemo soils, and 10 percent soils of minor extent.

The Oshtemo and Spinks soils are on broad plains, on knolls and ridges, and on side slopes along drainage ways, lakes, and swamps.

Urban land is covered by streets, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, houses, and other structures that so obscure or alter the soils that identification of the soils is not feasible. Urban land is nearly level to sloping.

The well drained Spinks soils are nearly level to rolling. The surface layer is dark brown loamy sand about 9 inches thick. The subsurface layer is pale brown.

WOODLANDS

Citizen interest and concern for the preservation of the Township's tree and woodland resources has been a core component of the Township's environmental protection priorities. As Waterford developed into a more densely populated and urbanized community, there was a growing appreciation of the contribution made by trees and woodlands to the overall quality of life in the Township. Energy conservation, environmental quality, and erosion control are all secured or enhanced through the preservation and care of trees and woodlands. In addition, woodlands also provide:

Wildlife Habitat

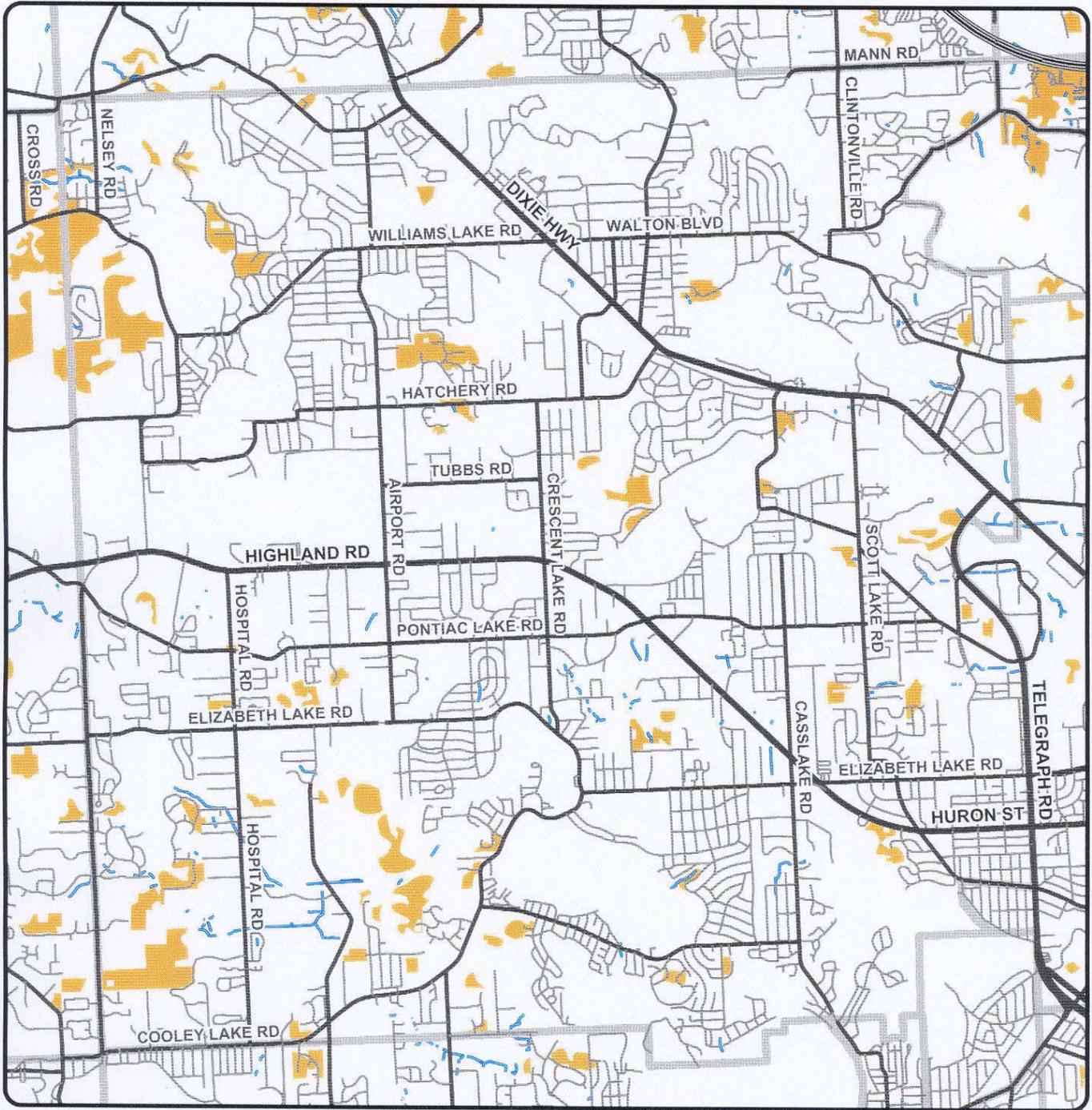
Trees create a varied and rich habitat for plant and animal life. Many trees provide food for woodland life. Trees also offer protection against predators. When connected with other woodlands or fence rows, they provide wildlife corridors for animals and birds, which make a significant contribution toward natural insect control.

Aesthetic Values

The natural beauty and utility of trees has sparked citizen desire to insist that their quality of life and property values depends in part on the number and variety of trees on their property, in their neighborhood, and throughout their community. They are a source of aesthetic enjoyment and provide areas for recreation.

It must also be recognized that Waterford is located within a more urbanized ring of development in the metropolitan area. Land uses are primarily serviced by public sewer and water services. Lot sizes are of an intermediate density. In combination, these characteristics mean trees and vegetation will be lost in any development, even with the utmost of care. Additionally, the growth in Waterford's population and development densities have resulted in a smaller number of fragmented woodland areas, as shown in Map IV-10. This map identifies significant tree stands, consisting predominantly of hardwoods, evergreens, or lowland brush. Many of the significant tree stands are found in conjunction with other natural features such as wetlands and the Clinton River. The Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area and the Township's Elizabeth Lake Woods Park contain a number of acres of heavily wooded land.

Map IV-10
Major Woodland Areas in Waterford Township



Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

WILDLIFE

The larger species have moved north as urbanization has occurred. Many Townships in Oakland County are open for deer, pheasant and duck seasons. In addition to deer, typical types of wildlife are raccoons, muskrats, opossum, rabbits, mice, rats, snakes, birds, ducks and fish.

Fishing is the major wildlife recreation past time in the county. The Department of Natural Resources Fisheries and Wildlife Division stocks some of the lakes and streams. Groveland Oaks was stocked with large and small mouth bass in 1954. The DNR reports this as an excellent pan fishing lake. Independence Oaks was stocked in 1977 with pike, and in 1980 and 1981 with rainbow trout. The fishing is reported to be fair by staff. Addison Oaks has never been stocked but is reported to have excellent pike, bass and crappie. Crooked Lake was stocked by Oakland County with limited success. (Source: Oakland County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

TRANSPORTATION LINKS

Waterford's geography has had a major impact on the Township's road system. Because of the numerous lakes, the traditional grid road system was not feasible. Most of the secondary road system meanders, with no existing single road to directly access sections of the Township in a north-south direction. Waterford's landscape does possess three principal regional highways through the Township, all of which serve as the Township's primary commercial corridors. Dixie Highway (U.S. 10) follows the original route of the Saginaw Trail, passing diagonally across the northeastern portion of the Township from the border with the City of Pontiac in a northwesterly direction to the border with Independence Township. Telegraph Road (U.S. 24) forms the principal eastern boundary with Pontiac and serves as the gateway into the Oakland County government complex. Highland Road (M-59) traverses the center of the Township in an east-west direction and is the gateway to the Oakland County International Airport. These three principal regional highways also serve as Waterford's primary access to the region's major interstate highways, I-75, I-96, I-696, US-10 and US-23.

In addition, the region's premier general aviation facility, the Oakland County International Airport, is located on M-59 in the western portion of the Township. This airport opened in 1928 and is Michigan's second busiest airport based on take-offs and landings. The Airport continues to influence land use and the geographic features of the Township. Land uses affiliated with an airport use, the height of buildings throughout the Township, the location of residential properties, maintenance of clear zones along runway paths, and traffic patterns will continue to be affected by airport operations.

HISTORIC DISTRICT AND PRESERVATION

A community's historic sites and buildings are irreplaceable resources that serve to provide a tangible link to the past. These sites and buildings also provide an educational resource on the evolution of a community's early development. They are critically important as key visual elements of a community's unique character. While many sites and buildings might represent a specific architectural style or historical period, they might also have their own distinct individual characteristics and settings. Their continued use and preservation can play a major role in promoting community character and identity. These local historic sites and buildings can be seriously threatened, or lost, if there is no effective planning or protection from development and redevelopment efforts.

In the mid-1970s, the Township Board appointed an Historic District Study Committee to conduct an inventory study and research into establishing an Historic District in Waterford Township. The Committee focused their attention on the Waterford Village area since it still retained much of its 19th Century character. The final Waterford Village Historic District boundaries established by the Township

Board in June 1977 are shown in Map IV-11.

There have been a few successful efforts at preserving Waterford's history. During the late 1970s, the Township used some of its federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to purchase and restore a historic church building in the Waterford Village Historic District. For a time during the 1980s and early 1990s the building housed the offices of Waterford's Parks and Recreation Department. After the Parks and Recreation staff moved to new offices, the building has been the home of the Waterford Cultural Council. CDBG funds were also used in the late 1980s to restore an historic hatchery building located at the Drayton Plains Nature Center and used prior to the mid-1960s by the forerunner of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The Township's Community Planning and Development Department recently undertook a project to inventory the Township's first cemetery, where some of the Township's first non-Native American settlers are buried.

The Township also has an active Historical Society, whose headquarters are in an historic house that used to be the offices of a local Michigan Department of Natural Resources hatchery. The Historical Society's offices are now part of the Township's Hatchery Park. At this park, the Society has also relocated and restored an historic log cabin that used to be located on Dixie Highway near Andersonville Road and also an historic caboose that was acquired and donated to the Society. The Society is also beginning the construction phases of a planned historic village, which will include replicas of a general store, train depot, and several other small shops.

The Township has a limited few remaining culturally significant historical and architectural sites and buildings. Since these are irreplaceable resources, continuing efforts must be made to preserve and protect them so that future generations of citizens can obtain information about their community's past. Such efforts will also contribute toward providing a distinct sense of place and community identity. Local coordination and cooperation between preservation advocates, citizens, the Historical Society, the Township government, other levels of government, and non-profit agencies will be necessary to continue and expand upon these efforts.

**Map IV-11
Existing Waterford Village Historic District Boundaries
2003**



EXISTING LAND USE & ZONING

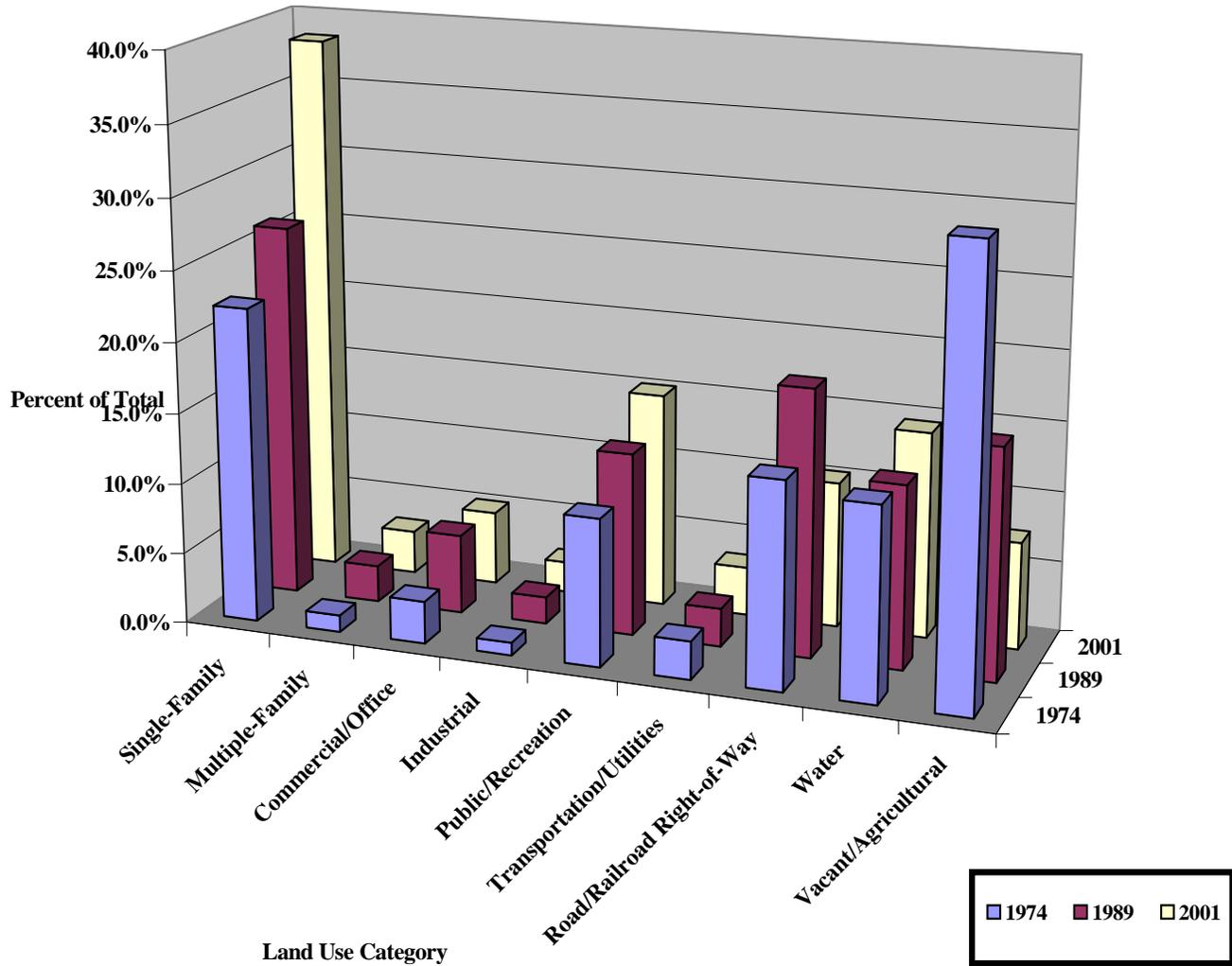
The Township has experienced significant growth over the past 70 years, evolving from a farming/summer cottage community to the most populous Township in Oakland County and the third most populous Township in the State of Michigan. The growth pattern of land use distribution in the Township has remained relatively stable during the past 27 years, continuing primarily as a single-family residential community with a substantial amount of area covered by water bodies. The most significant changes have been the increase in the Single Family Residential category and the decrease in the Vacant/Agricultural category, as is shown in Table IV-2 and Figure IV-1.

**Table IV-2
Existing Land Use Acreage Distribution Comparison
Waterford Township
1974-2001**

Land Use Type	1974		1989		2001		Percent Change 1974-2001
	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	
Single-Family Residential	5,030	22.3	5,890	26.4	8,652	38.4	16.1
Multi-Family Residential	262	1.2	576	2.6	682	3.1	1.9
Commercial/Office	670	3.0	1,238	5.6	1,177	5.2	2.2
Industrial	205	0.9	433	1.9	492	2.2	1.3
Public/Recreation	2,354	10.4	2,890	12.9	3,424	15.2	4.8
Transportation/Utility/Communication	600	2.7	610	2.7	777	3.5	0.8
Road/Railroad ROW	3,287	14.5	4,200	18.8	2,325	10.3	-4.2
Water	3,080	13.6	2,890	12.9	3,283	14.6	1.0
Vacant/Agricultural	7,094	31.4	3,608	16.2	1,704	7.6	-23.8
<i>Total Acres</i>	<i>22,590</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>22,343</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>22,524</i>	<i>100.0</i>	

Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

Figure IV-1
Existing Land Use Acreage Percent Distribution Comparison
Waterford Township
1974-2001



Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

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SECTION V SOCIAL FEATURES

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POPULATION

Historical Trend

The 2000 Census population of Waterford Township is 73,150. This represents a population gain of 6,458 people since 1990, or a growth rate of 9.68 percent. The Township's population constitutes nearly six percent of the county's population of 1,194,156. Table V-1 shows that Waterford experienced its highest growth prior to 1970 and mirrored the growth and development patterns of Oakland County. During the 1980s, population growth in Waterford began to moderate as the amount of available land for development diminished and development and population growth began to occur at an increasing rate in the communities west and north of Waterford.

**Table V-1
Population Trend Comparison
Waterford Township and Oakland County
1900 -2000**

Year	Waterford Township	Percent Change Between Decades	Oakland County	Percent Change Between Decades
1900	1,079	n/a	44,792	n/a
1910	1,065	-1.3	49,576	10.7
1920	1,354	27.1	90,050	81.6
1930	7,942	486.6	211,251	134.6
1940	12,019	51.3	254,068	20.3
1950	24,275	102.0	396,001	55.9
1960	47,008	93.7	690,259	74.3
1970	59,123	25.8	907,871	31.5
1980	64,250	8.7	1,011,793	11.5
1990	66,692	3.8	1,083,592	7.1
2000	73,150	9.7	1,194,156	10.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Waterford Community Planning and Development

Population Projections

Population projections, like weather forecasts, are often erroneous in hindsight due to the dependence upon the numerous assumptions that must be entered into the calculation. One wrong assumption can dramatically affect a projection. A projection based in part on an assumption that double-digit residential development would prove to be wrong if an unanticipated surge in interest rates makes the cost of development too high. Even with this dependence on assumptions, projecting future population is essential to analyzing future land use and public facility, recreation, and housing needs. Four population projection methods were used recently in the Township's Master Plan to evaluate the Township's potential population change during the next twenty years. An averaging of the results from the four methods produces an estimate that the Township's population will increase an additional 4.7 percent, to 76,576 persons by 2010.

GENDER AND AGE DISTRIBUTION

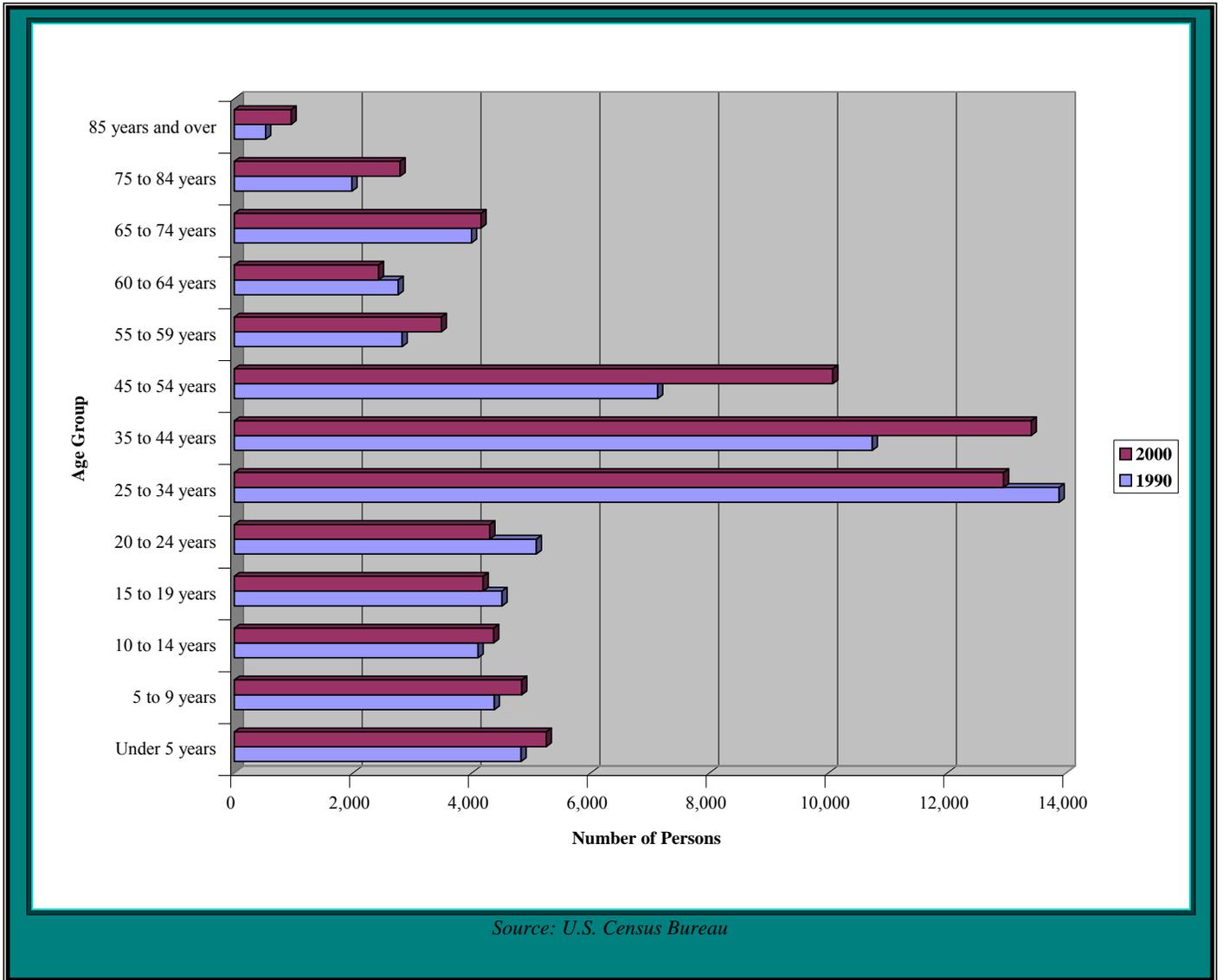
The distribution of age cohorts as a percentage of total population is important for long range planning in order to identify potential educational, housing, and social service needs, as well as to evaluate the availability of future labor supply. The age distribution for Waterford (as a percentage of total population) falls slightly above the county average for the age groups 0-4 and 18-34. It has a higher percentage of total population than the county average for the age groups 5-17, 35-64 and 65 and above, while the Township's median age of 35.5 years is slightly younger than that of the County's median age.

**Table V-2
Age Group Distribution - Waterford Township - 1990 and 2000**

Sex and Age	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent Change
Total Population	66,692	100.0	73,150	100.0	9.7
Male	32,665	49.0	36,502	49.9	11.7
Female	34,027	51.0	36,648	50.1	7.7
Under 5 years	4,823	7.2	5,249	7.2	8.8
5 to 9 years	4,376	6.6	4,836	6.6	10.5
10 to 14 years	4,100	6.1	4,363	6.0	6.4
15 to 19 years	4,504	6.8	4,186	5.7	-7.1
20 to 24 years	5,080	7.6	4,297	5.9	-15.4
25 to 34 years	13,879	20.8	12,942	17.7	-6.8
35 to 44 years	10,734	16.1	13,408	18.3	24.9
45 to 54 years	7,123	10.7	10,069	13.8	41.4
55 to 59 years	2,824	4.2	3,483	4.8	23.3
60 to 64 years	2,756	4.1	2,424	3.3	-12.0
65 to 74 years	3,989	6.0	4,149	5.7	4.0
75 to 84 years	1,980	3.0	2,790	3.8	40.9
85 years and over	524	0.8	954	1.3	82.1
Median Age	(x)	(n/a)	35.5	(n/a)	(n/a)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Note: (x) denotes 1990 data not available

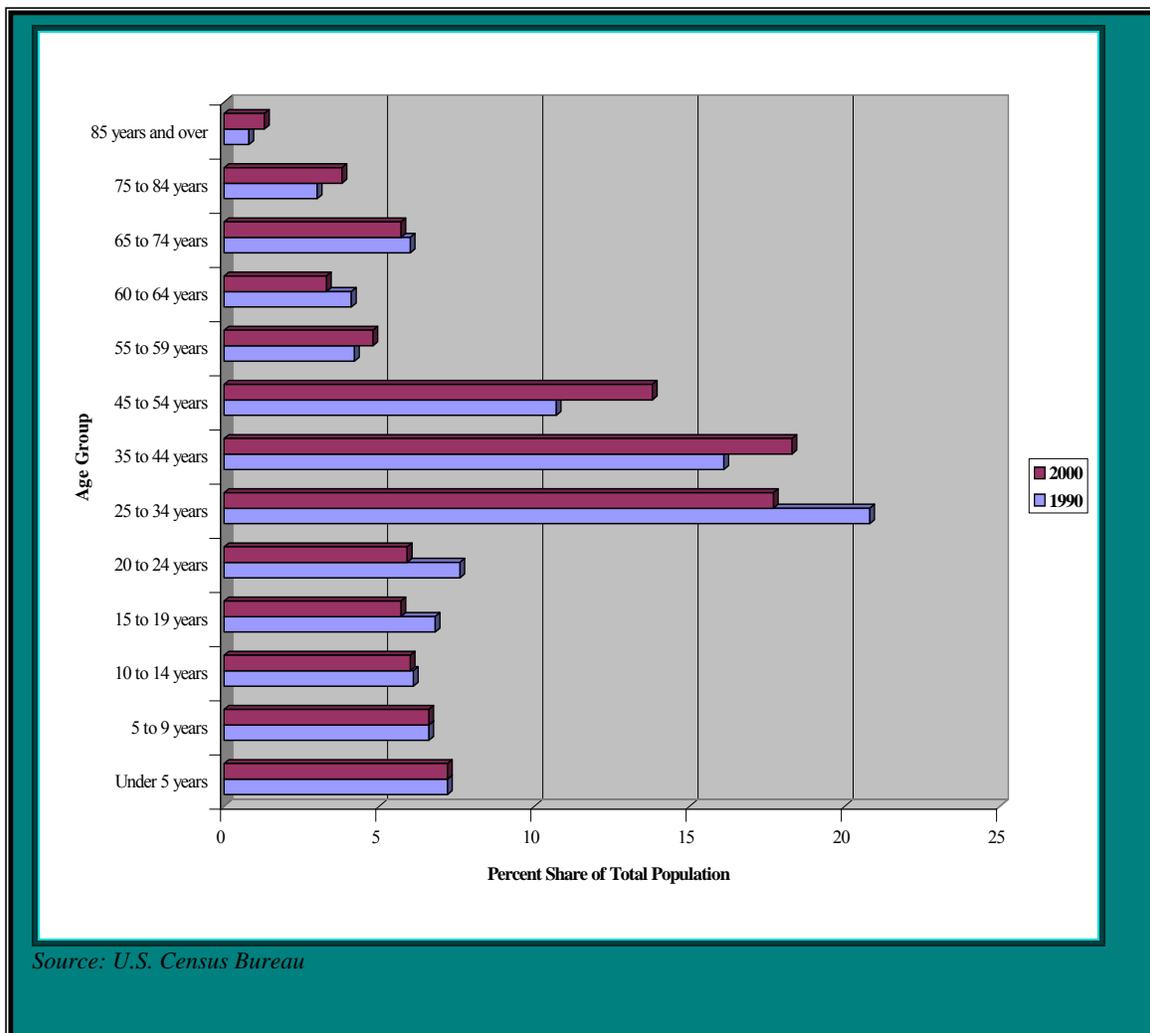
Figure V-1
Age Group Numerical Distribution Comparison
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000



Waterford Township has 69.5 percent of its population in the age brackets containing persons 15 to 64 years of age. Since this is considered the labor force segment of the population, over two thirds of Waterford's population is part of the labor force segment. However, the population in the combined 15-34 years age bracket decreased by 29.3 percent between 1990 and 2000, while the 35-64 age bracket grew at a 77.6 percent rate. This trend is not unique to Waterford. As is shown in Figure V-3, Waterford's demographic patterns for the percent share of total population for each age bracket in 1990 and 2000 are almost identical to Oakland County's patterns during the same time periods. The growth rate in the 35-64 age brackets is also reflected in the median age, as shown in Table V-4.

These demographic patterns are probably due to the remainder of the post-World War II baby boomer generation shifting into the older age bracket, continuing a trend toward a work force growing older during the past ten years. The baby boomer generation will continue to impact the demographic patterns in the next twenty years as this group enters the traditional retirement years. Combined with the trend toward longer life spans, the age brackets for 65 years and older are expected to become a significant proportion of the total population if current demographic patterns continue unchanged. This pattern may be affected by such changes as an increased birth rate or substantial influx of younger individuals moving into the community.

**Figure V-2
Age Group Percentage Distribution Comparison
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000**

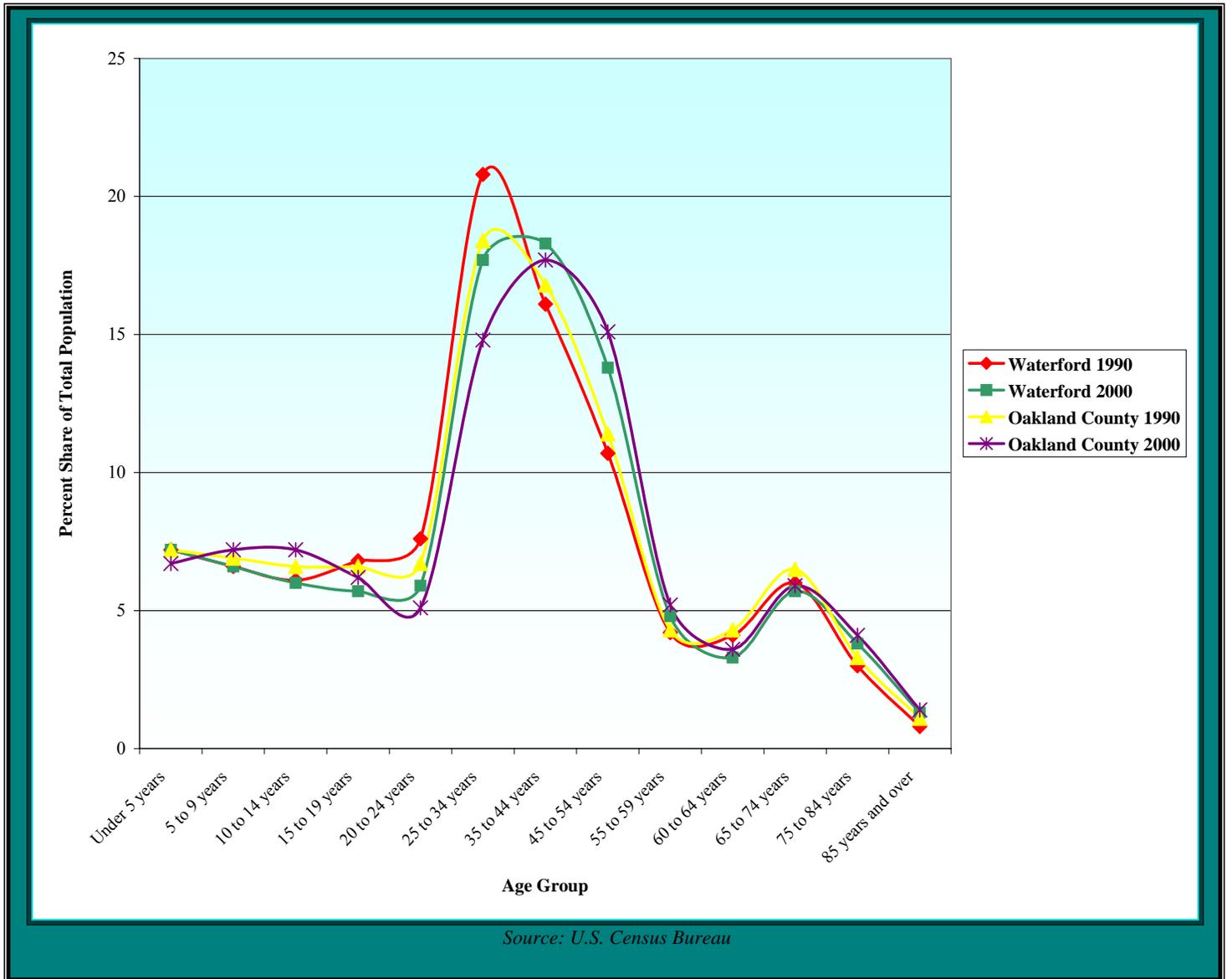


**TableV-3
Age Group Distribution
Oakland County
1990 and 2000**

Sex and Age	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent Change
	1,083,592	100.0	1,194,156	100.0	10.2
Male	526,927	48.6	584,660	49.0	11.0
Female	556,665	51.4	609,496	51.0	9.5
Under 5 years	78,224	7.2	80,367	6.7	2.7
5 to 9 years	75,088	6.9	86,326	7.2	15.0
10 to 14 years	71,220	6.6	85,498	7.2	20.0
15 to 19 years	71,477	6.6	74,272	6.2	3.9
20 to 24 years	72,122	6.7	60,591	5.1	-16.0
25 to 34 years	198,972	18.4	176,187	14.8	-11.5
35 to 44 years	182,240	16.8	211,055	17.7	15.8
45 to 54 years	123,344	11.4	179,816	15.1	45.8
55 to 59 years	46,597	4.3	62,410	5.2	33.9
60 to 64 years	46,420	4.3	42,675	3.6	-8.1
65 to 74 years	70,237	6.5	70,271	5.9	0.0
75 to 84 years	36,131	3.3	48,479	4.1	34.2
85 years and over	11,520	1.1	16,209	1.4	40.7
Median Age	n/a	(x)	36.7	(x)	n/a

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Note: (x) denotes 1990 data not available

Figure V-3
Age Group Percentage Distribution Comparison
Waterford Township and Oakland County
1990 and 2000



**Table V-4
 Median Age Comparison
 Waterford Township and Surrounding Communities
 2000**

Community	Median Age in 2000
Waterford Township	35.5
West Bloomfield Township	40.2
Independence Township	36.4
Commerce Township	36.0
White Lake Township	36.4
City of Pontiac	30.0
Oakland County	36.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

RACIAL COMPOSITION AND TRENDS

The United States Census Bureau changed the classifications for race between the 1990 and 2000 Census, so direct comparison between 1990 and 2000 figures is generally not feasible, especially in communities where there is a high percentage of racial diversity and blending within the population. While Waterford has experienced some growth in its minority population, it is still a community with a relatively racially homogeneous population. Therefore, in Waterford’s case, the racial classification of *White* used in the 1990 Census is reasonably comparable to the *White Alone* classification used in the 2000 Census. While the total number of people in this racial category rose from 64,647 to 66,062 between 1990 and 2000, this category’s share of the total population has decreased by 6.6 percent since 1990. The corresponding population gain in the other racial categories is spread evenly, with the highest increases in the *Black or African American* category at 1.8 percent and *Mexican* category at 1.1 percent.

**Table V-5
Racial Group Distribution
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000**

Race ¹	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent Change
Total Population	66,692	100.0	73,150	100.0	9.7
One race	n/a	n/a	71,914	98.3	n/a
White	64,647	96.9	67,777	92.7	n/a
Black or African	701	1.1	2,114	2.9	n/a
American Indian and	391	0.6	259	0.4	n/a
Asian	484	0.7	926	1.3	n/a
Hispanic or Latino	1,538	2.3	2,863	3.9	86.2
Mexican	1,175	1.8	2,089	2.9	77.8
Puerto Rican	136	0.2	272	0.4	100.0
Cuban	13	0.0	20	0.0	53.8
Other Hispanic or	214	0.3	482	0.7	125.2
Not Hispanic or Latino	65,154	97.7	70,287	96.1	7.9
White alone	n/a	n/a	66,062	90.3	n/a

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

¹ Note: 2000 Census race data is not directly comparable to 1990 Census race data due to the first-time allowance for selecting more than one race in the 2000 Census.

PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

Table V-6 identifies the number of people with physical disabilities in Michigan, Oakland County, and Waterford Township. The Township has a slightly lower proportion of people with disabilities than Michigan and similar proportions to Oakland County. Waterford’s disabled population is comprised of 11.3 percent with sensory disabilities, 24.7 percent with physical disabilities, 14.6 percent with mental disabilities, 7.1 percent with self-care disabilities, 18.5 percent with go-outside home disabilities, and 23.8 percent with employment disabilities. This information can be used to identify the scope and form of the barrier-free facilities required for the Waterford community. While all efforts are being made to ensure facilities are barrier-free, the total number of the disabled members of the community do not indicate that extra measures above what is currently being done are required to address the needs of these citizens with special needs.

A current description of Waterford’s barrier-free compliance status and unmet needs must start with the Township’s partnership with the American Jewish Women’s Association to build a boundless playground at the Hess-Hathaway Park. This major playground facility has been constructed specifically to enable those children with physical disabilities to experience the same enjoyment from playground equipment as able-bodied children. The Township has also achieved 40 percent of its goal to make all of its playgrounds and buildings barrier-free. The Township anticipates accomplishing 100 percent of its goal within two years. The Township intended to accomplish its total goal by now, but the budget crisis experienced throughout the state during the past two years has restricted the funding needed to accomplish this critical goal. The budget crisis has only slowed the Township from fully achieving this goal; it will not deter us from successfully accomplishing the goal.

**Table V-6
Population Disability Distribution
Michigan, Oakland County, and Waterford Township
2000**

Governmental Division	Total Population		Total Persons with disabilities	Persons with Disabilities 5 to 15 years:	Persons with Disabilities 16 to 64 years:	Persons with Disabilities 65 years and over:
Michigan	9,938,444	Number	3,081,651	139,060	1,969,376	973,215
		Percentage	31.0%	1.4%	19.8%	9.8%
Oakland County	1,194,156	Number	292,686	12,584	179,095	101,007
		Percentage	24.5%	1.0%	15.0%	8.5%
Waterford Township	73,162	Number	19,350	769	12,405	6,176
		Percentage	26.4%	1.0%	16.9%	8.4%

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

Although Waterford’s household population continued to grow during the past ten years, the Township experienced a decline in the number of persons per household from 2.59 in 1990 to 2.42 in 2000, as shown in Table V-7. This decline in household size is not unique to Waterford. In fact, it is comparable to the same trend occurring in Oakland County and the nation. Oakland County experienced a decline in the number of persons per household from 2.61 in 1990 to 2.51 in 2000 and the nation experienced a decline from 2.63 in 1990 to 2.59 in 2000. Therefore, the national trend of people having smaller-size families has affected Waterford; it is not a result of any particular factors limited to Waterford.

Table V-8 shows a breakdown of household composition in 1990 and 2000. The non-family households category experienced an increase of 37.5 percent, compared with an increase of 6.2 percent for family households. While the family household category is still numerically larger than non-family households, the change in the percent of each category’s share of the total indicates that the growth in non-family households, with a 5.6 increase in the percent share, is occurring at a faster rate than the growth in family households, with a 5.6 decrease in the percent share.

**Table V-7
Population and Household Totals
Waterford Township and Oakland County
1990 and 2000**

Component	Waterford Township		Oakland County	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Household Population	66,083	71,231	1,072,264	1,180,408
Group Quarters Population	609	1,919	11,328	13,748
Total Population	66,692	73,150	1,083,592	1,194,156
Households	25,488	29,389	410,520	471,133
Housing Units	26,509	30,404	432,677	492,006
Household Size	2.59	2.42	2.61	2.51

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

**Table V-8
Household Type Distribution
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000**

Households by Type	2000 Census		1990 Census		1990-2000 Percent Change	1990-2000 Change in Percent of Total Share
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Total Households	29,387	100.00	25,476	100.00	15.4	n/a
Family Households (2 or more related)	19,127	65.1	18,013	70.7	6.2	-5.6
With own children under 18	8,935	30.4	8,793	34.5	1.6	-4.1
Non-family Households (2 or more unrelated)	10,260	34.9	7,463	29.3	37.5	5.6
One person household	8,188	27.9	5,749	22.6	42.4	5.3
Householder 65 years and older	2,374	8.1	1,821	7.1	30.4	1.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

HOUSING

As shown in Table V-9, nearly 74 percent of current residents own their own home, a nearly 20 percent increase during the last decade, while the percent share of renter occupied housing decreased from 25.8 percent of the total in 1990 to 22.9 percent in 2000. Nearly 78 percent of Waterford's housing is single family housing, as shown in Table V-10. Additionally, the total demand for housing in the Township is strong, with only 3.3 percent of the units in 2000 identified as vacant, down from a 3.9 percent vacancy rate in 1990.

**Table V-9
Housing Occupancy Status
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000**

Housing Occupancy Status	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Total Households	26,509	100.0	30,404	100.0	14.69
Owner Occupied Units	18,630	70.3	22,428	73.8	20.39
Median Housing Value (in 2000 dollar rate)	\$100,343	n/a	\$144,400	n/a	43.91
Renter Occupied Units	6,846	25.8	6,959	22.9	1.65
Median Contract Rent (in 2000 dollar rate)	\$682	n/a	\$625	n/a	-8.36
Vacant Units	1,033	3.9	1,017	3.3	-1.55

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

**Table V-10
Number of Housing Units by Structure Type
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000**

Structure Type	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000 Percent Change
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total Households	26,509	100.0	30,404	100.0	14.7
One-Family Detached	19,461	73.4	22,469	73.9	15.5
One-Family Attached	802	3.0	1,206	4.0	50.4
Two-Family / Duplex	197	0.7	222	0.7	12.7
Multi-Unit Apartments	5,709	21.5	6,289	20.7	10.2
Mobile Homes	189	0.7	191	0.6	1.1
Other Units	151	0.6	6	0.0	-96.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

INCOME

There was a significant shift in Waterford’s income distribution during the 1990s as the number of households with \$49,999 or less annual income decreased by over 22 percent, while the number of households with \$50,000 or more annual income increased by 88 percent, as shown in Table V-11.

**Table V-11
 Income Group Distribution
 Waterford Township
 1990-2000**

Household Income	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000 Percent Change
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total Households	25,509	100.0	29,389	100.0	15.21
Less than \$10,000	1,901	7.5	1,198	4.1	-36.98
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1,349	5.3	991	3.4	-26.54
\$15,000 to \$24,999	3,669	14.4	2,873	9.8	-21.70
\$25,000 to \$34,999	4,005	15.7	3,379	11.5	-15.63
\$35,000 to \$49,999	5,985	23.5	4,700	16.0	-21.47
\$50,000 to \$74,999	5,938	23.3	7,226	24.6	21.69
\$75,000 to \$99,999	1,777	7.0	4,545	15.5	155.77
\$100,000 to \$149,999	737	2.9	3,292	11.2	346.68
\$150,000 or more	222	0.9	1,253	4.3	464.41
Median Household Income (in 1999 dollar rate)	\$52,885		\$55,008		4.01
Persons in Poverty	3,522	13.8	3,658	12.4	3.86

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Total households may not equal the sum of households in the income distribution due to revisions to total households by the U.S. Census Bureau.

TAX BASE

The vitality of the local economy requires a stable existing tax base and employment sector. An understanding of these components is important in developing and implementing a long-range plan for commercial and industrial use of land that is compatible with other land uses; fosters and encourages sound employment opportunities for the local population; improves the Township tax base; and coordinates the overall physical development and redevelopment of the Township.

The state equalized value (SEV) for real property in Waterford Township has steadily increased during the past ten years. In Waterford, residential use of real property provides 81 percent of the total SEV, commercial use of property is nearly 18 percent, industrial use of property is a little more than one percent, and agricultural use less than one percent, as shown in Table V-12.

**Table V-12
 Real State Equalized Value Classification Distribution
 Waterford Township
 1992 and 2002**

Classification	Total Real SEV		Percent of Total	
	1992	2002	1992	2002
Agriculture	\$ 1,611,000	\$ 1,945,920	0.10	0.08
Commercial	\$ 272,163,500	\$ 459,392,274	24.10	17.7
Industrial	\$ 22,253,700	\$ 28,466,370	2.0	1.1
Residential	\$ 833,741,700	\$2,105,186,574	73.80	81.12
Total	\$1,129,869,900	\$2,594,991,138	100.00	100.00

Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services, Waterford Township Assessing Department

EMPLOYMENT

The number of people within the labor force (16 years and over) increased by 10.5 percent while the number of people unemployed decreased by 28.9 percent during the 1990 to 2000 period, as seen in Table V-13. These numbers are consistent with a population that is experiencing growth in the older age brackets of its population.

**Table V-13
Employment Classification Distribution
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000**

Employment Classification	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000 Percent Change
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Population 16 years and over	52,512	100.0	58,020	100.0	10.5
In labor force	37,558	71.5	39,868	68.7	6.2
Employed	35,222	93.8	38,209	95.8	8.5
Occupation					
Management and professional	n/a	n/a	12,245	32.0	n/a
Service	n/a	n/a	5,329	13.9	n/a
Sales and office	n/a	n/a	11,152	29.2	n/a
Farming, fishing, and forestry	n/a	n/a	71	0.2	n/a
Construction and related	n/a	n/a	3,940	10.3	n/a
Unemployed	2,309	7.9	1,641	6.4	-28.9
Not in labor force	14,954	28.5	18,152	31.3	21.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

With a mean commuting time of 29 minutes, a 20.8 percent increase since 1990, and less than one percent walking to work, it appears that a majority of Waterford residents work outside of the Township. Significantly, nearly 90 percent of these residents drove alone, at the same time the use of carpooling has dropped nearly 15 percent since 1990, as shown in Table V-14.

Table V-14
Means of Employment Transportation
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000

Means of Employment Transportation	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Total Workers Age 16 or Older	34,525	100.0	37,509	100.0	8.6
Drove Alone	30,475	88.3	33,616	89.6	10.3
Carpool or Vanpool	2,846	8.2	2,422	6.5	-14.9
Public Transportation	52	0.2	57	0.2	9.6
Walked to Work	370	1.1	332	0.9	-10.3
Other Means	127	0.4	127	0.3	0.0
Worked at Home	655	1.9	955	2.5	45.8
Mean Travel Time to Work (in minutes)	24		29		20.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Table V-15
Major Sources of Employment
Waterford Township
2002

Name Of Firm	Number Of Employees	Product Service
Waterford School District	1,660	Education
GM Parts Division	1,000	Automotive Parts
Meijer, Inc.	645	Grocery/Department Store
Marshall Field	400	Department Store
K Mart Corp.	395	Department Store
Waterford Township	385	Local Government
V.G.'s	375	Grocery Store
Sears Roebuck	310	Department Store
Oakland Intermediate School District	250	Intermediate Schools Offices
Staffing Specialists, Inc.	235	Leased Employees
J.C. Penney Co., Inc.	215	Department Store
Wal-Mart/Sam's Club	160	Grocery/Department Store
Target	140	Department Store
Tru-Val Tubing Co.	130	Pipe Fabrication
Kohl's	125	Department Store
Terry Machine Co.	115	Bolt/Nut/Screw Manufacturing
Canterbury on the Lake	115	Senior Living/Health Care

Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

EDUCATION

The United States Census Bureau changed the classifications for school enrollment between the 1990 and 2000 Census, so direct correlation is difficult. However, there has been a 10.3 percent increase in school enrollment during the 1990 to 2000 period, as shown in Table V-16.

**Table V-16
School Enrollment
Waterford Township
1990 and 2000**

School Enrollment ¹	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000 Percent Change
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	16,299	100.0	17,984	100.0	10.3
Nursery and preschool	n/a	n/a	1,486	8.3	n/a
Kindergarten	n/a	n/a	1,056	5.9	n/a
Elementary school (grades 1-8)	n/a	n/a	7,305	40.6	n/a
High school	n/a	n/a	3,658	20.3	n/a
College or graduate school	4,557	28.0	4,479	24.9	-1.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

¹ Note: School enrollment data detail not available for 1990 Census

The residents of Waterford have made significant gains in educational attainment during the last decade. The number of individuals who did not graduate from high school decreased by 20 percent between 1990 and 2000 while there were double digit gains in individuals achieving some level of higher education during the same time period, as shown in Table V-17.

**Table V-17
 Educational Attainment
 Waterford Township
 1990 and 2000**

Educational Attainment	1990 Census		2000 Census		1990-2000 Percent Change
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	43,811	100.0	50,210	100.0	14.6
Did Not Graduate High School	8,017	18.3	6,414	12.8	-20.0
Graduated High School	15,031	34.3	15,155	30.2	0.8
Some College, No Degree	10,407	23.8	12,718	25.3	22.2
Associate Degree	3,197	7.3	3,909	7.8	22.3
Bachelor's Degree	5,348	12.2	8,684	17.3	62.4
Graduate or Professional Degree	1,811	4.1	3,330	6.6	83.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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SECTION VI RECREATION INVENTORY

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PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES BACKGROUND

One of the crucial components of a community's quality of life is a diverse and significant inventory of well-maintained and safe parks and recreational activities. Parks contribute to the preservation of a community's open space while providing a peaceful and healthy outdoor environment for current residents and future generations. Recreational activities encompass a wide array of activities that benefit individuals both physically and mentally by freeing the mind and body from the stress and monotony of the daily work schedule. While many recreational activities can be conducted in the privacy of home and yard, others require the use of larger facilities operated by public agencies or private entities. The demand for recreational facilities will vary depending upon a community's goals and sense of identity, its physical characteristics, its demographic composition, and its social and cultural influences. The analyses contained within the previous sections indicate that Waterford's population is characterized by:

- A population which continues to contain a significant number of persons under the age of eighteen.
- An increasing number of persons age 65 and over. As this demographic group continues to live longer, individuals in this age group continue to demonstrate demand for an increasing variety of physical, social, cultural, and educational services each year.
- Educational and income statistics indicate a continuing diverse composition of Waterford's population, with the Township continuing as a primarily middle-class community.

These basic demographic indicators anticipate continuing future demand for a diverse variety of recreational facilities and services. The Township possesses the capacity to provide for these diverse needs through its physical features such as over 30 lakes and the Clinton River, its location in the geographic center of Oakland County, and its past recreation planning. It also benefits from a historic pattern of support from the Waterford School District, which has contributed to providing a comprehensive recreational program and access to school facilities. Such support and cooperation is critical for the continued success of Waterford's recreation facilities and programs as operating costs continue to rise and the public demands increasing efficiency in providing public facilities.

Development of the Township's parks system, the general location of the major components are shown on Map VI-1, has been guided by the 1997 Recreation Plan and will be guided by the 2003 Plan once fully adopted.

Recreation has been recognized as necessary for the physical and psychological well being of the community and for its individual members. The rapid tempo of modern society has created a demand for open areas, breathing spaces, and recreation through which all ages and segments of the population can relieve the stresses of today's lifestyles and work environments. Open spaces also are valuable for their influence on surrounding property. Parks and other well-designed open areas have been found to stabilize or increase property value. They generally improve the character of neighborhoods and are aesthetically pleasing. The maintenance of Waterford's housing stock value depends in no small part on the quality of life amenities that are offered within the community, such as the provision of ample areas of open space and recreation facilities. A community's recreation needs, both short and long-term, should be evaluated in relation to the amount of land available for recreation purposes, the types of facilities available at these sites and the range of programs and services offered to Township residents.

Several techniques can be used for the purpose of projecting future needs. Frequently, these techniques rely on comparisons of existing facilities to commonly accepted standards. These standards present optimum conditions as a benchmark against which progress can be measured. The risk in using these standards is that they may not be uniformly applicable to all communities and might need to be adapted to the unique physical, social, and economic conditions that may characterize a specific community. The Township has five classifications of recreation facilities: Neighborhood Parks and School-Parks, Community Parks and Sports Complexes, Regional Parks, Natural Resource Areas, and Special Use

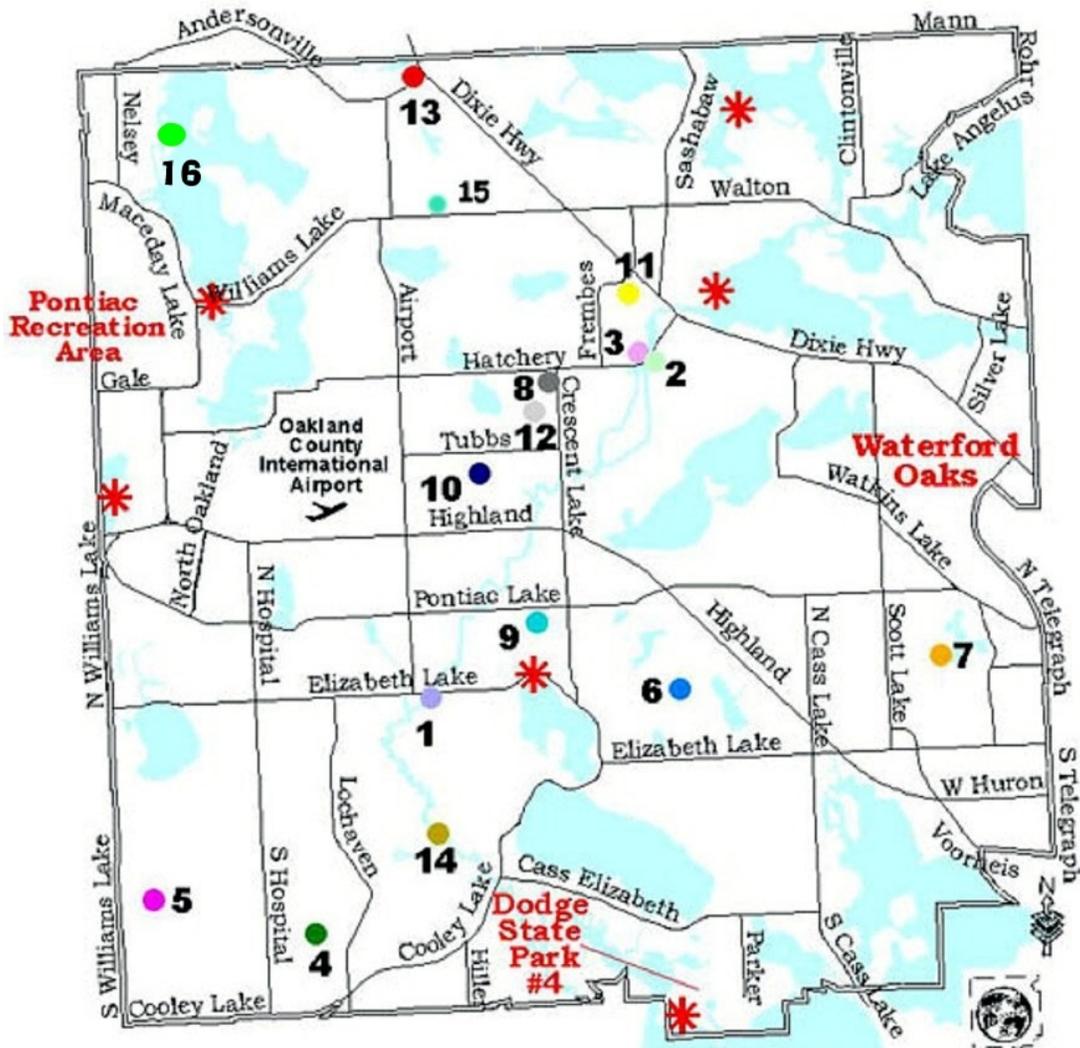
Facilities. Differing in size and purpose, each level caters to particular needs; a balanced mixture of all five types is essential for a well-rounded desirable recreation program for Waterford Township. This section analyzes the Township's recreation facilities inventory through this classification system, determining the current capacity levels for each classification, as well as project the capacity and potential needs during the next twenty years. The recreation planning standards used for this analysis is shown in Table VI-1.

**Table VI-1
 Recreation Planning Standards by Classification**

Recreation Facility Classification	Acres per 1,000 persons	Ideal Acres	Service Area (Radius Miles)
Neighborhood Parks	1.0 – 2.0	5 minimum, 5-10 optimum per park	¼ to ½
School-Park (<i>counts toward a community's neighborhood park needs</i>)	1.0-2.0	Determined by location of school district property	Variable-depends on function
Community Parks	5.0 – 8.0	30-50 optimum per park	½ to 3
Sports Complex (<i>counts toward a community's community park needs</i>)	5.0 – 8.0	25 minimum, 40-80 optimum per park	Strategically located community-wide facilities
Regional Parks	5.0 – 10.0	200 per park	1 hour driving time
Natural Resource Area		varies	Depends upon availability and opportunity
Special Use		variable	Variable-dependent upon specific use

Source: Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, 1996, by James D. Mertes, Ph.D., CLP and James R. Hall, CLP

Map VI-1
 Major Parks and Recreation Sites - Waterford Township



- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 ● Clinton River Canoe Site | 8 ● Monteith Center Site |
| 2 ● Drayton Plains Nature Center | 9 ● Optimist Park |
| 3 ● Fish Hatchery Park | 10 ● Rotary Park |
| 4 ● Herrington Park | 11 ● Shell Park |
| 5 ● Hess-Hathaway Park | 12 ● Waterford Civic Center Warming House |
| 6 ● Lions Park | 13 ● Waterford Historical Church |
| 7 ● Marion Street Park | 14 ● Elizabeth Lake Woods Park |
| | 15 ● CAI Building |
| | 16 ● Muceday Lake Park |
- * Public Boat Launch

Neighborhood Parks

The neighborhood park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. These sites are intended to be areas for active and passive recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, playground and playscape equipment, skating, hiking, and picnicking. This type of park is optimally suited to serve a neighborhood consisting of up to 5,000 people and having a service radius of one-quarter to one-half mile. The desirable size of such a facility is between five and ten acres. Park size may vary for individual sites, depending on neighborhood characteristics and the amount of land potentially available. Between one and two acres of neighborhood parkland should be provided for each 1,000 persons anticipated to reside within a given neighborhood area. Such facilities should be easily accessible to the neighborhood they are intended to serve, with consideration given to pedestrian and bicycle safety. Each site should be designed so that it relates to the characteristics of surrounding neighborhood.

School-Parks

When neighborhood parks are developed in conjunction with elementary school sites as shared school/park sites, they have many inherent advantages. These include reduced land costs and economies of scale relative to both development and maintenance. Joint use of development avoids the duplication of services and requires less total acreage than developing each facility independent of one another. In Waterford, elementary school sites are the main source of public facilities on the neighborhood level. Due to their strategic location throughout the Township, nearby residents of all ages are within a desirable walking distance so that they may take advantage of the sites' preserved open space, ball fields and/or playground equipment. As Table VI-3 illustrates, some elementary school sites contain acreage that exceeds the ideal acreage total, but every school site does fall within the optimum range.

Community Parks

Community parks are larger in size than neighborhood parks and serve two or more neighborhoods. Their focus is on meeting active and passive recreation needs while preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. This classification of park allows for group activities and other recreational opportunities generally not feasible in neighborhood parks due to size limitations and usage intensity. A community park customarily includes areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as swimming pools, swimming beaches, archery ranges, ice skating areas, ball fields, and tennis courts. They are frequently areas of diverse environmental quality, featuring areas of natural quality for outdoor recreation activities, such as walking, viewing nature, and picnicking. Each community park should ideally be about 30 to 50 acres in size. Although its service area should be 0.5 to 3.0 miles in radius, the quality of the natural resource base should play a significant role in site selection. Ideally, community parks should be provided at a ratio of between five and eight acres per 1,000 persons.

Sports Complexes

The sports complex classification is a specialized subset of the community park classification. The intent of this classification is to highlight those facilities that consolidate heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities at larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community. This allows for: economies of scale and higher quality facilities, improved management/scheduling, improved control of facility use, greater control of negative impacts to neighborhood and community parks, such as overuse, noise, traffic congestion, parking, and domination of facilities by those outside the neighborhood. Sport complexes should be developed to accommodate the specific needs of user groups and athletic associations based on demands and program offerings. Sports complexes include fields and courts for softball, soccer, tennis, basketball, volleyball, and racquetball. Sports complexes should be strategically located to serve customers community-wide. Ideally, sports complexes should be provided at a ratio of between five and eight acres per 1,000 persons. The ideal sports complex should be a minimum of 25 acres in size, with an optimum size of 40 to 80 acres.

Regional Facilities

Regional park facilities are usually maintained by County or State agencies; the local government unit is not responsible for them. Nonetheless, they provide recreational opportunities which must be considered in the overall recreational system for the Township. Most of these regional facilities are larger than parks in the other classifications and can offer a greater variety of recreational experiences. This type of park is optimally suited to serve customers within one hour driving time of the park. Between five and ten acres of regional parkland should be provided for each 1,000 persons residing within the community. Ideally regional parks should be about 200 acres in size, although specialized facilities may require a smaller size to match the use, such as the boat launch sites.

Natural Resource Areas

Many communities have established goals to acquire land to ensure that it remains undeveloped and in its natural state, providing citizens with open space and visually pleasing natural landscapes. These acquisitions fall within the natural resource areas classification, which are lands owned and reserved by the public to preserve significant natural resources and protect property unsuitable for development in accordance with the community's land use regulations. The objective of acquiring and maintaining Natural Feature Areas does not mandate an optimum size. The optimum size will be directly related to what a community wants to preserve and protect. The customer service area will also depend upon how much of the natural features area the community wishes to encourage public access.

Special Use Facilities

The special use facilities classification provides for an extensive range of parks and recreation facilities that are generally operated to provide a single-purpose use. Some communities may find that organizations or businesses are operating recreational uses that were developed around its cultural or historic sites. Others may be traditional single purpose facilities such as community centers, senior centers, hockey arenas, golf courses, or bowling alleys. The size and service area of this recreation facility classification will vary depending upon the customer base of the facility and the specific type of use.

CURRENT RECREATION FACILITIES INVENTORY

The Township's parks and recreation system is managed by the Parks and Recreation Department through its administrative offices in the Montieth Activity Center on the Civic Center Campus. The Waterford Parks and Recreation Department has grown along with the increase in the amount of park acreage, number of recreation facilities, and number of programs offered. The department coordinates recreational programs for youth and adult as well as the maintenance of all the Township parks. The Township's park and recreation facilities, as shown in Table VI-2, range from active recreational facilities to passive nature preserves. In addition to the Parks and Recreation Department, several entities operate and maintain recreational facilities in the Township, which are shown in Table VI-3. Playgrounds, fields, and other facilities at schools managed by Waterford Public Schools provide additional recreational opportunities for Waterford residents.

While the Township has undertaken a broader role as a provider of recreation services, it recognizes the financial limitations accompanying such an expanded role. To lessen the financial burden of an expanded recreation role and to avoid an unnecessary duplication of services, the Township promotes the need and wisdom to foster and expand cooperative arrangements with other recreation providers, especially the Waterford School District, Oakland County Parks, and the State of Michigan. The results of this cooperative effort is seen in the variety of recreational facilities provided by agencies other than the Township.

**Table VI-2
Inventory of Township-Owned Parks and Recreational Facilities**

Name and Location	Facility Classification	Site Size	Description
CAI Building 5640 N Williams Lake Rd	Special Use	8.7 acres	Activity center for the Golden Age Club and youth programs, room rentals, enrichment classes, Branch Library.
Civic Center Park 5200 Civic Center Drive	Community	28.1 acres	Monteith Parks and Recreation Administrative Offices and Activity Center with gymnasium, four regulation soccer fields, natural pond used for winter skating, exercise trail/fitness stations, picnic shelter with fireplace/warming house for winter skating and 35 person meeting room with kitchenette, restrooms.
Clinton River Canoe Site 5971 Elizabeth Lake Rd	Special Use	9 acres	Public canoe landing, children's play apparatus area, picnic shelter, grill, and tables.
Clinton River Park South	Natural Resource Area	34.3 acres	Undeveloped passive parkland, nature preserve, canoeing in section 33 of the Township (adjacent to Haviland Elementary School).
Elizabeth Lake Woods Park	Natural Resource Area	325 acres	Undeveloped passive parkland, nature preserve, canoeing in sections 28, 29, 32, and 33 of the Township.
Fish Hatchery Park 4490 Hatchery Rd	Special Use	8.6 acres	Renovated historic farmhouse, office and museum of the Waterford Historical Society, restrooms, boardwalk, fishing, canoe docks.
Herrington Park 1216 Lochaven Road	Community	70.1 acres	Concessions, restrooms, two lighted ball fields, picnic area, picnic shelter, children's play apparatus, nature trail.
Hess-Hathaway Farm Park 825 S Williams Lake Rd	Community	167 acres	Restored 1860's farmhouse, animal exhibit barn, one ball field, two volleyball courts, two horseshoe courts, picnic shelters, gazebo, playground area, handicap-accessible children's "boundless" playscape, restrooms, community meeting room, nature trails for hiking and cross country skiing, group hayrides, farm animal tours.
Lions Park 4250 Fenmore	Community	26.5 acres	Picnic shelter, restrooms, one lighted ball field, picnic area, children's play apparatus area.
Maceday Lake Park Northern end of Rich Street	Natural Resource Area	10.5 acres	Undeveloped four acre passive parkland and six acre bird/wildlife sanctuary in section 6 of the Township.
Marion Street Park Northern end of Marion Street	Natural Resource Area	17.6 acres	Nature trails, handicap-accessible trail, observation decks.
Mill Pond Park 5860 Andersonville Rd	Community	1 acre	Waterford Cultural Center offices and gallery, small banquet/meeting rooms, picnic area, fishing, canoeing.
Optimist Park 5320 Elizabeth Lake Rd	Community	10 acres	Concession stand, restrooms, three ball fields, children's play area, picnic shelter, picnic area, lighted basketball court.
Rotary Park 5485 Tubbs Road	Community	12.5 acres	Picnic shelter, restrooms, concession stand, two ball fields, play area, five soccer fields.
Shell Park 4373 Dixie Hwy	Community	13 acres	Three ball fields, picnic shelter, grills, and tables, play area, concession stand, restrooms.

Source: Waterford Township Parks and Recreation Department, Community Planning and Development Department

**Table VI-3
Inventory of Non-Township-Owned Parks and Recreational Facilities**

Name and Location	Classification	Size	Description
Waterford School District			
Jayno W. Adams Elementary 3810 Clintonville Road	School-Park	11 acres	Playground equipment and fields, two tennis courts, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
William Beaumont Elementary 6532 Elizabeth Lake Road	School-Park	10 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
William Austin Burt Elementary 581 S. Winding	School-Park	10 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Thomas M. Cooley Elementary 2000 Highland Street	School-Park	10 acres	Playground equipment, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
David Grayson Elementary 3800 W. Walton Blvd.	School-Park	5.5 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Laura Smith Haviland Elementary 5305 Cass Elizabeth Road	School-Park	11 acres	Playground equipment and fields, two tennis courts, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Donelson Hills Elementary 2690 Wewoka	School-Park	11 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Douglass Houghton Elementary 8080 Elizabeth Lake Road (White Lake Twp)	School-Park	12 acres	Playground equipment and fields, two basketball courts, indoor gymnasium.
Patricia E. Knudsen Elementary 5449 Crescent Road	School-Park	16 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Eliza Seaman Leggett Elementary 3621 Pontiac Lake Road	School-Park	9 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Della Lutes Elementary 5195 Pontiac Lake Road	School-Park	9 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Kingsley Montgomery Training 4265 Halkirk	School-Park	5 acres	Playground equipment and indoor gymnasium.
Riverside Elementary 5280 Farm Road	School-Park	10 acres	Playground equipment and indoor gymnasium.
Carl Sandburg Elementary 1355 Merry	School-Park	6 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Henry R. Schoolcraft Elementary 6400 Maceday Drive	School-Park	11 acres	Playground equipment and fields, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Stepanski Early Childhood Center 6010 Hatchery Road	School-Park	10.3 acres	Playground equipment, one soccer field.
Waterford Village Elementary	School-Park	7.5 acres	Playground equipment and fields, two tennis courts, two basketball courts, indoor gymnasium.

Name and Location	Classification	Size	Description
4241 Steffens			
Isaac E. Crary Middle 501 N. Cass Lake Road	Sports Complex	36 acres	Two ball fields, four tennis courts, one basketball court, one unlighted football/soccer field, indoor gymnasium.
Steven T. Mason Middle 3835 W. Walton	Sports Complex	35 acres	Outdoor running track, four ball fields, one basketball court, one unlighted football/soccer field, four tennis courts, indoor gymnasium.
John D. Pierce Middle 5145 Hatchery Road	Sports Complex	22 acres	One running track, two ball fields, one unlighted football/soccer field, four tennis courts, one basketball court, two indoor gymnasiums.
Four Towns Discovery 6370 Cooley Lake Road	School-Park	5 acres	Playground field, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Manley Voyager Alternative 2989 Van Zandt	School-Park	11 acres	Playground equipment, one basketball court, indoor gymnasium.
Waterford Kettering High 2800 Kettering Drive	Sports Complex	57 acres	One running track, six tennis courts, three ball fields, two football/soccer fields, one lighted football field, two indoor gymnasiums.
Waterford Mott High 1151 Scott Lake Road	Sports Complex	67 acres	One running track, six tennis courts, one basketball court, three ball fields, two football/soccer fields, one sand volleyball court, one lighted football field, one indoor gymnasium.
Waterford Senior Center 6455 Harper	Special Use	9 acres	Activity rooms for senior citizens, full kitchen and dining facility, library mini-branch
Oakland Community College			
Highland Lakes Campus S. Hospital Road	Community	18 acres (on 137 acre site)	Four tennis courts, one ball field
Oakland County Parks			
Waterford Oaks County Park 1702 Scott Lake Road	Regional	155 acres	Water Park including; wave pool, water slide, the "Big Bucket" (children under 43"), Ragin' Rapids, picnic shelters, beach volleyball, BMX, refrigerated toboggan run and Lookout Lodge. Court Games Complex to include, shuffleboard, sand volleyball, tennis and horseshoes.
State Parks			
Cass-Dodge Park #4	Regional	139 acres	Public beach, one-mile Cass Lake shoreline, public access boat ramp, restrooms, courtesy pier, ADA accessible.
Crescent Lake Boat Launch	Regional	2 acres	Public access boat ramp
Lake Oakland Boat Launch	Regional	7 acres	Public access boat ramp, restrooms, courtesy pier.
Loon Lake Boat Launch	Regional	4 acres	Public access boat ramp, restrooms, courtesy pier.
Maceday Lake Boat Launch	Regional	1 acre	Public access boat ramp, restrooms, courtesy pier, ADA accessible.
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area	Regional	416 acres in Waterford (on 3,800 acre site)	Three campgrounds with total of 176 campsites, 1/3-mile long beach, public access boat ramp, restrooms, courtesy pier, one ball field, hunting area, rifle range, 17 miles of horse-riding trails, 11 miles of mountain bike trails, 1.9 miles of hiking trails, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling.

Private Non-Profit			
Drayton Plains Nature Center 2125 Denby	Natural Resource Area	148 acres	Interpretive nature center, meeting rooms, nature tours, bird and tree identification, hiking, birding, gift center.
Private For-Profit			
Airway Lanes 4825 Highland Road	Special Use	One facility on 5 acre site	32 lane bowling alley, banquet room
American Fitness 5806 Dixie Highway	Special Use	One facility on 2 acre site	Aerobic and weight fitness equipment
Bally Total Fitness 1490 North Oakland Blvd.	Special Use	One facility on 2 acre site	Aerobic and weight fitness equipment, indoor jogging track, indoor pool.
Century Bowl 7345 Highland Road	Special Use	One facility on 7 acre site	52 lane bowling alley,
Concorde Inn 7076 Highland Road	Special Use	One facility on 3 acre site	Limited access indoor recreational pool inside hotel facility
Holiday Inn Express 4350 Pontiac Lake Road	Special Use	One facility on 10 acre site	Limited access indoor recreational pool inside hotel facility
Lakeland Ice Arena 7330 Highland Road	Special Use	One facility on 5.5 acre site	Three indoor ice hockey rinks.
Lakewood Lanes 3121 West Huron	Special Use	One facility on 1 acre site	14 lane bowling alley,
Oakland Yard Athletics 5328 Highland Road	Special Use	10 acres	Golf driving range (domed in the winter), sand volleyball courts, multi-purpose fields.
Pontiac Lake County Club Golf Course 4335 Elizabeth Lake Road	Special Use	100 acres	18 hole golf course, clubhouse, restaurant.
Powerhouse Gym 2529 Elizabeth Lake Road	Special Use	One facility on 4 acre retail center site	Aerobic and weight fitness equipment

Premier West Lanes 7102 Cooley Lake Road	Special Use	One facility on 8 acre site	40 lane bowling alley, restaurant
Prescription Fitness 5210 Highland Road	Special Use	3 acres	Aerobic and weight fitness equipment, indoor lap pool, outdoor fitness trail
Silver Lake Golf Course 2602 W. Walton Blvd.	Special Use	47 acres	9 hole golf course, clubhouse, restaurant.
Sport-Way Miniature Golf 4355 Highland Road	Special Use	4.5 acres	Go-kart track, miniature golf, batting cages
300 Bowl 100 S. Cass Lake Road	Special Use	One facility on 5 acre site	52 lane bowling alley, banquet facilities
World Gym 5064 Highland Road	Special Use	One facility on 9 acre retail center site	Aerobic and weight fitness equipment
Zero Gravity Skate Park 1585 Crescent Lake Road	Special Use	One facility on 6 acre site	Indoor skate park, 17,000 square feet of skate floor with ramps, ledges, fly boxes, real street obstacles, and a wall ride; two basketball courts.

Source: Waterford Township Parks and Recreation Department, Community Planning and Development Department

CURRENT AND PROJECTED PARK AND RECREATION NEEDS

The inventory of Waterford's park and recreational facilities described in Tables VI-2 and VI-3 provide the following summary inventory of recreation facility classifications:

Neighborhood Parks

No acreage

School-Parks

180 acres 100% Waterford School District properties

Community Parks

346 acres 95% Township properties, 5% Oakland Community College properties

Sports Complexes

217 acres 100% Waterford School District properties

Regional Parks

724 acres 21% County properties, 79% State properties

Natural Resource Areas

535 acres 72% Township properties, 28% Private Nonprofit properties

Special Uses

35 acres for community/senior/historic/special park activities	
74% Township properties, 26% Waterford School District properties	
14.5 acres for outdoor activities	100% Private For-profit
147 acres for golf courses	100% Private For-profit
1 indoor skate park	100% Private For-profit
1 ice arena	100% Private For-profit
2 limited access indoor recreation pools	100% Private For-profit
5 bowling centers with a total of 190 lanes	100% Private For-profit
5 physical fitness facilities	100% Private For-profit

Although a community might possess an adequate total of parkland and recreational facilities to serve its citizens, these resources need to be evenly distributed throughout the municipality for the recreation goals to be effectively accomplished. The geographic distribution of Waterford's parks and recreation facilities is presented in Table VI-4. While many areas may lack adequate public recreation areas, all but two of the census tracts have lakes within their boundaries. The many lakes in the area provides those residents with lake privileges an additional private recreation source which potentially may decrease some of the overall need and demand for recreation-related acreage. Since every Waterford resident does not possess lake access privileges, it is still very important to distribute recreation resources evenly - but it may take methods involving surveys or other forms of public input to create an equitable distribution of resources.

**Table VI-4
Resource Distribution**

Census Tract	Population	Acreage			Acres per 1,000 Residents
		Township Facilities	School Facilities	T o t a l	
1440	5,984	0.0	17.3	17.3	2.9
1441	4,470	14.0	12.5	26.5	5.9
1442	4,613	10.7	20.2	30.9	6.7
1443	3,992	0.0	10.5	10.5	2.6
1444	5,030	57.9	84.0	141.9	28.2
1445	3,060	0.0	35.0	35.0	11.4
1446	4,051	0.0	87.5	87.5	19.4
1447	5,863	17.6	57.3	74.9	12.8
1448	2,622	26.5	0.0	26.5	10.1
1449	4,101	10.0	19.0	29.0	7.1
1451	2,255	68.9	25.0	93.9	41.6
1452	3,433	34.3	17.0	51.3	14.9
1453	4,462	0.0	11.0	11.0	2.5
1454	4,456	0.0	10.0	10.0	2.2
1455	6,650	502.0	0.0	502.0	75.5
1456	4,051	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1457	4,069	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	73,162	741.9	406.3	1,148.2	15.7

SOURCE: U.S. CensusBureau; Waterford Township

Many other factors must be considered when analyzing the distribution of resources in a community. The availability and affordability of land are major factors that must be considered when contemplating an acquisition program. Another important factor is the cost of maintaining, securing, and patrolling park properties. It is much more effective and inexpensive to maintain and patrol one 10 acre site as compared to 10 one-acre sites. Creating an equitable distribution of resources requires that the community balance its available resources with its recreational needs, keeping in mind the availability of funds not only for initial acquisition but also for annual operating costs.

As stated earlier, the evaluation of Waterford’s recreation facilities inventory is based upon standards relating the amount of recreational facilities in each classification to the population served. Standards published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources provide a variety of alternatives, which communities can tailor to their particular needs. The totals above have been calculated for the number of recreation acres per 1,000 persons for the Neighborhood Park, Community Park, and Regional Park classifications and are shown in Table VI-5. From the totals, Waterford is currently not deficient in parkland in any of the three categories. Furthermore this capacity is expected to be maintained during the next twenty years; even if the population increases as projected and no further parkland is purchased.

**Table VI-5
Projected Recreation Facilities Service Levels by Classification – 2003-2010**

Recreation Facility Classification	Optimum Recreation Acres per 1,000 persons	Current Total Recreation Acres Available	2003 Recreation Acres per 1,000 persons (current based on 2000 population of 73,150)	2005 Recreation Acres per 1,000 persons (based on projected population of 74,500 and no additional acquisitions)	2010 Recreation Acres per 1,000 persons (based on projected population of 76,576 and no additional acquisitions)
Neighborhood Parks (includes School-Parks)	1 - 2	180	2.5	2.4	2.4
Community Parks (includes Sports Complexes)	5 - 8	563	7.7	7.6	7.4
Regional Parks	5 - 10	724	9.9	9.7	9.4

Source: Waterford Township Parks and Recreation Department, Community Planning and Development Department, David N. Ammons, Municipal Benchmarks, SAGE 1996

A few things must be noted however. First, the Township’s complete current inventory of Neighborhood Parks is supplied by the School District through the established School-Parks. The Township may want to evaluate the addition of some Neighborhood Parks owned by the Township, in particular in those areas where an elementary school is not readily accessible. One alternative to the public acquisition of Neighborhood Parks is the development of smaller, private parks in individual subdivisions. These private parks would be owned and maintained by homeowner or condominium associations and may include playground or playscape equipment for children and other amenities intended to meet the recreation needs of the intended occupants of the project.

Another item of note is that there is no public indoor swimming pools readily accessible to the general public, students, and scholastic swim athletes in Waterford Township. This is a serious deficiency from the safety point of view in a township which contains such an abundance of water bodies. It is recommended that the Township consider the construction of an indoor community pool as part of a new full-service community center or if Township funds cannot be raised to achieve the goal in this manner, consideration might be given to adopting the common practice in urban communities where public swimming pools are constructed as additions to the high schools. While such a program would make pools available for daytime use for school activities such as physical education programs and athletic programs, community programs would be limited to evening hours. Another option might be to consider Township construction of a single community pool at a new community center for general community use while the School District constructs the competitive pools for its physical education programs and athletic programs.

The Township should continue to preserve its existing limited natural open space areas to guarantee the availability of open space and nature study areas as integral elements in the local recreation programs. It is evident through the master planning process that such areas be protected, expanded, continue to provide usable sites characteristic of the local natural environment, and offer only limited access to fragile environmental areas.

There continues to be two senior centers operating in the Township. The Senior Drop-In Center is located in the northwest quadrant of the Township and offers meals and social services throughout the School District. The Township provides the other center at the CAI Building, offering arts, crafts, educational, and recreational activities; no meals are furnished. A new senior center/community center has been proposed for the Township to provide a permanent long-term solution to fulfilling all of the needs of senior citizens. There is a question as to how long the Senior Drop-In Center will continue. The Township facility is inadequate in terms of meeting senior needs. Therefore, a centralized facility is proposed at the Township Civic Center. Based upon the master planning process and Master Plan Goals, a new community center facility remains as a viable proposal. Usage of the building would include: administrative offices, a senior wing, a community center wing, dual-use classrooms, kitchen, dining room, gymnasium, and potentially a community pool as described above. These needs must be coordinated into the site planning process to ensure that whichever site and building design is chosen, it accommodates the need for current services and allows for the expansion of services.

LIBRARY

Library facilities and services provide another essential quality of life element within a viable community structure. Library facilities combine elements of recreation, education, and cultural enrichment. There are a variety of individual, family and group functions which are enhanced through library services. The American Library Association recognizes that library services focus on five basic objectives - education, information, research, aesthetic appreciation, and recreation. The staff of the Waterford Township Public Library is committed to providing these quality of life services to Waterford residents. The mission of the Waterford Township Public Library is to:

- Provide current, high-demand, high interest materials in a variety of formats for persons of all ages
- Encourage young children to develop an interest in reading and learning through its services for children and its services for parents and children together
- Provide timely, accurate and useful information for Waterford residents in pursuit of personal and work-related interests
- Assist students of all ages and in all educational settings to meet their general information and research needs
- Provide access to the Library collection and facilities for all community residents on an equal, publicly funded basis.

Since libraries play an important role in both educational and recreational functions of government, their proper site location is important from a community planning perspective. Convenience is one of the primary site location considerations. It is desirable to have the central library located within a block or so of the main business district or civic center and possess convenient access to major traffic arteries and transportation facilities. There should also be adequate off-street parking facilities. The Waterford Township Public Library offices and Main Library building are strategically located near the center of the Township, at 5168 Civic Center Drive on the Civic Center Campus. The Waterford Township Public Library was established as a private library in 1945. It was funded and operated by the Waterford Mothers Club. Originally located in the Community Activities, Inc., building, the Township Board passed a resolution in 1963 declaring this library to be a public library. The Library's original Main Library building was constructed as one of the first buildings on the Civic Center Campus in 1964. The original building experienced several expansions since 1964, with a major expansion and modernization in 1995 increasing the size of the building from 6,500 square feet to 21,000 square feet. The 1995 expansion was the result of the support of the Township's citizens by voting for the passage of the first library millage passed in 1992. This millage was renewed with the voters continued support in 2002. Additional building improvements and a small expansion are planned to take place during the next two years, increasing the building size to just over 27,000 square feet.

Currently the Main Library's holdings total 121,580 materials. The number of holdings in circulation is 1.7 items per capita (the service population also includes the City of Lake Angelus). The current shelving capacities for the various branches are found in Table VI-6. The Library plans continued improvements in the services it provides Township residents through the provision of more story times and reading programs and adding greater depth and breadth to the library collection. The Library has also been a strong advocate in establishing collections of new non-print formats of materials as well as providing citizens the capabilities of computers and internet access as new and effective ways of finding data and information. Over 36% of residents, or 27,030, possess a Waterford Township Library card. Visits to the library have increased during the past three years, 204,560 visits in 2000, 206,689 visits in 2001, and 211,057 visits in 2002. Also in 2002, nearly 384,000 items were borrowed from the Library.

**Table VI-6
Library Shelving Capacities - 2003**

Facility	Shelving Capacity
Main Library	85,000
Branch	9,000
Each Mini Branch	400

Source: Waterford Township Library

The Branch Library is located in 600 square feet of space in the CAI Building on Williams Lake Road, east of Airport Road. The Branch Library houses a collection of 13,844 materials. The Library has also established Mini Branch Libraries in eight locations: the Waterford Senior Center and seven senior housing developments, Lakeland Place, the Inn at Cass Lake, Canterbury on the Lake, Whispering Woods, Fox Manor (Lourdes), Mendelson House (Lourdes), and Lockwood of Waterford. Beginning in 1995 the Library also began administering the Waterford School District library system, creating an efficient and integrated Township-wide library services.

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE WATERFORD'S POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

Oakland County Lands and Facilities

Since 1966, approximately 4,052 acres of land have been acquired by the Oakland County Park System with assistance from state and federal governments. To date, there are nine County parks which range in size from 53 acres to 1,088 acres. The parks are listed as follows:

Addison Oaks (794 acres) - This park opened in 1971, is located in the extreme northeast part of the County east of Lake Orion. The park has a good mix of hardwood stands, swamps, marshes, open fields and a 35 acre lake. The park contains 174 modern campsites and 4 four-person cabins for rent. A tudor-style conference center, built in 1927, is available for wedding receptions, banquets, parties, and limited group conferences, with no overnight lodging accommodations. There is also a 24-hole disc golf course. Other activities include mountain bike and hiking trails, swimming beach, picnic areas, lake skating, fishing, row boats and paddle boats, and cross-country skiing.

Glen Oaks (125 acres) - This park is one of two County parks located in the southern portion of the County. Glen Oaks is located between 13 and 14 Mile Roads between Orchard Lake Road and Northwestern Highway. The park functions primarily as an 18-hole golf course and clubhouse. The clubhouse contains a pro shop, lockers, a bar & grill, and can be used for large banquets, wedding receptions, and golf outings.

Groveland Oaks (360 acres) -Groveland Oaks is located in the northwestern part of the County between the Villages of Holly and Ortonville. The park was purchased in 1967

from a privately run campground. An additional 162 acres were acquired in 1987 and 1.09 acres in 1990. The park has 600 campsites, beach and swimming area, 63foot water slide ride and picnic areas. Stewart Lake (35 acre) divides the site into an east and west half. Islands within the lake are also used for day picnics by groups. The master plan for this park was completed in 1975 and calls for 735 campsites, comfort stations, camp stores, play areas, pathways, court games, administration center, lawn games, shelter, and additional boating facilities.

Independence Oaks (1,088 acres) - Independence Oaks, opened in 1967, is located in the northern central area of the County, northeast of Clarkston. An additional 74 acres was acquired between 1986 and 1988. The park is in the Clinton River Watershed and the Lake St. Clair-Lake Erie Drainage Basin. Crooked Lake (approximately 68 acres) is a primary feature in the park. The park features a nature interpretive center with exhibits and educational programs and an amphitheater in addition to the Twin Chimneys Shelter which is rented out for reunions, parties, and weddings. A year-round interpretive program is provided for families, schools, and other organizations. Other activities include picnic areas, play areas, camping, swimming, fishing, hiking, boat rentals, skating, and cross-country skiing. The master plan for the park was completed in 1977 and calls for 380 campsites.

Lyon Oaks (1,024 acres) - Lyon Oaks, acquired in 1992, is a new addition to the County Park system and is located in the southwestern area of the County. The park preserves 800 acres of environmentally-sensitive wetlands within a 1,024-acre park. The park features a 13 acre fenced bark park for dogs and their owners, a nature interpretive center with exhibits and educational programs. There is a day-use area including a picnic shelter, an Arthur Hills-designed 18-hole golf course, and complete banquet and meeting facilities which is rented out for reunions, parties, and weddings. Other activities include hiking and play areas.

Orion Oaks (927 acres) - The park was purchased in 1980 with cooperation from the MDNR. The park includes a 7 acre fenced bark park and includes opportunities for boating, fishing, hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, environmental study area, as well as many other programmed activities.

Red Oaks (135.25 acres) - Red Oaks is located east of John R. Road close to the dense population area of the southeast corner of the County. The Red Drain was converted to accommodate the nine- hole golf course, driving range, wavepool, picnic areas, and a children's water playground.

Rose Oaks (620 acres) - Rose Oaks is a new addition to the County Park system and is located in the northwestern area of the County, just south of Holly Village. The park preserves 200 acres of environmentally-sensitive wetlands within a 620-acre park. The park features three different ecosystems (wetlands, meadows, and woods) for education and preservation purposes. Other activities include hiking and fishing. Future uses that are planned for the park are boating, swimming, picnicking, and cross-country skiing.

Springfield Oaks (276.14 acres)-Springfield Oaks is located in the northwest portion of the County, southeast of HollyVillage. The park is home to the annual Oakland County 4-H Fair and offers two horse riding areas, an activity center, 18-hole golf course, pro shop, cart rentals, bar and grill, picnic area, soccer field, ice rink, grandstand, and cross-country skiing. Parties, both large and small, are accommodated in addition to fairs, 4-H activities, and banquets or conferences.

Waterford Oaks (145 acres)-Waterford Oaks serves as the administrative complex for the park system and as the headquarters of the Commission. The park is located in Waterford Township, the center of the County. Primary access is off of Scott Lake and

Watkins Lake Roads. The facility offers a wave action pool and two-flume water slide during the summer months, and a refrigerated toboggan run during the winter months. Other facilities include picnic areas, lighted platform tennis courts, shuffle board courts, horseshoe courts, a BMX bicycle race course, outdoor tennis courts, and cross-country skiing. The activity center includes a 400-person auditorium and dance floor, and provides space for banquets, receptions, and parties, as well as dancing and educational classes.

White Lake Oaks (193.18 acres) - White Lake Oaks is located off of M-59 and Williams Lake Road. In 1970, the Commission purchased the golf course. In 1975, twenty-eight acres were added to the park. This park contains an 18-hole golf course, clubhouse with bar & grill, pro shop, and banquet facilities with 260 person seating capacity. It serves as the site for the State Senior Citizen Golf Tournament and Junior Golf League invitational every summer. The site is also used in the winter months for cross-country skiing.

Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Facilities

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) was sanctioned by the Michigan State Legislature in Act No. 147 of the Public Acts of 1939, and was approved in 1940 by the citizens of Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties which constitute the Metropolitan District. According to the provisions of the Act, the five counties were to be joined in a metropolitan district for planning, promoting, and/or acquiring, constructing, owning, developing and maintaining, either within or without their limits, parks, connecting drives and/or limited access highways. The Board of Commissioners held their first meeting in 1941.

Named after the two longest rivers within its boundaries, the Authority's major endeavor is the preservation of the scenic beauties and recreational resources along the Huron and Clinton Rivers for public use. Since its inception, it has created large public parks located within the environs of the best natural resources possible, consideration to population trends within the district and with a minimum disruption of existing land use.

The HCMA owns approximately 7,196 acres of land in Oakland County. The following parks contain land within Oakland County's boundaries:

Indian Springs Metropark (2,232 acres) - This park includes an interpretive building, play fields, areas for winter sports, six miles of nature trails, eight miles of paved trails, picnic areas, an 18-hole golf course, driving range, and golf starter building.

Kensington Metropark (3,882 acres in Oakland County) – This metropark is home to Kent Lake which provides areas for a scenic waterfront, a natural swim area, shore fishing, 1,500 linear feet of pier fishing, two boat launch ramps, boat launch parking areas, 141 marina slips, and livery boats. Other major facilities in the park include a farm center, an interpretive building and 2,700 acre nature study area, nine ball diamonds, three sledding hills, a group camping area, and an 18-hole golf course. The park also possesses picnic areas, playground areas, 73,000 square feet of natural ice rinks, 14 miles of cross-country trails, 5.5 miles of nature trails, eight miles of bike-hike trails, and a 1 ¼ miles fitness trail.

Stoney Creek Metropark (1,214 acres in Oakland County) - This metropark provides areas for swimming, fishing, a boat launch, boat launch parking areas, and boat storage. Other major facilities in the park include an interpretive building, group camping areas, and an 18-hole golf course. The park also provides bike rentals, picnic areas, playground areas, skating, sledding, cross-country trails, 7 ½ miles of bike-hike trails, and a 2 ½ miles fitness trail.

Michigan State Parks

There are a large number of Michigan State Parks in the area that provide recreational opportunities to people in Waterford and the surrounding areas. Nineteen State facilities are located within 50 miles of Waterford Township and provide a multitude of facilities and activities.

Algonac State Park - This 1,307 acre park offers 300 modern campsites and an organization camp. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, and a boat launch. Activities include hunting, fishing, and hiking.

Bald Mountain Recreation Area - This 4,637 acre recreation area includes an organization camp and cabins. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, and cross-country skiing.

Brighton Recreation Area - This 4,913 acre area offers 222 campsites including modern and rustic sites, horseman's facilities, an organization camp, and cabins. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

Dodge - No. 4 State Park - This 139 acre park does not offer camping facilities but does have picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, fishing, and snowmobiling.

Highland Recreation Area - This 5,524 acre park has 30 rustic campsites, a horseman's camp, an organization camp, and cabins. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snow-mobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

Holly Recreation Area - This 7,670 acre area has 161 modern campsites, an organization camp, cabins, mini cabins, and tent rentals. Facilities include picnic facilities, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

Island Lake Recreation Area - This 3,466 acre area offers 45 rustic campsites, an organization camp, and cabins. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, and hiking.

Lakeport State Park - This 565 acre park has 315 modern campsites including an organization camp and mini cabins. Facilities include picnicking, playgrounds, and a beach house. Activities include swimming, fishing, and hiking.

Maybury State Park - This 944 acre park offers no regular camping but has an organization camp. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, and a visitor center. Activities include fishing, hiking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

Metamora-Hadley Recreation Area - This 638 acre park has 200 modern campsites and cabin facilities. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, and hiking.

Ortonville Recreation Area - This 4,875 acre park has 25 rustic campsites, horseman's camping, an organization camp and cabins. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

Pinkney Recreation Area - This 9,994 acre recreation area has 245 campsites including modern and rustic sites, and an organization camp. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area - This 3,700 acre area has 176 modern campsites and offers a horseman's camp, organization camp, and tent rentals. Facilities include picnic facilities, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, and horseback riding.

Proud Lake Recreation Area - This 3,614 acre recreation area has 130 modern campsites, an organization camp, mini cabins and tent rentals. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

Seven Lakes State Park - This 1,410 acre site has 78 modern camping sites. Facilities include picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, and cross -county skiing.

Sleepy Hollow State Park - This 2,678 acre park offers 181 modern campsites, an organization camp, and tent rentals. Facilities at the park include picnic facilities, playgrounds, a beach house, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, and cross-country skiing.

Sterling State Park - This 1,000 acre facility has 288 modern campsites and an organization camp. Facilities include picnicking, playgrounds, a beach house and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, fishing, and hiking.

Waterloo Recreation Area - This 19,962 acre recreation area has 434 campsites including modern sites, rustic sites, horseman's facilities, an organization camp, and cabins. Facilities include picnic facilities, playgrounds, a beach house, a boat launch, and a visitors center. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

Wetzel State Park - This 900 acre park offers no camping and limited facilities and is used primarily for open space. Activities include hunting, snowmobiling, and hiking.

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**SECTION VII
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTION PLAN**

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In order to summarize the recreation and open space issues identified through the public participation process, the Citizen Subcommittee members concluded their review of recreation and open space by identifying a series of goals and objectives designed to address the identified issues during the five-year period of this plan. The recreation and open space goals and objectives to be addressed through this Plan are listed in Table VII-1.

**Table VII-1
Waterford Recreation Goals and Objectives
2003-2008**

Goals	Objectives
<p>Goal 1: To Retain and Enhance Waterford's Unique Character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that policies and programs are enacted to preserve open space areas and to expand and promote diverse recreation opportunities for Waterford citizens ▪ Develop and implement policies and programs to expand and improve nonmotorized paths to ensure that all residents and visitors are capable of enjoying Waterford by nonmotorized modes of transportation ▪ Expand, enhance, and improve the aesthetics and historic preservation of the Waterford Village Historic District
<p>Goal 2: To Promote Increased Opportunities for Recreation, Access to, and Use of Parks and Natural Areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop, construct, and maintain a full-scale recreation center to serve all age groups in one central location ▪ Provide and maintain playground areas in neighborhoods ▪ Promote increased access and use of existing parks ▪ Develop and promote a Waterford riverwalk pedestrian pathway ▪ Promote recreational utilization of the Clinton River
<p>Goal 3: To Ensure and Enforce Land Use Development Practices that are Sensitive to Waterford's Natural Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preserve, protect, and restore Waterford's existing natural areas ▪ Promote open space developments

ACTION PLAN

The Action Program for the Charter Township of Waterford identifies the actions the Township wishes to take during the five year planning period. While the Goals section of the plan identifies the overall objectives to be achieved during the five year period, the Action Plan identifies specific major actions that will require staffing, funding, and major commitments from the community. The actions are meant to address the recreation-related issues in the Township and include when the actions are to be performed, cost estimates, potential funding for the projects and the location of each of the actions.

This section also identifies a basis for the Action Plan which justifies each of the actions. Justification is based on recreation standards, input from the community through the planning process, previous issue identification by the Parks and Recreation Board, or common sense answers to the identified issues. A total of 94 actions are identified during the five year planning period. Some actions are continued over several years. Many of the actions are identified as staff planning work which will provide the foundation for projects that will require funding in the later years of this Plan. All of the cost estimates are in 2003 dollars and will most likely increase over the five year period. Table VII-2 shows the total estimated annual expenditures, with the exception of staff costs, needed to achieve Waterford’s recreation goals during the 2003-2008 time period.

While the actions are broken into years, the order may change due to scheduling conflicts or budgetary constraints. A 2003 action may not be performed until 2005, or later, depending upon the state of the budget each year, political support, and staff capacity . This will not influence the integrity of the Plan as long as the progress of the Plan is frequently reviewed and adjusted when necessary.

Table VII-2
Estimated Annual Expenditures Needed to Achieve 2003-2008 Recreation Goals
(except cost of staff expenditures)

	Year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Estimated Total Expenditures <i>(in 2003 dollars)</i>	\$820,001	\$1,210,000	\$1,030,000	\$30,600,000	\$1,690,000	\$1,370,000

Table VII-3

Objective 1-1 Expand and Promote Diverse Recreation Opportunities for Waterford Citizens

Objective 1-1 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Expand and implement staff training and development to gain knowledge and awareness of innovative recreational facilities and programs	X	X	X	X	X	X
b. Research and analyze gaps in the provision of recreation services within the Township to assess the feasibility of establishing and funding new facilities and programs.			X	X	X	X
c. Promote establishment of innovative and diverse recreational facilities and programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X
d. Expand capacity of existing service-effective park sites and transfer park capacity to new sites when existing park sites have lost service-effectiveness			X	X	X	X
e. Acquire additional park sites to increase park capacity	X	X	X	X	X	X

Ongoing Action Items for 2003-2008

- Maintain and enhance library services to all citizens.

Cost: Staff time, Cost of new or improved programs dependent on scope of new programs.

Funding Sources: Library Fund, User Fees, Grant Sources, School District Funding.

Location: Township Civic Center, Library Branches, School Media Centers.

Justification: Citizen demand for library services has consistently been reflected in the support for a millage and subsequent renewals, most recently in 2002, for Township library services. The Township Library Director also oversees the Waterford School District school library system to make efficient use of limited resources.
- Maintain and enhance recreation services to all citizens.

Cost: Staff time, Cost of new or improved programs dependent on scope of new programs.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, User Fees, Grant Sources, School District Funding.

Location: Township-wide.

Justification: The opportunity for recreation within one’s own community is a major quality of life issue. Failure to provide consistent, effective, and safe recreational opportunities at a reasonable cost can be a contributing factor in the decline of a community’s quality of life and a reduction in the demand to reside within a community.
- Continuously evaluate and update the recreation activities provided to residents

Cost: Staff time for evaluations. Cost of new or improved programs dependent on scope of new programs.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, User Fees, Grant Sources, School District Funding.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Many of the issues identified and many of the established goals relate to the need to provide activities and programs for a variety of users. This can only be accomplished if programs are continuously updated and new activities are planned.

- Continue creating a fair and equitable scheduling hierarchy to insure all groups receive fair treatment.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, School District Funding.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Shared facilities are an efficient use of limited resources and scheduling is essential if a facility is to be adequately used with minimal conflicts.

- Promote parks and recreation activities through the use of the internet, local news media, a regular newsletter, and all other media effective in conveying Waterford's recreation mission.

Cost: Staff time, \$30,000 annually for printing and supplies.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Township-wide.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the services provided by the Department, participation would increase and a greater variety of programs can be offered. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of the Parks and Recreation Department and provide a forum for the Department to present ideas to the community and to justify proposed projects.

- Acquire additional park property when the property and financial resources are available.

Cost: To be determined upon appraisal of available property.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Funding and Donations, Community Development Block Grant Funding, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: To be determined.

Justification: Many of the issues identified and many of the established goals relate to the need for additional property to accommodate an expansion of activities and programs for an expansion and variety of users. This can only be accomplished if there is sufficient property in convenient locations to provide services to nearby residents efficiently and effectively.

2003

- Complete and adopt the 2003-2008 Recreation Plan.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Community Development Block Grant Funding.

Location: Not Applicable.

Justification: A Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides the community with an opportunity to have input in the planning process and provides the community with goals and strategies to achieve the goals.

- Expand area of Elizabeth Lake Woods park through acquisition of additional land.

Cost: \$130,000.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Properties adjacent to the current boundaries of Elizabeth Lake Woods Park.

Justification: Many of the issues identified and many of the established goals relate to the need for additional property to accommodate an expansion of

activities and programs for an expansion and variety of users. This can only be accomplished if there is sufficient property in convenient locations to provide services to nearby residents efficiently and effectively.

- Expand area of Rotary Park through leasing of additional land
 - Cost: \$1.00 annually from Oakland County International Airport.*
 - Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, User Fees.*
 - Location: Property adjacent to the current eastern boundary of Rotary Park.*
 - Justification: Many of the issues identified and many of the established goals relate to the need for additional property to accommodate an expansion of activities and programs for an expansion and variety of users. This can only be accomplished if there is sufficient property in convenient locations to provide services to nearby residents efficiently and effectively.*

2004

- Acquire park site to serve residents in the northwestern section of the Township.
 - Cost: To be determined upon appraisal of available property.*
 - Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Township Revenue Sources.*
 - Location: To be determined.*
 - Justification: Many of the issues identified and many of the established goals relate to the need for additional property to accommodate an expansion of activities and programs for an expansion and variety of users. This can only be accomplished if there is sufficient property in convenient locations to provide services to nearby residents efficiently and effectively.*

2005

- Implement a park service-effectiveness and capacity analysis.
 - Cost: Staff time.*
 - Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.*
 - Location: Not applicable.*
 - Justification: Often programs and activities are not as successful as they were originally conceived because of the attitude of “build it and they will come” without following up on determining whether quality and capacity of service exists. Program analysis and evaluation is critical in determining if an organization is achieving efficiency and effectiveness in providing programs and services.*
- Develop at least two new baseball fields, storage facility, and parking lot.
 - Cost: \$150,000 estimated.*
 - Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, User Fees, Grant Sources.*
 - Location: To be determined.*
 - Justification: Maintaining and improving existing levels of service was identified as an issue during the Master Plan citizen subcommittee meetings. Parks and Recreation staff have also identified this as a need in the community due to the area’s growing population and the related growth in demand for these type of facilities.*

2006

- Implement a recreation service gap analysis and research.
Cost: Staff time.
Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.
Location: Not applicable.
Justification: Often programs and activities are not as successful as they were originally conceived because of the attitude of “build it and they will come” without following up on determining whether quality and capacity of service exists. Program analysis and evaluation is critical in determining if an organization is achieving efficiency and effectiveness in providing programs and services.
- Develop at least two soccer fields, storage facility, and parking lot.
Cost: \$120,000 estimated.
Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, User Fees, Grant Sources.
Location: To be determined.
Justification: Maintaining and improving existing levels of service was identified as an issue during the Master Plan citizen subcommittee meetings. Parks and Recreation staff have also identified this as a need in the community due to the area’s growing population and the related growth in demand for these type of facilities.

2007

- Develop at least two new baseball fields at new community center site.
Cost: \$150,000 estimated.
Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, User Fees, Grant Sources.
Location: To be determined.
Justification: Maintaining and improving existing levels of service was identified as an issue during the Master Plan citizen subcommittee meetings. Parks and Recreation staff have also identified this as a need in the community due to the area’s growing population and the related growth in demand for these type of facilities.

2008

- Begin research and public participation process for preparation of 2009-2014 Recreation Plan.
Cost: Staff time.
Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Community Development Block Grant Funding.
Location: Not Applicable.
Justification: A Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides the community with an opportunity to have input in the planning process and provides the community with goals and strategies to achieve the goals.

**Table VII-4
Objective 1-2 Expand and Improve Nonmotorized Paths**

Objective 1-2 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Develop, fund, and implement a master nonmotorized path construction and maintenance plan, incorporating priority projects into the Township's Capital Improvements Plan.					X	X
b. Construct connections between existing segments of nonmotorized paths.	X	X	X	X	X	X
c. Maintain and improve existing segments of nonmotorized paths.	X	X	X	X	X	X
d. Investigate, recommend, and adopt a stable funding source for full implementation of the Township's master nonmotorized path construction and maintenance plan.		X				
e. Promote efforts to utilize all Township communication resources to educate citizens on the benefits of walking using nonmotorized paths.	X	X	X	X	X	X

Ongoing Action Items for 2003-2008

- Develop and maintain web page information to educate citizens on the benefits of walking using nonmotorized paths.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the health benefits of walking and the destinations available to them through walking, participation would increase. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford Township as a walkable community.
- Oversee and assist organization of Walk Waterford grassroots effort to promote benefits of walking using nonmotorized paths.

Cost: Staff time, volunteer assistance.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the health benefits of walking and the destinations available to them through walking, participation would increase. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford Township as a walkable community.
- Implement priority nonmotorized path construction projects to improve existing nonmotorized path infrastructure at or near failure and eliminate gaps between existing nonmotorized path segments with any and all grant funds that become available to the Township.

Cost: \$250,000 annually.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Special Township Funding, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: To be determined.

Justification: Linking the existing nonmotorized path segments will create a system providing a multiple-use resource to the area's residents. A completed network of nonmotorized paths and trails will link the various residential, commercial, recreational, and educational areas within the Township, creating a sense of community that cannot be duplicated with the motorized transportation network. Nonmotorized transportation infrastructure provides a safe resource for bicycling, walking, jogging, in-line skating and other activities. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process. It is anticipated that this strategic action will require ongoing action beyond the five-year life-span of this Recreation Plan due to the number of path segments requiring replacement as well as linking together.

2003

- Review and begin mapping the nonmotorized linkages recommended in the Walkability Study pilot project and all missing linkages between Waterford parks and schools to nonmotorized path system.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Linking the existing nonmotorized path segments will create a system providing a multiple-use resource to the area's residents. A completed network of nonmotorized paths and trails will link the various residential, commercial, recreational, and educational areas within the Township, creating a sense of community that cannot be duplicated with the motorized transportation network. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2004

- Develop and promote riverwalk event to educate citizens on the benefits of walking using nonmotorized paths.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the existence of the riverwalk, the community may become more active through walking and aware of the environmental assets of their community. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to a walkable community.

- Establish priority list of all missing linkages between Waterford parks and schools to nonmotorized path system.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Linking the existing nonmotorized path segments will create a system providing a multiple-use resource to the area's residents. A completed network of nonmotorized paths and trails will link the various residential, commercial, recreational, and educational areas within the Township, creating a sense of community that cannot be duplicated with the

motorized transportation network. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

- Investigate, analyze, and report on potential stable funding sources for full implementation of the Township's master nonmotorized path construction and maintenance plan.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Linking the existing nonmotorized path segments will create a system providing a multiple-use resource to the area's residents. A completed network of nonmotorized paths and trails will link the various residential, commercial, recreational, and educational areas within the Township, creating a sense of community that cannot be duplicated with the motorized transportation network. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2005

- Develop cable program to educate citizens on the benefits of walking using nonmotorized paths.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the health and community-centered benefits of walking, citizens may become more active through walking and aware of the recreational and environmental assets of their community. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to a walkable community.

2006

- Establish draft priority list of missing nonmotorized linkages between Waterford's neighborhood nodes for Planning Commission review and recommendation.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Linking the existing nonmotorized path segments will create a system providing a multiple-use resource to the area's residents. A completed network of nonmotorized paths and trails will link the various residential, commercial, recreational, and educational areas within the Township, creating a sense of community that cannot be duplicated with the motorized transportation network. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2007

- Develop a master nonmotorized path construction and maintenance plan.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Linking the existing nonmotorized path segments will create a system providing a multiple-use resource to the area's residents. A completed network of nonmotorized paths and trails will link the various residential, commercial, recreational, and educational areas within the Township, creating a sense of community that cannot be duplicated with the motorized transportation network. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2008

- Implement highest priority project on the master nonmotorized path construction and maintenance plan.

Cost: \$250,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Special Township Fund, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: To be determined.

Justification: Linking the existing nonmotorized path segments will create a system providing a multiple-use resource to the area's residents. A completed network of nonmotorized paths and trails will link the various residential, commercial, recreational, and educational areas within the Township, creating a sense of community that cannot be duplicated with the motorized transportation network. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

Table VII-5

Objective 1-3 Expand, Enhance, and Improve the Aesthetics and Historic Preservation of the Waterford Village Historic District

Objective 1-3 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Research, plan, and fund the installation of decorative lighting, signage, and barrier-free nonmotorized paths along District streets .		X	X	X	X	X
b. Explore the expansion of the original District boundaries by encouraging properties to join the Historic District.	X	X	X	X	X	X
c. Explore, develop, and utilize stable funding sources and financing tools for restoration, improvement, and small business development in the District.	X	X	X			

Ongoing Action Items for 2003-2008

- Explore the expansion of the original District boundaries by encouraging properties to join the Historic District.

Cost: Staff time, volunteer assistance.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Properties adjacent to existing Waterford Village Historic District.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township’s past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened by striving to expand the District to its original proposed boundaries. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2003

- Begin research into the availability of stable funding sources and financing tools for restoration, improvement, and small business development in the District.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township’s past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened by obtaining the financial tools needed to renovate and preserve the District’s structures and infrastructure. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2004

- Initiate research for planning the installation of decorative lighting, signage, and barrier-free nonmotorized paths along District streets.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened by developing the engineering plans needed to renovate and preserve the District's structures and infrastructure. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

- Continue research into the availability of stable funding sources and financing tools for restoration, improvement, and small business development in the District.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened by obtaining the financial tools needed to renovate and preserve the District's structures and infrastructure. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2005

- Prepare Dixie Highway/Andersonville Road Neighborhood Node Area Concept Plan Report and submit to Planning Commission for review and approval.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The District is located in the Dixie Highway/Andersonville Road neighborhood node, which has been identified in the Master Plan as a focal area to be studied and planned for redevelopment and improvements centered around the Historic District. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process

- Conduct inventory and evaluation of existing vacant land in the District and evaluate and recommend adaptive reuse of existing structures that will enhance the District as a community destination as part of the Area Concept Plan.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened through active involvement in redeveloping the structures and enhancing the uses of the structures throughout the District. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process

- Complete research for planning the installation of decorative lighting, signage, and barrier-free nonmotorized paths along District streets.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened by developing the engineering plans needed to renovate and preserve the District's structures and infrastructure. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

- Prepare report to the Township Board/Planning Commission/EDC on the availability of stable funding sources and financing tools for restoration, improvement, and small business development in the District.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened by obtaining the financial tools needed to renovate and preserve the District's structures and infrastructure. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2006

- Complete installation plan for decorative lighting, signage, and barrier-free nonmotorized paths along District streets and present to the Planning Commission for review and approval.

Cost: Staff time, \$30,000 for engineering plans.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened by developing the engineering plans needed to renovate and preserve the District's structures and infrastructure. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2007

- Implement Historic District decorative lighting, signage, and barrier-free nonmotorized paths improvements.

Cost: \$750,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Waterford Village Historic District.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened through improvements that will modernize the District's infrastructure and provide a safe environment for citizens and visitors while maintaining the historic atmosphere of the District. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2008

- Implement Historic District decorative lighting, signage, and barrier-free nonmotorized paths improvements.

Cost: \$750,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Waterford Village Historic District.

Justification: The Waterford Village Historic District is an important educational and recreational resource for citizens and visitors, linking the Township's past with its future. The viability of the District can be strengthened through improvements that will modernize the District's infrastructure and provide a safe environment for citizens and visitors while maintaining the historic atmosphere of the District. The preservation and expansion of the Historic District was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

Table VII-6

Objective 2-1 Develop, Construct, and Maintain in One Central Location a Full-Scale Community Center to Serve All Age Groups

Objective 2-1 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Propose and promote a phased plan of development and funding to create a dynamic recreation center that will be supported by the citizens and serve the community for the foreseeable future.	X	X				
b. Provide indoor swimming facilities to meet the community's recreation, fitness, therapeutic, and scholastic swim needs.			X	X	X	X
c. Provide a playground area for younger children.			X	X	X	X
d. Appoint a citizen task force to work with Township staff in researching and proposing all other recreational, fitness, and service facilities that would be supported by Township residents as part of a new community center.	X	X				
e. Research and analyze all potential funding sources and options.	X	X				

2003

- Initiate staff committee to layout work plan for research and development of proposal for Recreation Center.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop an indoor recreation community center facility that includes a community pool, a gymnasium and fitness facilities, a larger capacity for public meeting space, and other recreation support facilities. Currently there are no public opportunities for indoor swimming in the Township. The short swimming season in Michigan is the primary reason the Township wishes to construct an indoor facility. The pool, and the entire facility, will provide the residents of Waterford Township with a centralized capacity for year-round recreation opportunities that currently are absent. The facility will provide all age groups with opportunities and will provide the Township with a facility that can be used to build a stronger sense of community.

- Conduct public opinion survey of support for community center and related components.

Cost: Staff time, \$10,000 for professional survey consultant.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Although it has been found through the public involvement process that a major goal of the community is to develop an indoor recreation community center facility, the exact components that the majority of citizens wish to support has not yet been determined. A professional

survey will assist in determining this information, which is also critical in determining the level of funding that will be supported by the community.

- Research community center location availability, parcel acquisition.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: The location of a community center is critical to providing access to all citizens and building a sense of community. The proper amount of land needs to be acquired to ensure that adequate space is available for initial building size, outdoor activity areas, and parking space, as well as room for future expansion.
- Research funding available through grants, foundations, and millage.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Due to tight local budgets, it will be essential to investigate and acquire funding from all potential funding sources.

2004

- Initiate and oversee Citizen Community Center Task Force after basic information frame work is established by staff committee members.

Cost: Staff time, volunteer assistance.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Ongoing public participation and involvement in the planning and development stages of the new community center will be required to maintain and expand public support.
- Develop a list of services and recreation opportunities recommended for inclusion in a new center.

Cost: Staff time, volunteer assistance.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Ongoing public participation and involvement in the planning and development stages of the new community center will be required to maintain and expand public support.
- Initiate a phased approach for development of center based on list of recommended priority items and economic feasibility.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: A rational phased approach to developing the community center will assist in implementing a financing plan that does not overburden Township residents.
- Acquire portion of property needed for community center location.

Cost: \$750,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: To be determined.

Justification: The proper amount of land needs to be acquired to ensure that adequate space is available for initial building size, outdoor activity areas, and parking space, as well as room for future expansion.

2005

- Complete acquisition of property needed for community center location.
Cost: \$750,000 estimated.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: To be determined.
Justification: The proper amount of land needs to be acquired to ensure that adequate space is available for initial building size, outdoor activity areas, and parking space, as well as room for future expansion.

2006

- Construct first phase of community center.
Cost: \$30,000,000 estimated.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources, Township Bond Funding.
Location: To be determined.
Justification: Implementation of community center planning to achieve community goal.

2007

- Consolidate all senior program activities into the new community center.
Cost: Staff time.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: To be determined.
Justification: Efficiencies and economies of scale will be realized through the combination of the two senior programs and elimination of the two aging facilities currently housing these programs.

2008

- Construct a playground area for younger children at the new community center.
Cost: \$60,000 estimated.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: To be determined.
Justification: Implementation of another component of the Township's community center plan.
- Begin planning the second phase of the community center, to include indoor swimming facilities to meet the community's recreation and therapeutic swim needs.
Cost: Staff time.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: Not applicable.
Justification: Continuation of the phased approach to achieving the Township's community center goal.

**Table VII-7
Objective 2-2 Provide and Maintain Playground Areas in Neighborhoods**

Objective 2-2 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Investigate opportunities for establishing and maintaining small playground or picnic areas within, or adjacent to, neighborhoods.			X			
b. Provide assistance to neighborhood associations to organize as non-profit groups in order to manage, fund, and control parks to serve their neighborhood.			X	X	X	X
c. Investigate the development of a neighborhood enhancement grant program that utilizes state and federal funding sources to enable neighborhood associations to create neighborhood parks.			X			

Ongoing Action Items for 2003-2008

- When requested, provide assistance to neighborhood associations to organize as non-profit groups in order to manage, fund, and control parks to serve their neighborhood.
Cost: Staff time, volunteer assistance.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: Dependent upon the location of the neighborhood requesting assistance.
Justification: The increase in the number and size of neighborhood parks was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2005

- Investigate the development of a neighborhood enhancement grant program that utilizes state and federal funding sources to enable neighborhood associations to create neighborhood parks.
Cost: Staff time.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: Not applicable.
Justification: The increase in the number and size of neighborhood parks was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.
- Research available areas for establishing and maintaining small playground or picnic areas within, or adjacent to, neighborhoods.
Cost: Staff time, volunteer assistance.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: To be determined.
Justification: The increase in the number and size of neighborhood parks was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2006

- Establish a small playground or picnic area on an available parcel within, or adjacent to, a neighborhood that has established its own funding source for future maintenance and security.
Cost: \$30,000 estimated.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: To be determined.

Justification: The increase in the number and size of neighborhood parks was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process. Achievement of this action item will help the Township realize this objective.

2007

- Establish a small playground or picnic area on an available parcel within, or adjacent to, a neighborhood that has established its own funding source for future maintenance and security.

Cost: \$30,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: To be determined.

Justification: The increase in the number and size of neighborhood parks was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process. Achievement of this action item will help the Township realize this objective.

2008

- Establish a small playground or picnic area on an available parcel within, or adjacent to, a neighborhood that has established its own funding source for future maintenance and security.

Cost: \$30,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: To be determined.

Justification: The increase in the number and size of neighborhood parks was identified as one of the Master Plan objectives. Achievement of this action item will help the Township realize this objective.

**Table VII-8
Objective 2-3 Promote Increased Access and Use of Existing Parks**

Objective 2-3 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Develop & implement a playground equipment maintenance and improvement schedule to ensure child safety and modernized facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	X
b. Explore opportunities for creating dog parks, or using a portion of an existing park for the purpose of developing and maintaining pet run areas.				X		
c. Conduct periodic studies and analyses of existing parks' utilization to assess use patterns and evaluate implementation of other recreational uses.		X	X	X	X	X
d. Create better access to, and promote utilization of, Elizabeth Lake Woods, including trails and interpretive observation areas.	X	X				
e. Ensure that the area currently occupied by the Drayton Plains Nature Center is linked to the Waterford Riverwalk system.	X	X	X			
f. Preserve and protect the area currently occupied by the Drayton Plains Nature Center as a nature center.		X	X	X		

2003

- Participate in the formation of a new non-profit organization to oversee the nature center.

Cost: Staff time, cost of legal services, direct or in-kind cost of non-profit agency assistance, volunteer assistance.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources, Waterford School District Funds, Membership Dues, Fees.

Location: Drayton Plains Nature Center property.

Justification: The Nature Center property is a 137 acre site that was formerly an MDNR hatchery during the early part of the 20th Century. Since the 1960's the stewards of this property have been a local non-profit organization, the Drayton Plains Nature Center (DPNC). In 2000, after years of struggling to raise funds, the DPNC proposed to sell off part of the land. The Township has worked since then to develop a more effective way of preserving the land, as well as raising the necessary funds to manage the property. The preservation of all 137 acres for current and future generations is a major quality of life issue.

- Assist the Oakland Land Conservancy and other participating agencies to thoroughly inventory the nature center property.

Cost: Staff time, direct or in-kind cost of non-profit agency assistance, volunteer assistance.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources, Waterford School District Funds, Membership Dues, Fees.

Location: Drayton Plains Nature Center property.

Justification: This action item will be critical in creating the database of information necessary to be effective stewards of the 137 acre Nature Center property in the future.

- Assist in the development and placement of a permanent conservation easement on the nature center property to prevent future sales of land for development, to be held by the Oakland Land Conservancy.

Cost: Staff time, cost of legal services, direct or in-kind cost of non-profit agency assistance.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources, Waterford School District Funds, Membership Dues, Fees.

Location: Drayton Plains Nature Center property.

Justification: This action item will be critical in preserving the 137 acre Nature Center property and thwarting any potential future efforts to develop the land.

▪

2004

- Oversee the submittal of quarterly reports on the nature center project status and inventories to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: This action item will be critical in creating the database of information necessary to be effective stewards of the 137 acre Nature Center property in the future.

- Organize and participate in a parks review committee to begin analysis of the township park system by quadrant to assess park use and deficiencies.

Cost: Staff time, volunteer assistance.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Many of the issues identified and many of the established goals relate to the need to provide activities and programs for a variety of users. This can only be accomplished if programs are continuously analyzed and updated by a combination of the citizens using the services and the administrators responsible for the viability of the park system.

- Complete segment of Riverwalk Master Plan through Nature Center into Hatchery Park for Planning Commission review and approval.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2005

- Recruit parks review committee to research the Township's existing parks and look for areas that may be amenable to allowing unleashed dog run areas.

Cost: Staff time, volunteer assistance.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities are not as successful as they were originally conceived because of the attitude of "build it and they will come" without following up on determining whether quality and capacity of service exists. Program analysis and evaluation is critical in determining if an organization is achieving efficiency and effectiveness in providing programs and services.

2006

- Construct dog park in one of the Township parks.
Cost: \$10,000 estimated.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: To be determined.
Justification: Maintaining and improving existing levels of service was identified as an issue during the Master Plan citizen subcommittee meetings. This type of facility was identified as a need in the community due to the area's growing population and the related growth in demand for this type of facility.

2007

- Construct segment of Riverwalk through Nature Center into Hatchery Park.
Cost: \$250,000 estimated.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: Drayton Plains Nature Center property.
Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.
- Develop & implement a playground equipment maintenance and improvement schedule to ensure child safety and modernized facilities.
Cost: Staff time.
Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources.
Location: Township-wide.
Justification: It is a major goal of the community to not only maintain and expand its recreational facilities and equipment, but also to do all within its power to ensure that they provide enjoyment in a safe and modern environment.

2008

- Conduct analyses of existing parks' utilization to assess use patterns and evaluate implementation of other recreational uses.
Cost: Staff time.
Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Township Revenue Sources.
Location: Not applicable.
Justification: Often programs and activities are not as successful as they were originally conceived because of the attitude of "build it and they will come" without following up on determining whether quality and capacity of service exists. Program analysis and evaluation is critical in determining if an organization is achieving efficiency and effectiveness in providing programs and services.

Table VII-9

Objective 2-4 Develop and Promote a Waterford Riverwalk Pedestrian Pathway

Objective 2-4 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Develop a Riverwalk Master Plan, with active input from property owners and residents along and near the Clinton River, to map the location of each new and existing nonmotorized path segment being proposed to become part of the Riverwalk system and to estimate installation and maintenance costs of each of the proposed segments.	X	X	X	X	X	X
b. Seek and apply for alternative funding sources, whenever possible, to complete the remaining segments of the Riverwalk system.		X	X	X	X	X
c. Explore opportunities to link the Waterford Riverwalk system to nonmotorized systems in adjacent communities.			X	X	X	X
d. Incorporate Riverwalk project components in the Capital Improvements Plan.		X	X	X	X	X

2003

- Complete segment of Riverwalk Master Plan between Nature Center and Pontiac Lake Road for Planning Commission review and approval.

Cost: *Staff time.*

Funding Sources: *Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.*

Location: *Not applicable.*

Justification: *It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.*
- Construct Riverwalk linkage under M-59.

Cost: *\$250,000 estimated.*

Funding Sources: *Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.*

Location: *M-59, 1/5th mile west of Crescent Lake Road.*

Justification: *It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.*
- Construct Riverwalk linkage between M-59 and new senior housing property.

Cost: *\$150,000 actual.*

Funding Sources: *Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.*

Location: *North of M-59, 1/5th mile west of Crescent Lake Road*

Justification: *It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.*

2004

- Construct Riverwalk linkage between new senior housing property and Crescent Lake Road/Tubbs Road intersection.

Cost: \$30,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Private Funding

Location: Parcel ID# 13-16-478-001

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

- Complete segment of Riverwalk Master Plan from Hatchery Park to Waterford-Independence Township border for Planning Commission review and approval.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2005

- Complete segment of Riverwalk Master Plan from Pontiac Lake Road to Cooley Lake Road for Planning Commission review and approval.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2006

- Construct Riverwalk linkage between Crescent Lake Road/Tubbs Road intersection and entry into Nature Center property.

Cost: \$130,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Parcel ID# 13-15-301-007 and 13-15-304-001.

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2007

- Construct segment of Riverwalk through Nature Center into Hatchery Park.

Cost: \$230,000 estimated.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Drayton Plains Nature Center.

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in

promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

2008

- Complete segment of Riverwalk Master Plan from Cooley Lake Road to Waterford-West Bloomfield border for Planning Commission review and approval.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

- Present completed Riverwalk Master Plan map and report for Planning Commission final review and approval.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: It is a major goal of the community to develop the riverwalk amenity, both for its aesthetic qualities as well as for its infrastructural value in promoting walkability. The walkability issue was identified as one of the major goals during the Master Plan public participation process.

**Table VII-10
Objective 2-5 Promote Recreational Utilization of the Clinton River**

Objective 2-5 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Educate the community about the presence, importance, and threats to the Clinton River.	X	X	X	X	X	X
b. Sponsor and promote projects, programs, and annual events to clean up, restore, preserve, and protect the Township's river resources.			X	X	X	X
c. Sponsor and promote Clinton River educational and recreational projects, and programs such as canoeing, kayaking, and fishing.	X	X	X	X	X	X
d. Work with the Clinton River Watershed Council to sponsor an Adopt-A-River program by businesses and service organizations for different segments of the river.	X	X	X	X	X	X
e. Partner with the local schools in developing curriculum centered on the importance and ecological fragility of the Clinton River.				X	X	X

Ongoing Action Items for 2003-2008

- Sponsor and promote fall Clinton River Watershed Council river clean up event.
Cost: Staff time.
Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.
Location: Not applicable.
Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the need for environmental protection of resources such as the Clinton River, the community will become more active and effective in keeping the river clean. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental quality.

2003

- Assist Nature Conservancy staff with hosting a forest walk and canoe paddle through Elizabeth Lake Woods this summer.
Cost: Staff time, Canoe Rental.
Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.
Location: Not applicable.
Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the existence of Elizabeth Lake Woods as a park established to preserve some of Waterford's land as an environmental resource, the community will become more active and effective in using this area for passive recreation while preserving its environmental character. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental quality.
- Assist Nature Conservancy with raising community awareness of their efforts to raise funds to purchase property to further protect the Elizabeth Lake Woods and Clinton River ecosystem.
Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the existence of Elizabeth Lake Woods as a park established to preserve some of Waterford's land as an environmental resource, the community will become more active and effective in using this area for passive recreation while preserving its environmental character. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental quality.

2004

- Develop web page and informational brochure to educate the community on the importance of our water resources and the sources of quality degradation.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the need for environmental protection of water resources, the community will become more active and effective in keeping these resources clean. This form of instructional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental quality.

- Work with the Clinton River Watershed Council to offer and implement the Adopt-A-River program.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the need for environmental protection of resources such as the Clinton River, the community will become more active and effective in keeping the river clean. This form of promotional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental quality.

- Produce and provide water resource educational materials to local schools.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources, School District Funding.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the need for environmental protection of water resources, the community will become more active and effective in keeping these resources clean. This form of instructional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental quality.

2005

- Develop web page and informational brochure to educate the community about the presence, importance, and threats to the Clinton River.

Cost: *Staff time.*

Funding Sources: *Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.*

Location: *Not applicable.*

Justification: *Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the need for environmental protection of resources such as the Clinton River, the community will become more active and effective in keeping the river clean. This form of promotional and instructional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental quality.*

2006

- Partner with the local schools in developing curriculum centered on the importance and ecological fragility of the Clinton River.

Cost: *Staff time.*

Funding Sources: *Township Revenue Sources, Grant Resources, School District Funding.*

Location: *Not applicable.*

Justification: *Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the need for environmental protection of resources such as the Clinton River, the community will become more active and effective in keeping the river clean. This form of instructional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of both Waterford's and the Waterford School District's commitment to environmental quality.*

2007

- Partner with the local schools in developing curriculum centered on the importance and ecological fragility of the Clinton River.

Cost: *Staff time.*

Funding Sources: *Township Revenue Sources, Grant Resources, School District Funding.*

Location: *Not applicable.*

Justification: *Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the need for environmental protection of resources such as the Clinton River, the community will become more active and effective in keeping the river clean. This form of instructional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of both Waterford's and the Waterford School District's commitment to environmental quality.*

2008

- Partner with the local schools in developing curriculum centered on the importance and ecological fragility of the Clinton River.

Cost: *Staff time.*

Funding Sources: *Township Revenue Sources, Grant Resources, School District Funding.*

Location: *Not applicable.*

Justification: *Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the need for environmental protection of resources such as the Clinton River, the community will become more active and effective in keeping the river clean. This form of instructional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of both Waterford's and the Waterford School District's commitment to environmental quality.*

Table VII-11

Objective 3-1 Ensure All Development Efforts Respect, Preserve, and Protect Waterford’s Natural Characteristics and Constraints

Objective 3-1 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Promote, inform, and encourage citizens on the use of native plant material to minimize the hazardous effects of invasive species.	X	X	X	X	X	X
b. Promote the preservation of natural vegetation and topographical features along stream corridors and waterways by restricting these areas to uses offering little danger of topographical disturbance, water quality degradation, stream channel alteration, runoff or sedimentation increase.	X	X	X	X	X	X
c. Develop and maintain natural area inventories that include assessments for quality, location, health, and species surveyed by such agencies as the Michigan Natural Features Inventory.	X	X	X	X	X	X
d. Regulate, preserve, and protect the natural areas essential to maintaining Waterford's unique heritage and character, which provide a diverse high-quality wildlife habitat.	X	X	X	X	X	X
e. Develop and utilize a Township Open Space and Natural Area Management Plan to assist in evaluating potential open space acquisition.					X	X

Ongoing Action Items for 2003-2008

- Promote, inform, and encourage citizens on the use of native plant material to minimize the hazardous effects of invasive species.
 - Cost:* *Staff time.*
 - Funding Sources:* *Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.*
 - Location:* *Not applicable.*
 - Justification:* *Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the value of using native plant material and containing the growth of invasive species, the quality of Waterford’s natural surroundings are improved. This form of instructional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford’s commitment to environmental quality.*

2004

- Inventory natural resource areas and parks owned by the Township.
 - Cost:* *Staff time.*
 - Funding Sources:* *Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.*
 - Location:* *Not applicable.*
 - Justification:* *Often programs and activities are not as successful as they were originally conceived because of the attitude of “build it and they will come” without following up on determining whether quality and capacity of service exists. Program analysis and evaluation is critical in determining if an organization is achieving efficiency and effectiveness in providing programs and services.*

2005

- Produce and disseminate educational materials and identification lists of locally native materials.

Cost: Staff time.

Funding Sources: Township Revenue Sources, Grant Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often programs and activities do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what is offered and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the value of using native plant material and where to obtain these plant materials, the quality of Waterford's natural surroundings are improved. This form of instructional effort would also provide an opportunity to present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental quality

**Table VII-12
Objective 3-2 Promote Open Space Developments**

Objective 3-2 Strategies	Implementation Priorities by year					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
a. Encourage and promote private preservation of open space through conservation easements, dedications, and stewardship programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X
b. Encourage and preserve natural resource corridor links between natural areas, recreation areas, parklands, and schools.	X	X	X	X	X	X

Ongoing Action Items for 2003-2008

- Encourage and promote private preservation of open space through conservation easements, dedications, and stewardship programs.

Cost: Staff time, cost of legal services, direct or in-kind cost of non-profit agency assistance.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often preservation efforts do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what they personally can do and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the value of preserving open space, the quality of Waterford's natural surroundings are improved. This form of effort would also provide a community-building opportunity and present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental preservation.

- Encourage and preserve natural resource corridor links between natural areas, recreation areas, parklands, and schools.

Cost: Staff time, County staff time, volunteer assistance, direct or in-kind cost of non-profit agency assistance.

Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Private Donations, Township Revenue Sources.

Location: Not applicable.

Justification: Often preservation efforts do not succeed because citizens are not aware of what they personally can do and therefore do not participate. If more people are made aware of the value of creating natural resource corridor links, the quality of Waterford's natural surroundings are improved. This form of effort would also provide a community-building opportunity and present a positive image of Waterford's commitment to environmental preservation.

ACTION PLAN CONCLUSION

The Charter Township of Waterford identified a variety of issues during the planning process for the five-year Parks and Recreation Plan. While the Parks and Recreation Board and the Parks and Recreation Department staff are aware of the many issues driving the community's park and recreational needs and demands, the planning process provided an opportunity for the citizens to focus on, identify, and express the community's opinions on parks and recreational issues. The process also allowed the community to participate in the formulation of the proposed means for resolving the gaps in the Township's recreational program and potential solutions to the issues identified.

This is an action-oriented plan. While the plan's action program deals with as many issues as possible, the Township should regularly review the Plan to identify whether or not actions are being implemented and to determine if the goals are being met. If goals are not being met, the Township should modify the plan prior to the five-year period covered by the plan.

This plan also represents the desires of the community to provide its residents with adequate recreation facilities and activities. Waterford knows that to maintain a high standard of living for its residents, it must continue to maintain and improve its recreational facilities and activities.

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**SECTION VIII
PLAN REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

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Plan Review and Adoption

This section of the Recreation Plan documents that Waterford Township has submitted copies of the Plan to the appropriate agencies, allowed for public input and formally adopted the Plan. Copies of the following documents are included:

- Notice of Public Hearing
- Public Hearing Meeting Agenda
- Public Hearing Minutes
- Resolution Adopting Plan
- Letter to Oakland County Parks and Recreation Department
- Letter to Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**ATTENTION RESIDENTS OF WATERFORD TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REVIEW OF DRAFT 2003-2008 RECREATION PLAN**

The Charter Township of Waterford has completed a comprehensive recreation plan to guide the Township's parks and recreation mission during the time period of calendar years 2003 through 2008. This plan is required by the State of Michigan as a component of any application for State recreation grant funding. A public hearing will be held during a joint meeting of the Waterford Parks and Recreation Board and Waterford Planning Commission on Tuesday, November 25, 2003 during the regularly scheduled Waterford Planning Commission meeting, which starts at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Township Hall, 5200 Civic Center Dr. This public hearing will be held to provide an overview of the draft Plan and to gather input from the general public prior to final consideration and adoption by the Parks and Recreation Board at a subsequent regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board. This draft Recreation Plan is available for review at the following locations between the normal business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday:

Waterford Parks and Recreation Department Offices
2303 Crescent Lake Road
Waterford, MI 48329
Phone: (248) 618-7674

Community Planning and Development Department Office
Third Floor, Township Hall
5200 Civic Center Dr.
Waterford, MI 48329
Phone: (248) 674-6255

Waterford Township Library
5168 Civic Center Dr.
Waterford, MI 48329
Phone: (248)674-4831

Further information on the 2003-2008 Recreation Plan may be obtained at the offices of Parks and Recreation Department or the offices of the Community Planning and Development Department through the phone numbers listed above.

Betty Fortino
Waterford Township Clerk
Charter Township of Waterford

November 12, 2003
November 19, 2003

PUBLIC HEARING MEETING AGENDA

**PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2003**

**TOWNSHIP HALL AUDITORIUM
6:30 P.M.**

-
- I. 6:00 p.m. agenda review in the Third Floor Conference Room.
- II. First Introductions.

Case No. 02-08-01 (Staff Reviewer – Larry Lockwood)

Land situated in the Township of Waterford, County of Oakland, Michigan described as: A triangular parcel of land located in and being a part of the Southeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 13, Town 3 North, Range 9 East, and described as being bounded on the East side by West Boulevard; on the Northwest side by Kennett Road; on the Southwest side by Highway US-10, excepting there from, that part lying Westerly of a line described as follows: Beginning at a point on the centerline of Dixie Highway, distant North 01 degrees 36 minutes 52 seconds East, 922.54 feet and North 43 degrees 03 minutes 56 seconds West, 229.74 feet from the Southeast ¼ corner of Section 13; thence North 09 degrees 58 minutes 27 seconds East, 159.75 feet Point of Ending. Also identified as Parcel Number 13-13-477-003.

Request: To Alter Special Approval Conditions granted on September 24, 2002, under Section 1304.1(F) of the Waterford Township Zoning Ordinance, for the outdoor display and sale of late model used cars in the C-2, General Business District.

Location: 2020 Dixie Highway (Corner of Dixie Highway and Kennett Road)

Applicant: Robert Blouin

- III. 6:30 p.m. adjourn to the First Floor Auditorium.
- IV. Call the meeting to order.
- V. Roll Call.
- VI. Approval of the minutes from the November 12, 2003, regular Planning Commission Study Meeting, as printed.
- VII. Public Hearings.

**Joint Meeting with Parks and Recreation Board to Hold
Public Hearing on 2003-2008 Recreation Plan (Staff Presenter
– Bob Vallina)**

Case No. 03-10-01 (Staff Reviewer – Larry Lockwood)

Parent Parcel: Town 3 North, Range 9 East, Section 16, Waterford Township, Oakland County, Michigan, described as: The East ½ of Northeast ¼ except the North 30 acres, also excepting beginning at point distant North 88°43'00" West 907.37 feet from East ¼ corner; thence North 01°43'40" East 710 feet; thence North 63°16'20" West 463.41 feet; thence South 01°43'40" West 900 feet; thence South 88°43'00" East 420 feet to beginning. Also excepting that part in Crescent Hill Cemetery, also excepting

that part in parcel described as beginning at point distance South 106 feet from North east section corner; thence South 1043.47 feet; thence South 89°48'40" West 540 feet; thence North 162.79 feet; thence South 89°52'27" West 3 feet; thence North 13°54'42" East 491.46 feet; thence North 18°17'36" East 261.40 feet; thence North 28°12'31" East 298.51 feet; thence North 89°55'45" East 201.74 feet to beginning. Containing 37.23± acres. Also described as Parcel No. 13-16-276-008.

Proposed Lease Area: All that part of the Northeast 14 corner of said Section 16, Town 3 North, Range 9 East, Waterford Township, Oakland County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the East ¼ corner of said Section 16; thence North 01°57'18" West 1394.34 feet along the East line of said Section 16; thence South 88°09'45" West 1086.93 feet TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING OF THIS DESCRIPTION; thence South 01°50'15" East 28.00 feet; thence South 88°09'45" West 28.00 feet; thence North 01°50'15" West 28.00 feet; thence North 88°09'45" East 28.00 feet to the place of beginning of this description.

Request: Special Approval, under Section 2514 of the Waterford Township Zoning Ordinance, for a new cellular communications tower

Location: Waterford Township Police Department, 5150 Civic Center Drive

Applicant: Radian Communication Services Corporation

Case No. 03-10-02 (Staff Reviewer – Larry Lockwood)

Silver Lake Estates No. 5, T3N, R9E, Section 12, Waterford Township, Oakland County, Michigan, "Outlot C", excluding beginning at SW lot corner, thence N 01°38'00" W 120.86 ft., thence N 88°22'00" E 217.42 ft., thence S 29°19'33" W 234.62 ft., thence N 46°40'00" W 61.70 ft., thence along curve to left, Radius 180.81 ft., chord bears N 56°56'58" W 64.55 ft., distance of 64.90 ft. to beginning.

Request: Special Approval, under Section 604.2 of the Waterford Township Zoning Ordinance, to allow a two class room expansion of an existing school in the R-1A, Single Family Residential District

Location: 3200 Beacham

Applicant: Mt. Zion School

**Public Hearing on Review of 2002-2003 Community Development Block Grant Program
Accomplishments (Staff Presenter – Bob Vallina)**

VIII. Discussions.

IX. All Else.

X. Adjourn the Meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

**PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2003**

**TOWNSHIP HALL AUDITORIUM
6:30 P.M.**

I. 6:00 p.m. agenda review in the Third Floor Conference Room.

II. First Introductions.

Case No. 02-08-01 (Staff Reviewer – Larry Lockwood)

Land situated in the Township of Waterford, County of Oakland, Michigan described as: A triangular parcel of land located in and being a part of the Southeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 13, Town 3 North, Range 9 East, and described as being bounded on the East side by West Boulevard; on the Northwest side by Kennett Road; on the Southwest side by Highway US-10, excepting there from, that part lying Westerly of a line described as follows: Beginning at a point on the centerline of Dixie Highway, distant North 01 degrees 36 minutes 52 seconds East, 922.54 feet and North 43 degrees 03 minutes 56 seconds West, 229.74 feet from the Southeast ¼ corner of Section 13; thence North 09 degrees 58 minutes 27 seconds East, 159.75 feet Point of Ending. Also identified as Parcel Number 13-13-477-003.

Request: To Alter Special Approval Conditions granted on September 24, 2002, under Section 1304.1(F) of the Waterford Township Zoning Ordinance, for the outdoor display and sale of late model used cars in the C-2, General Business District.

Location: 2020 Dixie Highway (Corner of Dixie Highway and Kennett Road)

Applicant: Robert Blouin

III. 6:30 p.m. adjourn to the First Floor Auditorium.

IV. **CALL TO ORDER.**

Chairman Werth called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

V. **ROLL CALL.**

Present: Chairman Sandra Werth; Vice Chairman Will Allen; Secretary Ellie Pinner; Board Members Stanley Cumberworth, Dennis Griffin, Scott Hudson, Bette O'Shea and Steve Reno

Quorum Present.

Absent: Commissioner Ted Taylor

Also Present: Robert W. Vallina, CPD Director; Larry Lockwood, Planning Division Head; Doug Bradley, Building and Engineering Director; Gary Dovre, Township Legal Counsel; Thomas G. Newcombe, Parks and Recreation Director; Deputy Police Chief Dale LaCroix, Sharon Hunt, Parks and Recreation Supervisor; Christie Kay, Parks and Recreation Board Stenographer; Kathy Lindsey, Stenographer

Parks and Recreation Board Members: Bill Goulet, Chairman; Stanley Kurzman; Dennis LaLone; Jan Meagher and Larry Schiesel

Applicants and General Public as follows: Patricia Coates, CLEMIS; Chuck Goulet, Joe Gruits; Mike Karageusian; Rose Karageusian; Tom Kocik; Dan Phifer, Radian Communication Services Corporation

VII. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES..

MOTION AND VOTE:

MOVED BY GRIFFIN.

SUPPORTED BY RENO; RESOLVED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2003, REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION STUDY MEETING, AS PRINTED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TAYLOR ABSENT.

(8 – 0)

VII. Public Hearings.

Joint Meeting with Parks and Recreation Board to Hold Public Hearing on 2003-2008 Recreation Plan (Staff Presenter – Bob Vallina)

Chairman Goulet called the Parks and Recreation Board meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Mr. Vallina provided a brief overview of the 2003-2008 Recreation Plan, highlighting the following points:

Three Major Goals

Goal 1: To Retain and Enhance Waterford’s Unique Character

- Ensure that policies and programs are enacted to preserve open space areas and to expand and promote diverse recreation opportunities for Waterford Citizens
- Develop and implement policies and programs to expand and improve non-motorized paths to ensure that all residents and visitors are capable of enjoying Waterford by non-motorized modes of transportation
- Expand, enhance, and improve the aesthetics and historic preservation of the Waterford Village Historic District

Goal 2: To Promote Increased Opportunities for Recreation, Access to, and Use of Parks and Natural Areas

- Develop, construct, and maintain a full-scale recreation center to serve all age groups in one central location
- Provide and maintain playground areas in neighborhoods
- Promote increased access and use of existing parks
- Develop and promote a Waterford Riverwalk pedestrian pathway
- Promote recreation utilization of the Clinton River

Goal 3: To Ensure and Enforce Land Use Development Practices that are Sensitive to Waterford’s Natural Environment

- Preserve, protect, and restore Waterford’s existing natural areas
- Promote open space developments

2003-2008 Action Plan

- 94 Action Items
- Maintain and Expand Recreation Services
- Acquire Additional Parkland
- Emphasis on Maintaining and Expanding Non-motorized Path Infrastructure and Educating the Public on the Benefits of Walkability
- Staff Research and Analysis of Recreation Issues
- Maintain and Improve Historic District
- Fund and Construct New Centralized Community Recreation Center
- Promote the Clinton River as Recreational Resource
- Preserve and Protect Waterford's Natural Characteristics
- Promote Open Space

Resources to Achieve Action Items

- Most Action Items Revolve Around Use of Staff Time
- Cost of New or Improved Programs Dependent on Scope of New Programs
- Cost of Infrastructure Improvement Dependent on Scope of Activity and Ability/Willingness to Pay.
- Funding Sources: Grant Sources, Township Revenue Sources, User Fees, School District Funding, Private Donations

Chairman Werth then opened the meeting for public comment. Hearing no such comment, Chairman Werth closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Hudson *asked why the track at Pierce Middle School had been closed to the public along the South and West sides and* questioned to what degree the Recreation Plan encourages non-motorized pathway linkages to neighborhood areas, and encourages greater cooperation between the Township and the Waterford School District.

Board Member Kurzman stated that as a member of the School Board for some 30 years, he felt that there was extraordinary cooperation between the School Board and the Township and that while nothing was perfect, there was a history of strong cooperation.

Mr. Newcombe stated that other communities have expressed envy of the cooperation relationship Waterford Township and particularly the Parks and Recreation Department have had with the School Board. Mr. Newcombe concluded his remarks by stating that walkability improvement projects are typically lower cost projects with a high return and that Staff is currently working on obtaining grant money to further our walkability efforts.

Rose Karageusian, resident, asked what programs for seniors were included in the 2003-2008 Recreation Plan and if Waterford had plans for a recreation center along the lines of the Rochester Hills Recreation Center.

Mr. Vallina and Mr. Newcombe answered Ms. Karageusian's questions and stated that the residents of Rochester Hills were willing to pay for their recreation center and if such a center is to become a reality for Waterford, the citizens will have to be willing to participate in its funding.

Chairman Goulet closed the Parks and Recreation Board portion of the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING PLAN

WATERFORD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT RECREATION PLAN

WHEREAS, The Waterford Charter Township Parks and Recreation Board has undertaken a Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken during the period between 2003 and 2008; and

WHEREAS, The Waterford Charter Township Parks and Recreation Board has provided ample opportunities for public input including regular meetings of the Parks and Recreation Board; Special Public Hearing with the Planning Commission on Tuesday, November 25, 2003, 6:30 p.m. at the Township Auditorium; and

WHEREAS, The Waterford Charter Township Parks and Recreation Board has preformed the plan for the benefit of the entire area to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community;

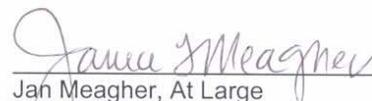
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Waterford Township Parks and Recreation Board recommend that the Charter Township of Waterford Board of Trustees hereby adopt the Five Year Recreation Plan.

To be given under our hands and the Great Seal of the Charter Township of Waterford, County of Oakland, State of Michigan on this Tenth day of January in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

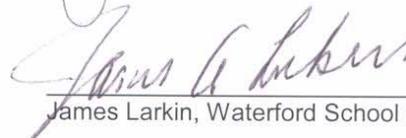

C. William Goulet, Chairman


David J. Maloney, Trustee of Township


Larry Schiesel, At Large


Jan Meagher, At Large


Dennis LaLone, At Large


James Larkin, Waterford School Board


Lillian Sharrard, Golden Age Club

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Carl W. Solden, Supervisor
Betty Fortino, Clerk
Dee A. Minton, Treasurer
Paul E. Deni, Trustee
Todd A. Fox, Trustee
David J. Maloney, Trustee
Bette O'Shea, Trustee

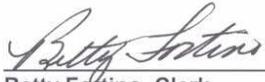
WATERFORD

A CHARTER TOWNSHIP
5200 Civic Center Drive
Waterford, Michigan 48329-3773
Telephone: (248) 674-6266 • Fax: (248) 674-5455

BETTY FORTINO
Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS.
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, **BETTY FORTINO, THE UNDERSIGNED**, the duly elected and qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of Waterford, do hereby certify that the attached Waterford Township Parks and Recreation Plan was approved by the Waterford Township Board on February 9, 2004 at a regular meeting, 6:30 PM, at 5200 Civic Center Drive, Waterford, Michigan, and that this resolution is a true copy. **IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereto affix my official signature this twenty-fourth day of February, 2004.



Betty Fortino, Clerk

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT RECREATION PLAN

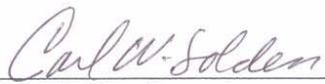
WHEREAS, The Waterford Charter Township Parks and Recreation Board has undertaken a Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken during the period between 2003 and 2008; and

WHEREAS, The Waterford Charter Township Parks and Recreation Board has provided ample opportunities for public input including regular meetings of the Parks and Recreation Board; Special Public Hearing with the Planning Commission on Tuesday, November 25, 2003, 6:30 p.m. at the Township Auditorium, and has in a January 10, 2004 Recreation Board Meeting passed a resolution unanimously recommending the Township to address this plan; and

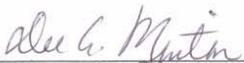
WHEREAS, The Waterford Charter Township Parks and Recreation Board has preformed the plan for the benefit of the entire area to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community;

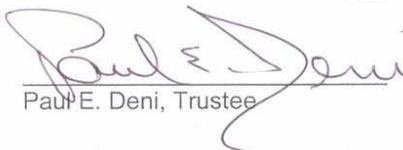
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Waterford Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Waterford hereby adopt the Five Year Recreation Plan.

To be given under our hands and the Great Seal of the Charter Township of Waterford, County of Oakland, State of Michigan on this Ninth day of February in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.


Carl W. Solden, Supervisor

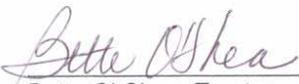

David J. Maloney, Trustee


Dee A. Minton, Treasurer


Paul E. Deni, Trustee


Betty Fortino, Clerk

(Absent)
Todd A. Fox, Trustee


Bette O' Shea, Trustee

DIRECTOR PARKS & RECREATION
Thomas G. Newcombe
RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS
C.W. Goulet, Chairperson
Stanley Kurzman
Dennis LaLone
David J. Maloney
Don Martin
Jan Meagher
Larry Schiesel

WATERFORD
A CHARTER TOWNSHIP
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
2303 Crescent Lake Road
Waterford, MI 48329-3271
Telephone: (248) 674-5441 Fax: (248) 618-7674

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Todd A. Fox, Trustee
David J. Maloney, Trustee
Bette O'Shea, Trustee

February 11, 2004

Mr. Ralph Richard, Manager
Oakland County Parks
2800 Watkins Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

Dear Mr. Richard:

Waterford Charter Township had recently completed a five year Recreation Plan. A copy is enclosed for the County's review and to allow the Township to comply with the regulations relating to the review and adoption of Community Recreation Plans by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Thomas G. Newcombe, Director
Waterford Parks and Recreation Department

TGN:aeq

DIRECTOR PARKS & RECREATION
Thomas G. Newcombe
RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS
C.W. Goulet, Chairperson
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Todd A. Fox, Trustee
David J. Maloney, Trustee
Bette O'Shea, Trustee

February 11, 2004

Mr. Paul Tait, Executive Director
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
535 Griswold, Suite 300
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Mr. Tait:

Waterford Charter Township had recently completed a five year Recreation Plan. A copy is enclosed for the County's review and to allow the Township to comply with the regulations relating to the review and adoption of Community Recreation Plans by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Thomas G. Newcombe, Director
Waterford Parks and Recreation Department

TGN:aeq