

PENINSULA
TOWNSHIP

**ADOPT-A-PARK
PROGRAM**

INFORMATION
AND
PROGRAM OUTLINE

THIS COMMUNITY PROGRAM IS SUPERVISED BY
THE PENINSULA TOWNSHIP PARK COMMISSION

WHAT IS THE ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM?

Adopt-A-Park is a program that is managed by the Peninsula Township Park Commission.

The program is aimed at maintaining the quality of our township parks by encouraging a strong sense of ownership in the community by giving dedicated groups and organizations the opportunity to assist in the maintenance, beautification, enhancement and monitoring of our community parks.

WHO CAN BE INVOLVED?

The Park Commission encourages all community civic, non-profit, social, recreational and religious organizations or groups as well as individual businesses to become directly involved in our township parks. The goal of the Adopt-A-Park program is to have all our parks adopted by as wide a range of groups as possible.

WHICH PARKS CAN BE ADOPTED?

All of the township parks and historic sites are available for adoption. These include:

Archie Roadside Park - Bowers Harbor Park -
Old Mission Church Replica - Haserot Beach - Lighthouse Park
Old Mission Point Park (Ridgewood or Brinkman Trailheads) -
Pelizzari Natural Area

WHAT COMMITMENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM ?

'Adopters' are required to make a two year commitment to their selected park that can be renewed provided that the 'adopter' successfully meets their responsibilities. The Park Commission also reserves the right to terminate any group or organization that fails to meet the requirements of Adopt-A-Park or performs in a manner that is detrimental to the Peninsula Township parks.

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM?

Adopters are required to submit a monthly report to their Park Commission representative that indicates the activities and work performed at the park during the month and to report on any concerns.

Monthly activities are determined in initial meetings between the park commission representative and the 'Adopter', and could include but are not limited to the following:

Litter Pickup - Sweeping of Courts and Pavilions
Trail Cleanup - Clean Picnic Tables - Weed Removal
Reporting of Safety Hazards, Storm Damage, Vandalism, Dead or Injured Animals and Violations of Park Rules.

If the adoptive group or organization possess the necessary skills or resources, they could engage in a variety of other activities (with park commission approval) that could include:

Trail construction or repair, tree or shrub plantings and pruning and building or structure repair or construction.

In addition to the above, all 'adopters' are required to complete one major beautification or park enhancement project each year. The projects can be chosen from a list provided by the Park Commission or from an approved 'adopter' suggestion.

The Park Commission will also welcome any adoptive group suggestions for other park enhancement projects beyond their required responsibilities, and would be available to work with them to obtain grants for their adopted park that might be available to them if they possess 501(c)(3) non-profit status.

WHAT SUPPORT CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THE PARK COMMISSION?

Each adoptive group or organization will have an assigned Park Commission representative. That representative will:

- work with 'adopter' group leadership to define monthly duties and required activities.
- be available to answer all questions and concerns and monitor the adoptive groups performance and monthly reports.
- provide support from township personnel when possible.
- relay information to appropriate authorities when necessary to address critical or dangerous issues.
- discuss special projects or activities that adoptive groups would like to undertake in their park.
- assist in securing permission to hold group gatherings in their park for the purpose of team building, assignment co-ordination, special group picnics or other activities.
- insure that the township leadership and the community as a whole is aware of their contribution.
- discuss funding assistance for adoptive group suggested projects
- create the opportunity for the leadership of all the township park 'adopters' to network to share common interests and goals.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF ADOPT-A-PARK INVOLVEMENT?

Being involved in Adopt-A-Park is a great way for your organization or group to take an active role and provide a valuable and beneficial service in beautifying Peninsula Township.

Participating in the program also helps to maintain and monitor the parks that provide our community with quality gathering, play and recreational outdoor experiences.

Each adoptive group or organization will have a permanent sign erected at their park in a prominent place that lists the name of their group as an official 'adopter' of the park.

The adoptive group will also have their name listed in the township newsletter and on the Park Commission website.

HOW DO YOU APPLY TO THE ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM?

The first step is to obtain a Peninsula Township Adopt-A-Park application. These forms are available at the township office or can be requested in writing by sending a written request to:

The Peninsula Township Park Commission
13235 Center Road
Traverse City, Michigan 49686
ATT: Adopt-A-Park Application

(Park adoptions are awarded by the Park Commission on a first-come first-served basis after determination is made that the prospective applicant has the necessary resources in personnel and the expressed commitment to meet park adoption requirements.)