



# Armada Township Recreation Plan Adopted January 9, 2019

Prepared by: Armada Township Planning Commission  
Adopted by: Armada Township Board  
Assisted by: Giffels Webster

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Planning Commission**

**Adopted by Armada Township Board of Trustees**

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# **Armada Township Recreation Plan**



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# 1 Community Description

**Armada Township** prepared this Recreation Plan to:

- Create an inventory of existing parks and recreation facilities in and around the Township.
- Gain community input on parks and recreation strengths and weaknesses.
- Develop goals and objectives that will lead to future improvements.

This plan will address park and recreation facilities located within and under the jurisdiction of Armada Township. All aspects of recreation will be evaluated through the planning process. The previous Recreation Plan, completed in 2013, will be reviewed; any remaining goals that are still pertinent will be detailed. New objectives will be added as appropriate.

## Community Profile

Armada Township is located in northern Macomb County and is largely agricultural. Access to the township is provided by M-53 and local mile roads.

The township is bordered by Bruce Township and Romeo to the west, Almont Township to the northwest, Berlin Township to the north, Riley Township to the northeast, Richmond Township to

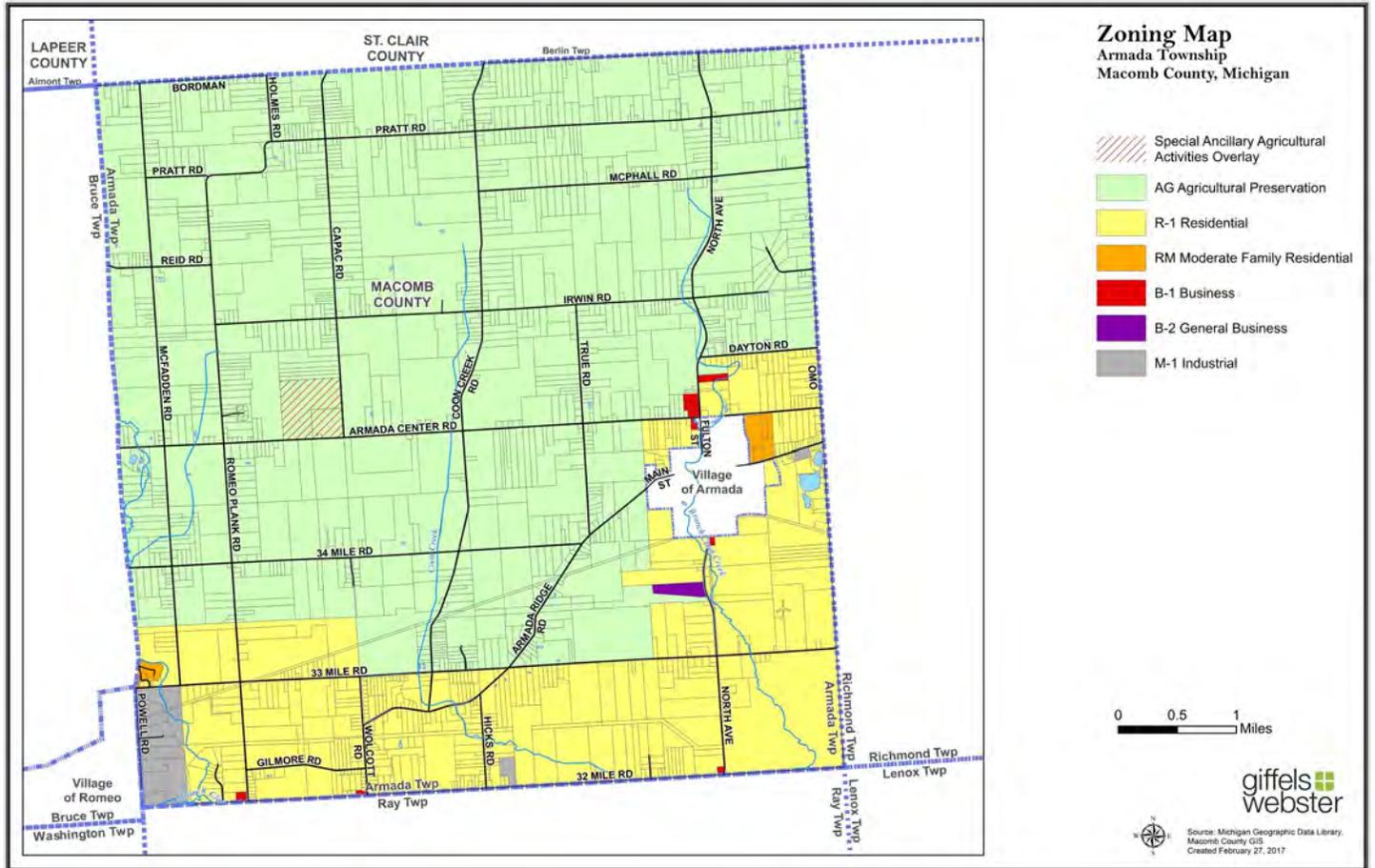
the east, Lenox Township to the southeast, and Ray Township to the south. The Village of Armada is located wholly within the township. Armada Township is approximately 36 square miles, including the village.

### Population

The 2016 population for Armada Township, not including the village, was 3,607, down from 3,649 in 2010. From 1970 thru 2000, the township had experienced modest but steady population increases. Since that time, the township population has plateaued, with slight declines that may be attributable to the ongoing, nationwide decline in average household size. Indeed, the number of households in the township increased modestly from 1,287 in 2010 to 1,317 in 2017. As of 2015, 61% of those households were comprised of two or more adults with no children present.

Absent significant changes, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) projects the Township's population to remain essentially the same by 2040. This projection considers current trends; the extension of sewer service to parts of the township with residential zoning, which is anticipated in the Armada Township Master Plan, could significantly change that projection.

## Map 1: Armada Township Zoning Map



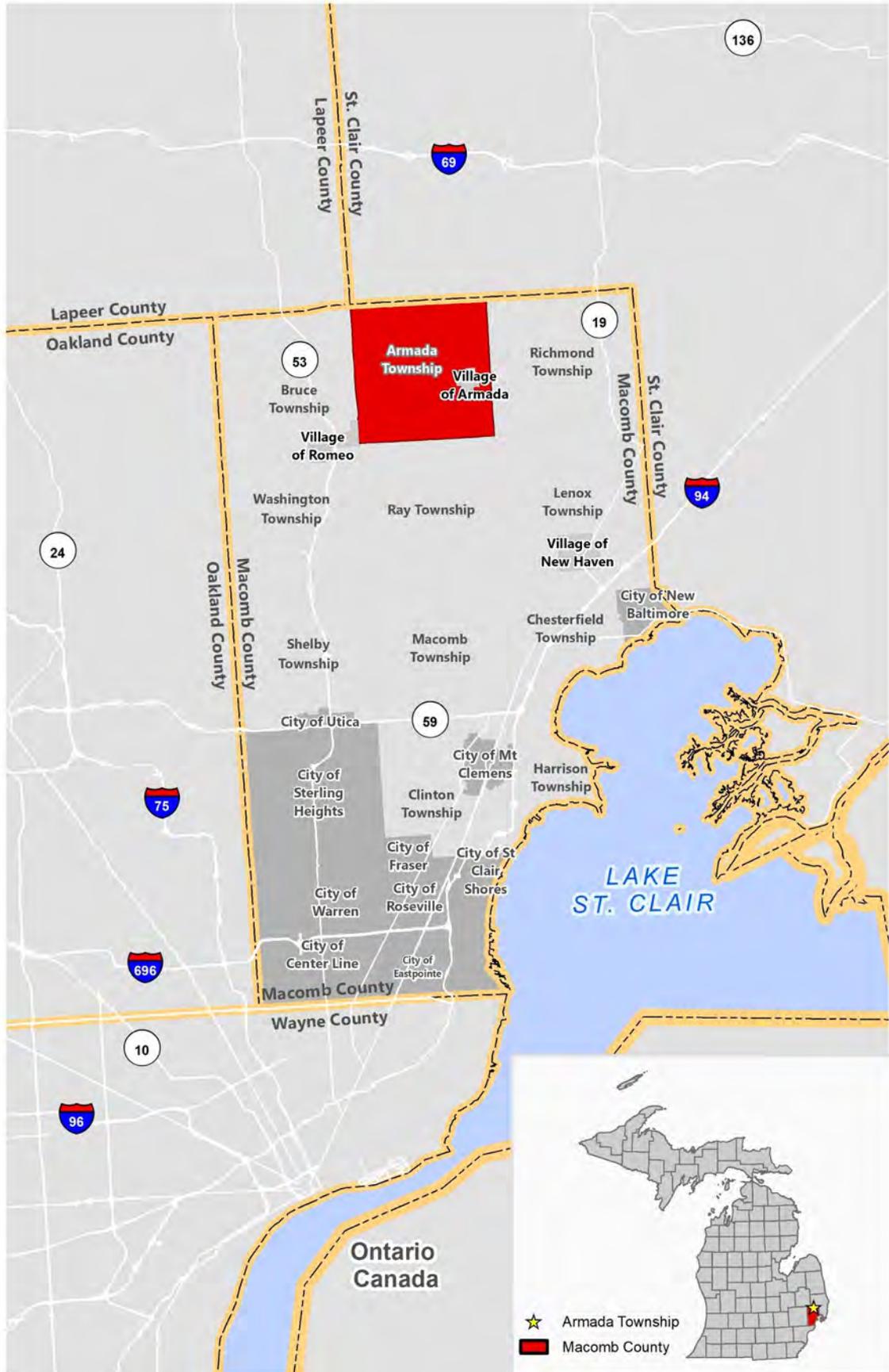
While the Township’s population has decreased, there has been a large increase in one segment of the population: adults aged 55 and over. From 2010 to 2016, the Census reports the median age increased from 42.5 to 45.5 years, and the share of the population over 55 increased from 17.9% to 32.8%. SEMCOG projects that this trend will continue—in Armada Township as well as in the region and the country.

In Macomb County, 25.6% of the population was over 55 in 2010, this rose to 29.2% in 2016. SEMCOG projects this population segment to nearly double by 2040. This increase in both the senior population and its share of the overall population is not only due to the aging Baby Boomer segment, but also reflects our population living longer and a lower overall birth rate. This growing segment of the Township’s population will play a role in the planning of recreation needs now and in the future.

### Land Use & Zoning

Armada Township’s population outside of the village is spread fairly evenly across the township. Industrial development lies primarily in the southwest corner of the Township, near Romeo, while commercial development is mostly clustered near the village and along 32 Mile Rd. The vast majority of the Township is large-lot residential development, agriculture, and undeveloped land. The character of the community is fundamentally rural.

Map 2: Armada Township Location Map



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## 2 Administrative Structure

**Armada Township** has one parks staff member, the Parks Director.

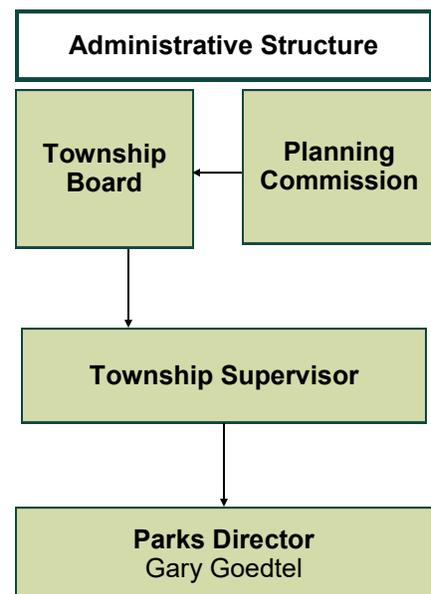
The Recreation Plan is developed by the seven-member Planning Commission, which advises the Township Board on the recreation needs of the township. The purpose of the plan is to identify the township’s near- and long-term recreation needs and develop a program to address these needs.

In addition to its recreation director, the township’s Parks Department has one volunteer, while other organizations such as Friends of Armada contribute time and resources as well. The township has ongoing relationships with the local school districts or other local organizations for recreation activities or facilities. The township is home to the Armada Fair, which straddles the village boundary.

The total township budget for Parks & Recreation for fiscal 2016/2017 was \$43,331. The budget for FY 2017/2018 was \$42,133.60. The 2018/2019 budget is \$46,427. Recreation funding is derived from allocations in the township general budget.

**Table 1. Armada Township Parks and Recreation Budget**

	FY: 2017-2018	FY: 2018-2019
Maintenance	\$10,000	\$10,000
Macomb Orchard Trail	\$7,000	\$7,000
Improvements	\$22,000	\$25,000
Utilities	\$450	\$450
Maintenance Director	\$2,400	\$3,600
Membership.Mileage	\$100	\$100
Employer’s FICA	\$148	\$224
Employer’s Medicare	\$34.80	\$53
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$42,133.60</b>	<b>\$46,427</b>





*Skate Park*



# 3 Parks & Recreation Inventory

**Armada Township** residents have access to a variety of recreation opportunities. Within the Township, Armada Township Park offers ball fields, a senior center, a world-class skate park, playscape, picnic pavilion with bathrooms, a bat garden, and flexible spaces used for various purposes. Athletic facilities are available at Armada High School and Armada Middle School, and the township’s baseball fields are complemented by another field across the street from the township park at AMVETS Post 93. Soccer fields are maintained at the former Knights of Columbus hall on North Avenue south of the village; this arrangement has remained in place even as the property has changed hands and become a private veterinary clinic. The Macomb Orchard Trail runs through the township.

Beyond the Township’s limits, neighboring communities, Macomb County, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and the State of Michigan offer recreation opportunities within driving distance, though township residents have a distance to travel to reach certain kinds of recreation facilities. These other facilities offer many activities not available within the township, including swimming, horseback riding, game areas, fishing, boating, hiking, camping, wildlife study, splash pads, museums, butterfly gardens, sports courts, ice arenas, and dog parks. Private recreation

opportunities in nearby townships include golf courses and gun clubs.

Various methods were employed to assess local recreational facilities, including a review of aerials and existing maps, site visits, and discussions with recreational providers. The primary methods used to assess the usability of Armada Township park were walking tours and input from actual park users. The inventory that follows provides a detailed look at the amenities available at the township park, as well as the local schools, and an overview of golf courses, private recreation areas, and regional parks in the area.

### Local Recreational Programming

Several local recreation programs are available to people in the Armada Area:

- Armada Baseball
- Armada Softball
- Armada Junior Football
- Hometown Cheer: Junior Tigers
- Church recreation leagues
- Armada Community Enrichment Program T-Ball

### Potential Park Site

This chapter includes a map of undeveloped township property that could be a future park. A conceptual design is included in the appendix.

## ARMADA TOWNSHIP PARK

### Armada Township Park

This park is located just north of the Village of Armada and shares a 22.7-acre parcel with the township fire department. 19 acres of the parcel is devoted to the park.

<b>Type</b>	Community Park
<b>Size</b>	18.9 of 22.7 acres
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	2

Since the last recreation plan was completed, the township has added one baseball diamond, a skatepark and a small playscape to this park.

<b>Amenities</b>
1 pavilion with tables and bathrooms
2 baseball fields
1 softball field
1 playscape (toddler/child)
1 additional swing set
Skate park
Bat garden
Senior center
Parking lot
War memorial

Map 3: Armada Township Park, late 2018



 Armada Township Park



giffels  
webster

0 200 400  
Feet

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library,  
Macomb County GIS  
Created December 6, 2018

**Armada Township  
Park**  
Armada Township  
Macomb County, Michigan

# UNDEVELOPED TOWNSHIP PROPERTY

Map 4: Undeveloped Township-Owned Property and Potential Park Site



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



giffels  
webster

0 500 1,000  
Feet

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library,  
Macomb County GIS  
Created October 30, 2018

-  Undeveloped Park Parcel
-  Macomb Orchard Trail

**Armada Township**  
**Park Land**  
Armada Township  
Macomb County, Michigan

## Barrier-Free Analysis

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing barrier-free access to accommodate the needs of both physically and mentally challenged visitors. Barrier-free access includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that adequate barrier-free parking spaces, sidewalks, trails, picnic tables, and playground equipment are provided for renovated or new recreational facilities. Standards from The Accessibility Checklist, a guidebook founded upon the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) and the codes and standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), were used to verify barrier-free compliance.

The MDNR Guidelines require that a barrier-free ranking be given to each facility for assessing its accessibility to persons with disabilities. The assessment considers the accessibility of both the facilities themselves as well as the access routes to them. The following system, provided by the MDNR *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans (01/27/06)*, was used to assess each park:

**Rank 1:** None of the facilities / park areas meet accessibility guidelines.

**Rank 2:** Some of the facilities / park areas meet accessibility guidelines.

**Rank 3:** Most of the facilities / park areas meet accessibility guidelines.

**Rank 4:** The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.

**Rank 5:** The entire park was developed / renovated using the principals of universal design.

## Accessibility

The U.S. Access Board is designated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as the agency responsible for developing minimum accessibility guidelines to ensure that new construction and alteration of facilities covered by ADA are accessible and useable by people with disabilities. The Access Board has published the following guidelines that should be used by Access to Recreation applicants to determine the criteria they must exceed to achieve universal accessibility:

- Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) 2002:  
[www.access-board.gov/adaag/html/adaag.htm](http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/html/adaag.htm)
- Recommendations for Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas:  
[www.access-board.gov/outdoor/outdoor-rec-rpt.htm](http://www.access-board.gov/outdoor/outdoor-rec-rpt.htm)

The National Center on Accessibility is a collaborative program of Indiana University and the National Park Service and also provides information on access for people with disabilities in recreation.

[www.ncaonline.org](http://www.ncaonline.org)

## Accessibility: Barrier Free Analysis

### Armada Township Park

Overall rating: 2 (see details next page)

### Improvements to Target

In Armada Township Park, there are general improvements that could be made to improve accessibility:

- Develop paved or stabilized pathways for all amenities and seating areas within the park; make all paths of sufficient width for two people to walk side-by-side or pass.
- Concrete pads adjacent to picnic tables to allow users in wheelchairs the ability to be seated with their party.
- Trash receptacles adjacent to the paved walkways or seating areas.
- When making playground improvements, provide ramps and transfers, and use “poured-in-place” or rubber tiles under equipment, rather than loose fill material such as woodchips; as playground equipment requires replacement, provide ramps and transfers to all play components.
- More benches, installed near pathways and with concrete pads for wheelchair or stroller users.

## Barrier-Free Analysis: Armada Township Park

Park Name: Armada Township Park

Overall Park Rating: 2

### Parking

- 4 Accessible parking spaces are provided and marked with International Symbol of Accessibility.
- 4 Accessible parking is as near to the park entrance as possible.

### Play Areas

- 1 There is an accessible route (60 inches wide) to the entrance of the play area with a slope no steeper than 1:16.
  - For playground equipment, at least one turning space is provided on the same level as play components.
- 1 Play area surface is firm and stable (mulch/woodchips, sand and gravel are not accessible surfaces)
- 1 Where multiple swings in a swing bay are provided, one swing is located on an accessible route.
  - For court sports, at least one accessible route connects both sides of the court.

### Park Amenities

- 2 Picnic tables provide at least one wheelchair space for each 24 linear feet of usable table surface perimeter. The aisles between chairs and tables are 3 feet wide.
  - Drinking fountain spout outlets are a maximum of 36 inches above the finish floor or ground.
- 3 Safety is promoted by good street lighting.
  - Ramps are non-slip.
- 3 If public restroom facility present, there is at least one fully accessible restroom.

### Trails and Sidewalks

- 3 There is a path of travel that does not require the use of stairs.
  - Bike paths are separate from pedestrian walkways.
  - Sidewalks are free of obstruction, wide enough for wheelchairs, solid (not made of dirt), and have curb cuts.
  - All stairways feature a railing and stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step.
- 3 Handrails are provided on both sides of a ramp.
- 1 Accessible routes connect all park amenities and coincide with general circulation paths.

## Local Schools and Other Local Facilities

### Schools

Most of Armada Township is in the Armada Area Schools district, while the southwestern corner is in the Romeo Community Schools district. The Township has no formal recreation partnerships with any of the three school districts.

#### **Armada Area High School**

- Football field
- Ballfields—practice and full-size
- Running track/track & field facilities
- Tennis courts

#### **Armada Middle School & Krause Elementary School**

- 3 playgrounds
- Walking path
- Baseball diamond
- Soccer field

### Other Facilities

#### **Amvets Post 93**

- One baseball diamond

#### **Krause Veterinary Clinic**

- Soccer fields

#### **Macomb-Orchard Trail**

- Rails-to-Trails pathway runs through the township and village
- April Millsap Memorial Garden

### Village of Armada

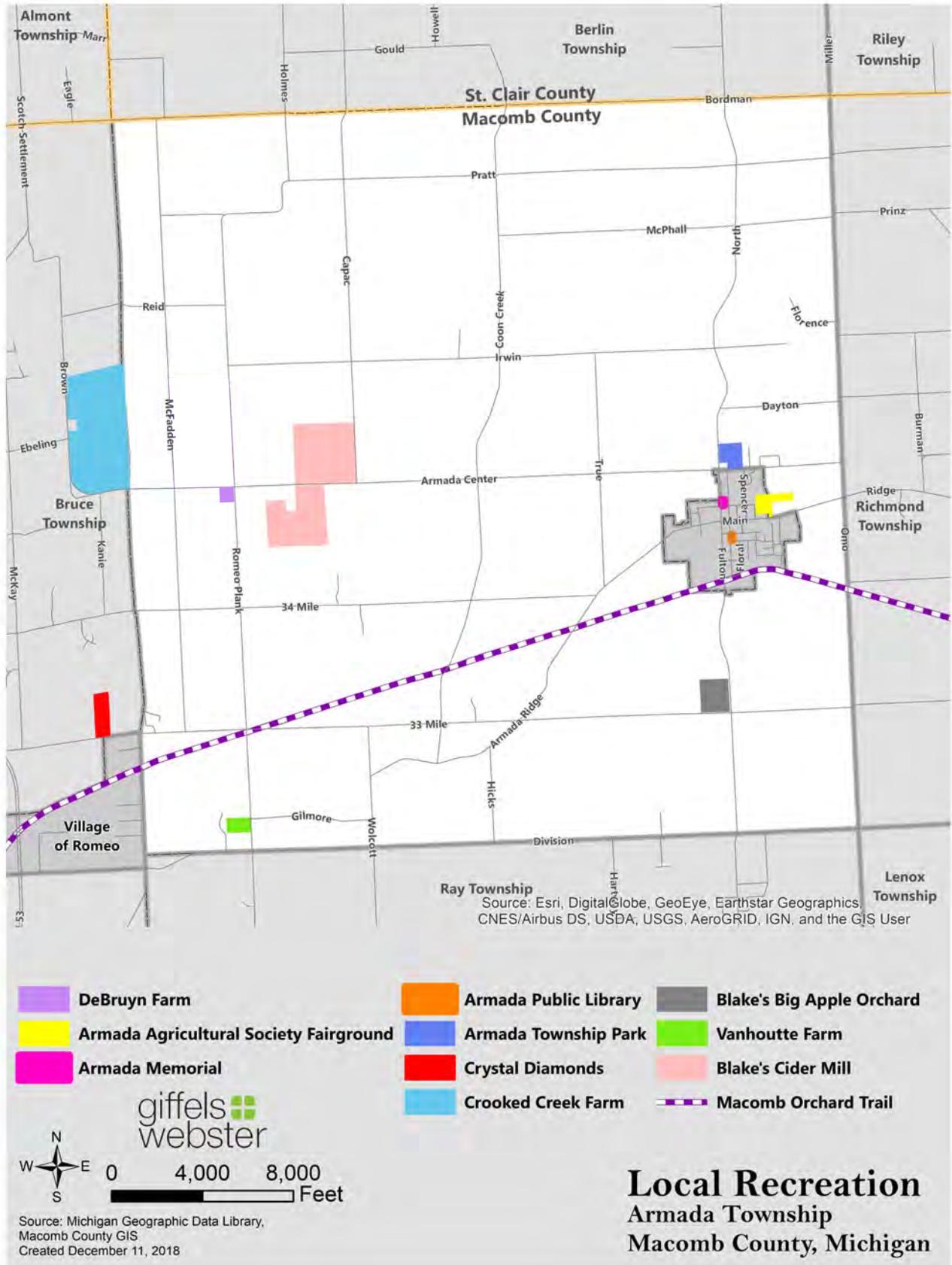
#### **Memorial Park**

- Pavilion
- Playground
- Basketball Court
- Picnic Tables

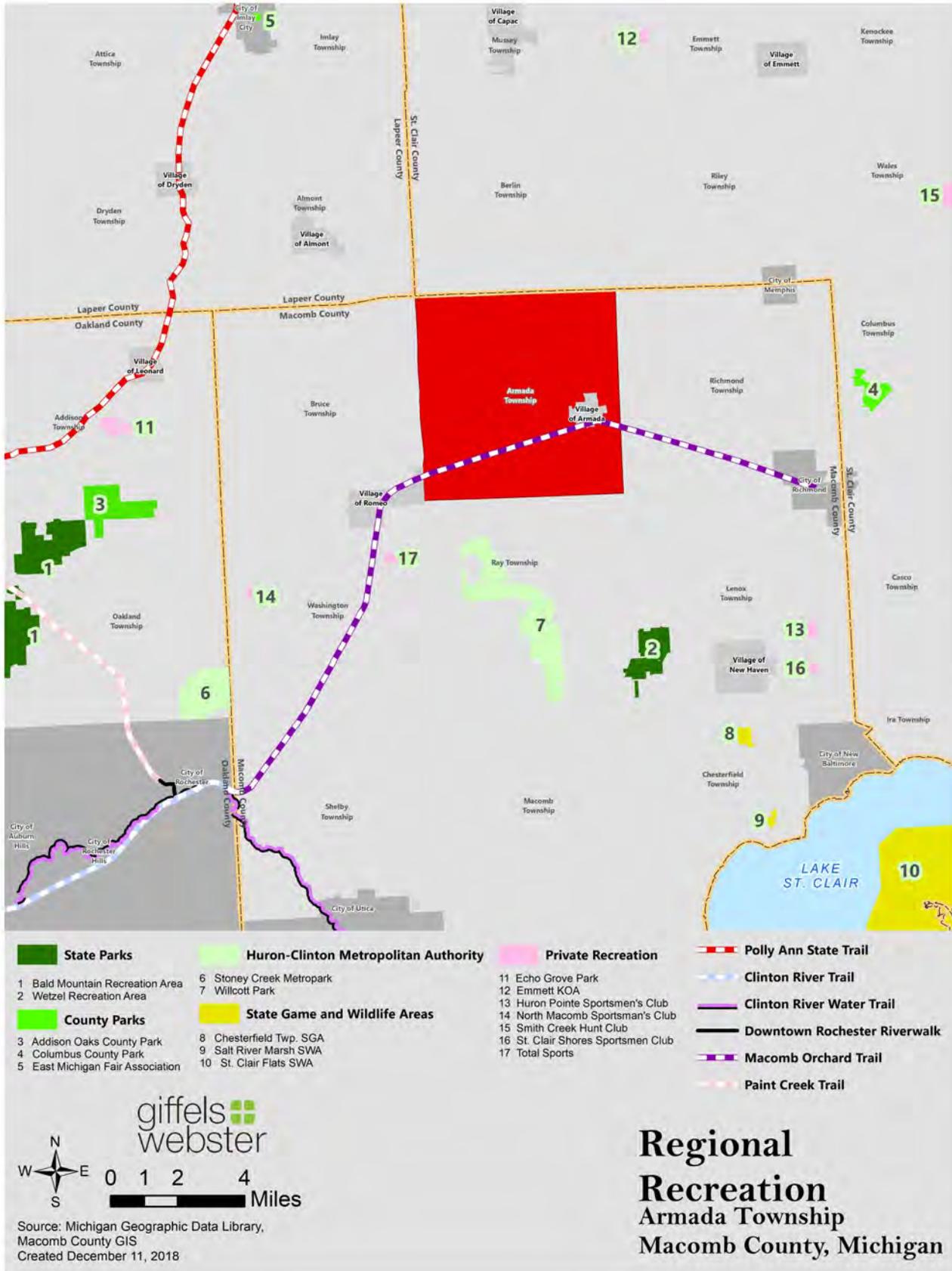
#### **Armada Township Pocket Park (Township-owned)**

- Seating areas

Map 5: Facilities within and adjacent to Armada Township



Map 6: Nearby Regional Park and Recreation Facilities



## Regional Facilities

### State and Regional Facilities

A handful of Southeast Michigan's numerous state parks and recreation areas are located within a short drive of Armada Township. These facilities provide opportunities for hiking, swimming, fishing, boating, picnicking, camping, cross-country skiing, and other recreational activities.

#### Wetzel State Recreation Area

Located in Lenox Township, Wetzel State Recreation Area is an undeveloped park providing areas for hiking, hunting, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing.

### Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority operates 13 parks across Southeast Michigan, including three in Macomb County, all of which are a short drive from Armada Township.

#### Stony Creek Metropark, Shelby and Washington Townships

Established around Stony Creek Lake, this park includes a nature center, hiking and mountain biking trails, campgrounds, boat rental and launch, bike rental, golf course, and disc golf course.

#### Lake St. Clair Metropark, Harrison Township

Located on the Lake St. Clair shore, this park offers a splash pad, swimming pool, and beach, tennis, par-3 golf, a sledding hill, nature center, trails, windsurfing launch, and boat launch, among other amenities.

#### Wolcott Mill Metropark, Ray Township

Wolcott Mill Metropark is a largely natural park featuring trails, a farm center, campgrounds, a golf course, and a model airplane field.

## Local Facilities in Neighboring Communities

### **Armada Village**

Armada Village Park is just under one acre. It includes a small pavilion, picnic tables, a playground, and basketball court. The village also has a small trailhead for the Macomb-Orchard Trail. Armada Township's township hall is also located in the village; the township owns approximately one tenth of an acre adjacent to the township hall, and has developed this space as a pocket park, with shaded places to sit and gather.

### **Romeo-Washington-Bruce Parks & Rec**

Serving the Village of Romeo and the townships of Washington and Bruce, RWBPR operates several parks. The facilities at these parks are varied and include walking paths, picnic areas, tennis, baseball, soccer, running tracks, playscapes, disc golf, fitness equipment, sledding hill, and basketball. Washington Community Center and Romeo Community Center each offer indoor event space. No one park includes all these facilities, and the parks are spread over a 72-square-mile area. Several golf courses and a racquet club are also found in these communities.

### **Berlin Township**

Berlin Township operates one small neighborhood park.

### **Richmond Township**

Richmond Township does not operate any parks, though the City of Richmond's Beebe Street Park offers numerous sports and play facilities, including a swimming pool, as well as a hiking trail.

### **Ray Township**

Ray Township is home to Wolcott Mills Metropark and several golf facilities, but does not operate any local parks..

### **Lenox Township**

A Township Park is available to the residents of Lenox and New Haven. It contains sports fields, courts, and rinks, picnic amenities, and playscapes.

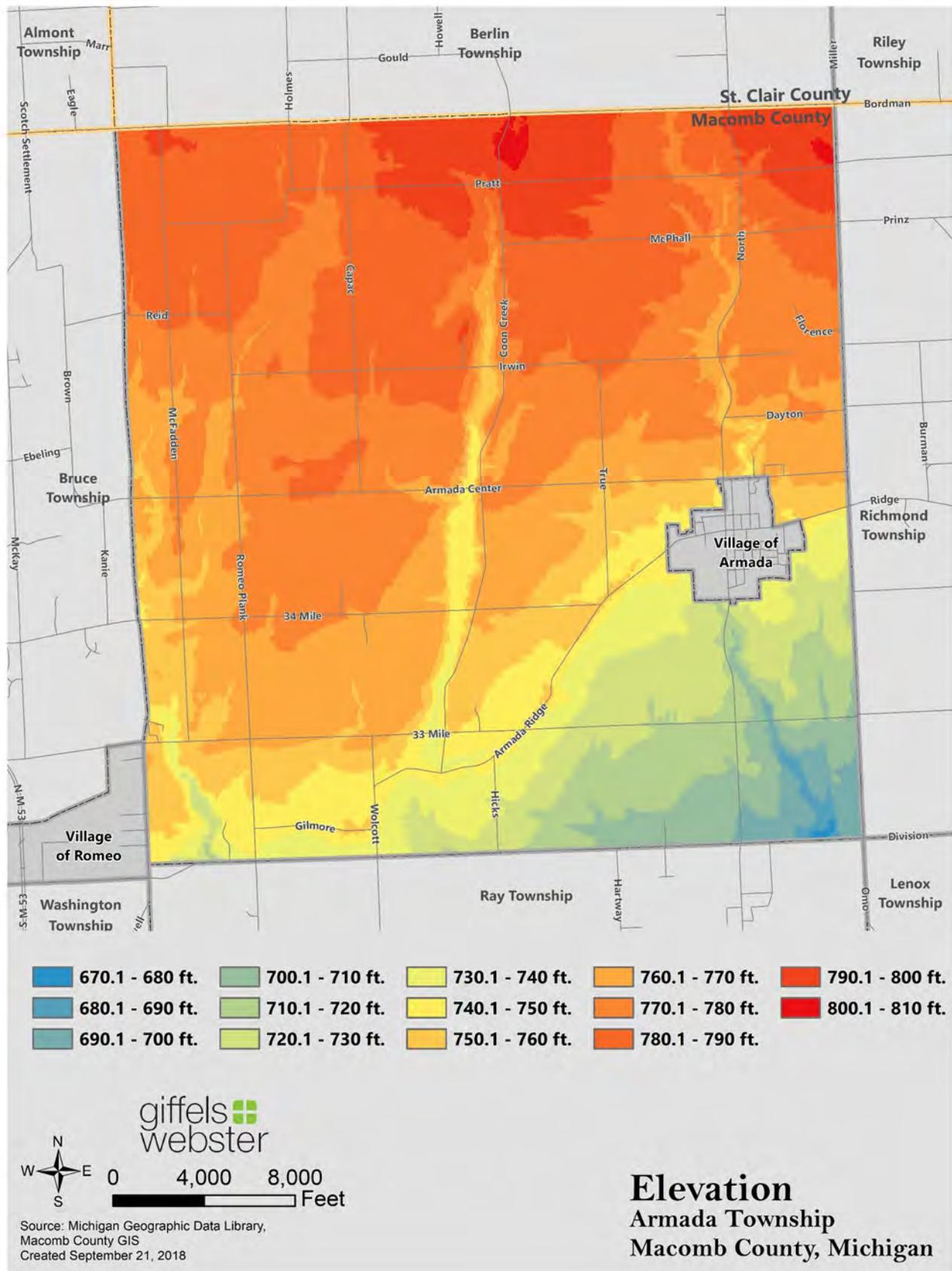


## 4 Resource Inventory

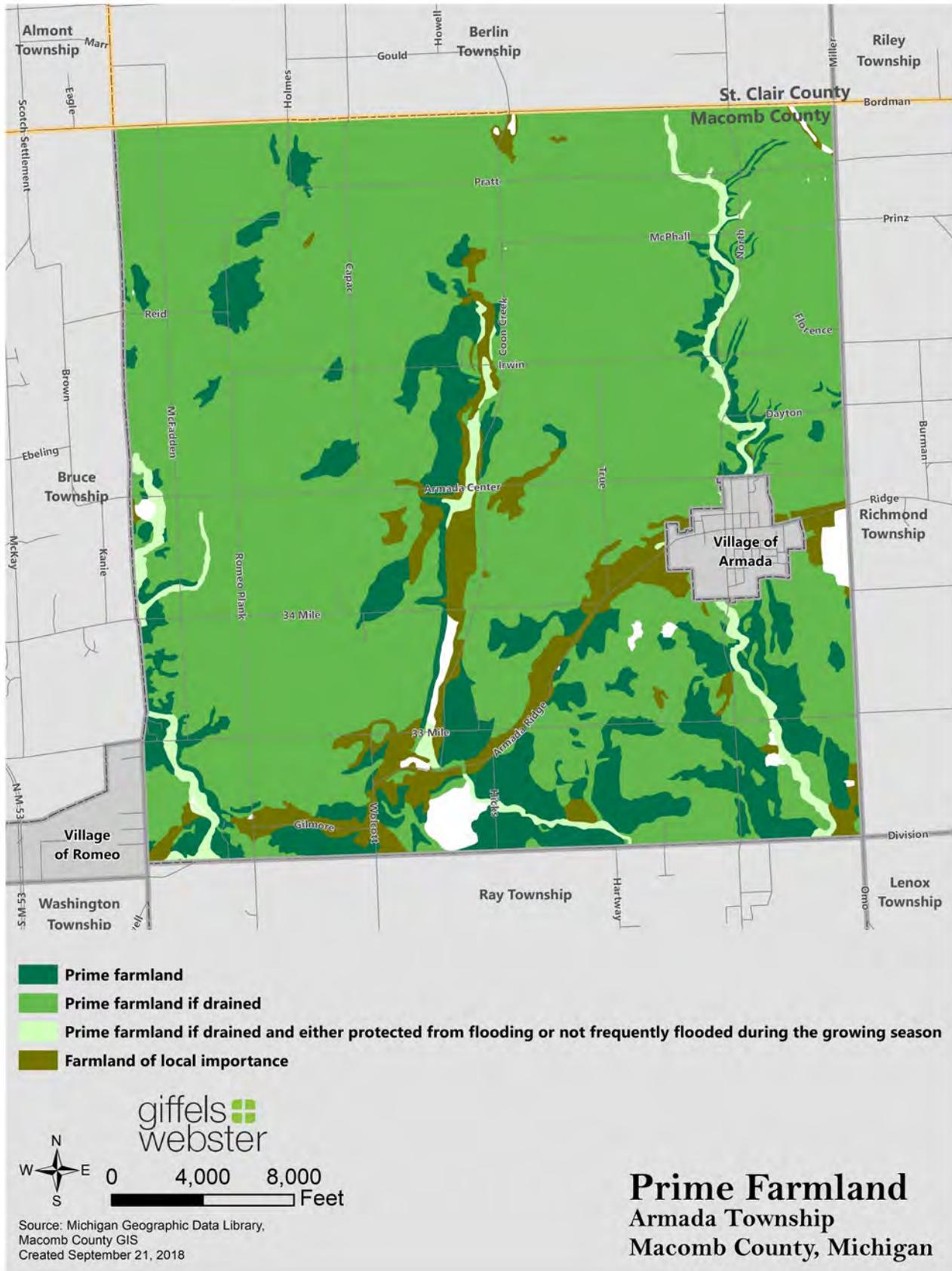
In a community such as Armada Township, where recreation is heavily intertwined with the natural environment, an inventory of natural resources is a helpful tool for understanding where potential opportunities may be available. These maps can also inform planning for open space preservation not related to recreation.

The following pages map prime farmland, quaternary geology, soils, topography, watershed and waterways, wetlands, and woodlands.

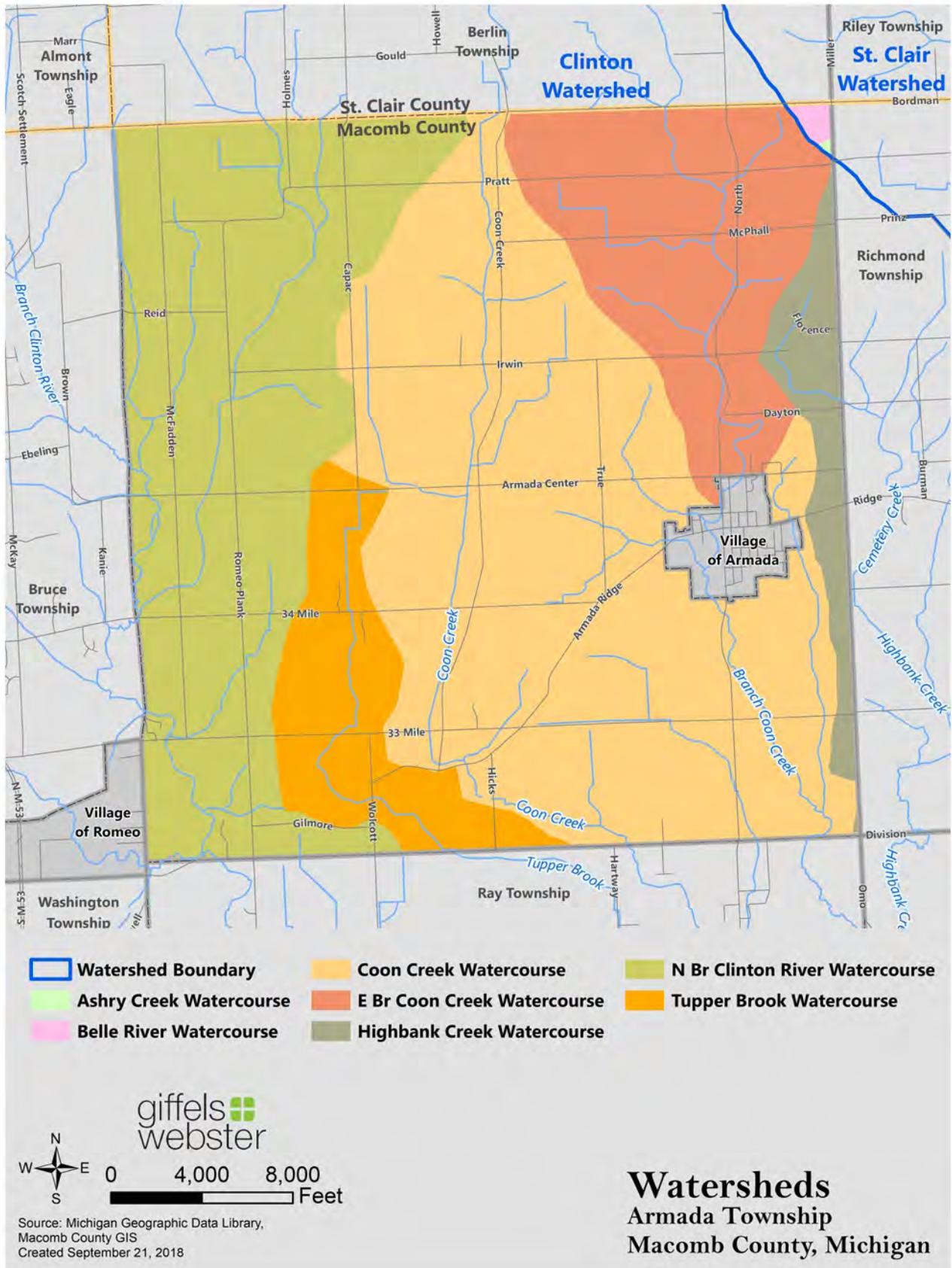
Map 7: Township Topography and Elevations



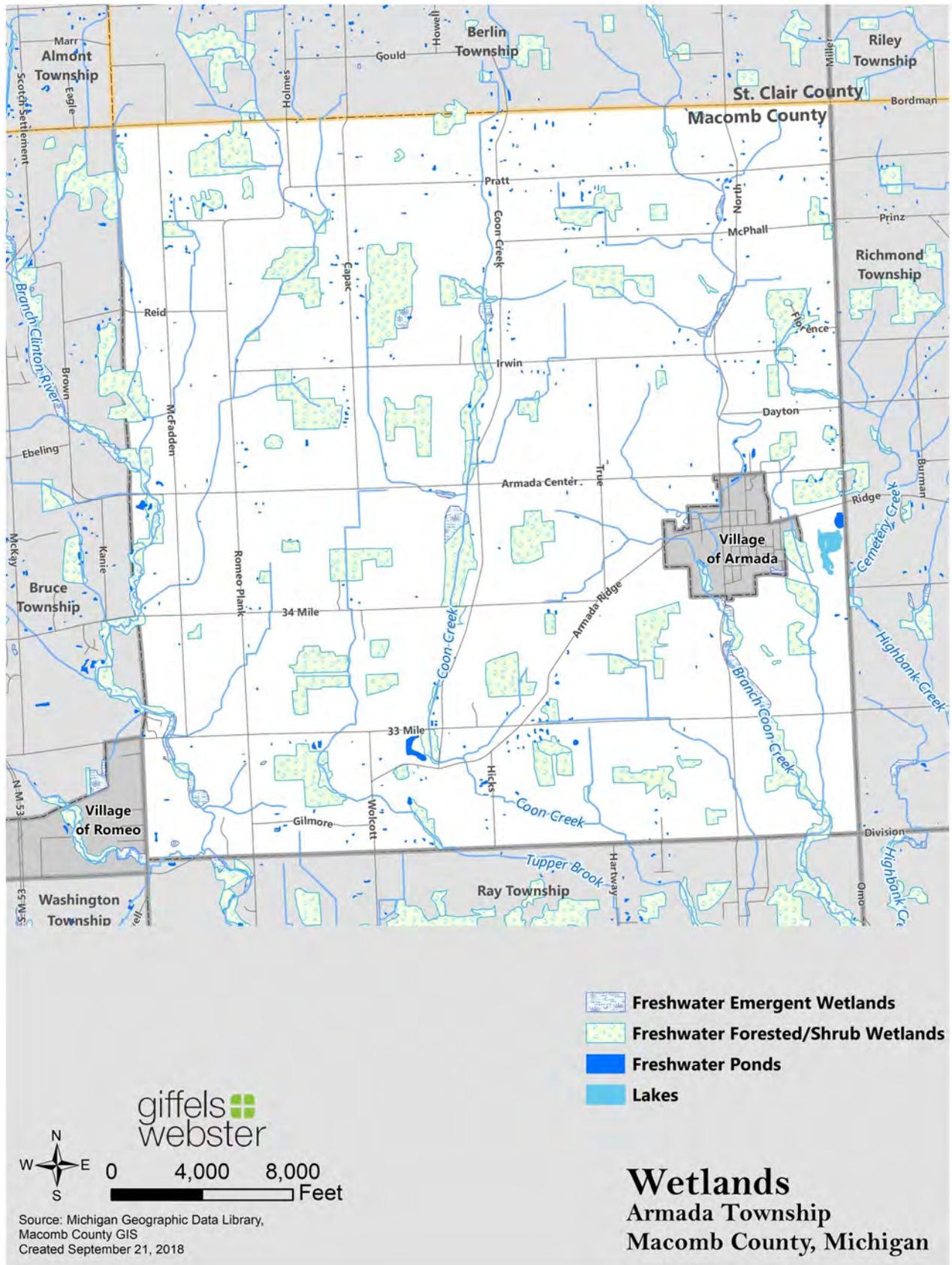
Map 8: Location of Prime Farmland in the Township



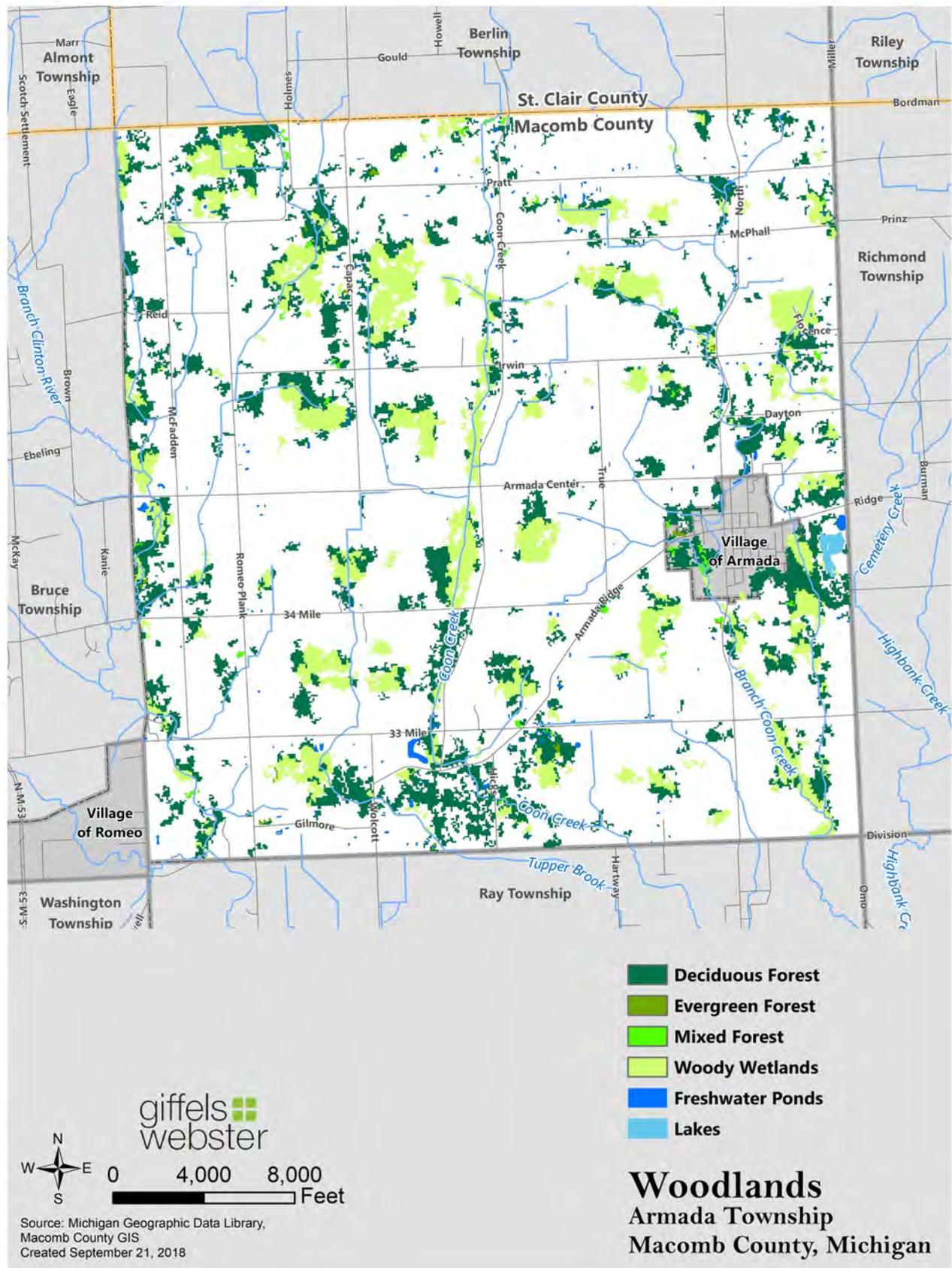
Map 9: Sub-Watersheds within the Township



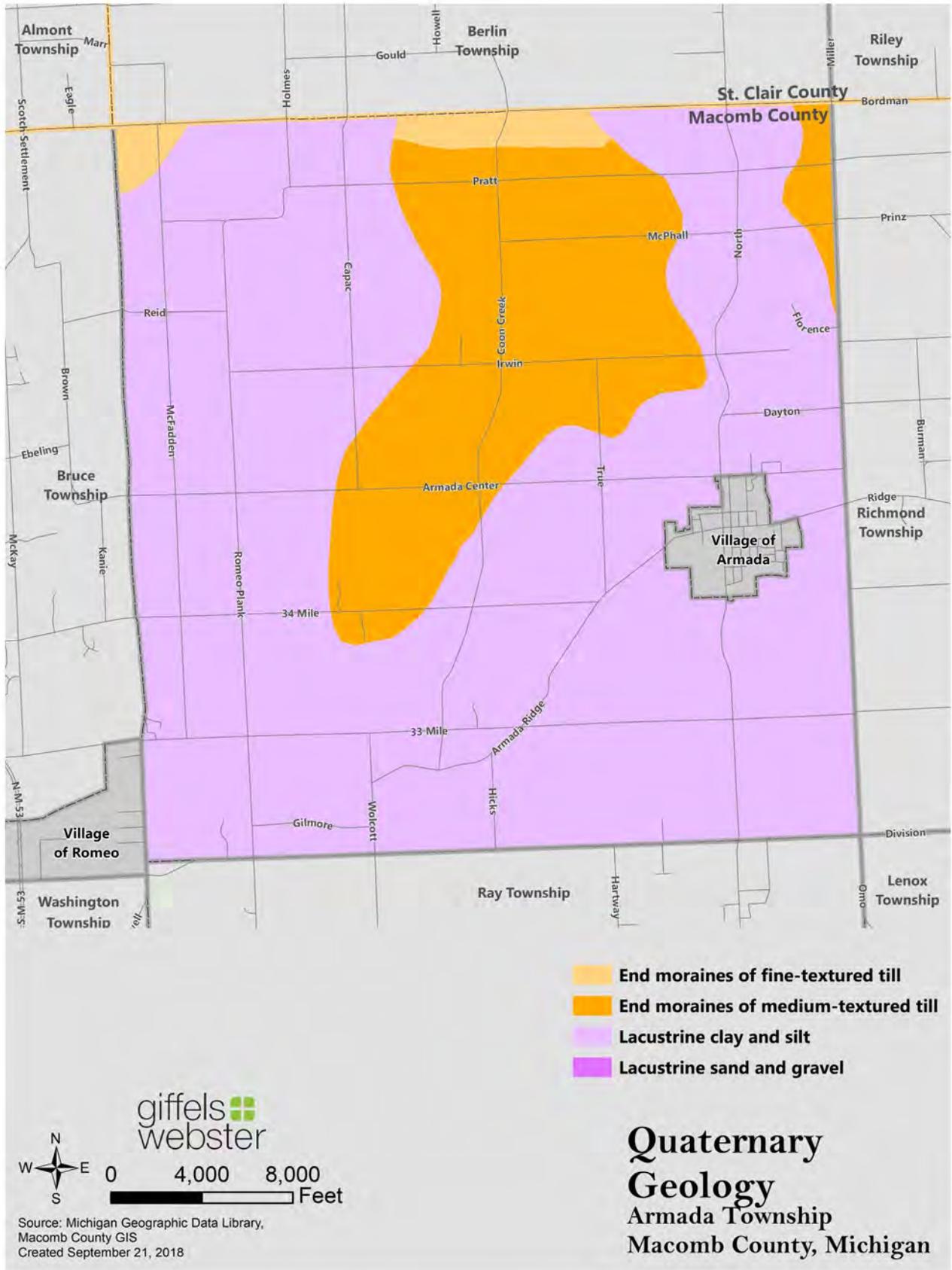
Map 10: Wetlands



Map 11: Woodlands



Map 12: Quaternary Geology



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## 5 Recreation Needs Analysis

### To analyze the recreational needs

of Township residents and determine deficiencies within recreation programs, it is helpful to consider standards for recreation service areas, land needs based on future population, and the ultimate size and extent of recreation facilities and their location.

These recreation planning standards are a useful tool in making an assessment of future recreation needs. Standards may be used effectively only as a means for comparing present conditions to what is thought to be suitable or desirable, and as a general guide toward estimating future needs and demands.

The following organizations have developed guidelines for recreation, which are referenced in this analysis of Armada Township's recreation facilities:

#### 1. Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service (HCRS)

The HCRS recommends standards based on compiled data on standards used or recommended by various city, county, metropolitan, state, and federal park and recreation agencies.

#### 2. Urban Land Institute (ULI)

The ULI, a private research organization

concerned with planning and development of land, recommends standards for recreation areas for community and neighborhood development.

#### 3. National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)

The NRPA developed the following recommended standards and guidelines for recreation, parks and open space.

#### Recommended Community Recreation Facilities:

The major types of community recreation facilities recommended by the above organizations include:

##### 1. Playgrounds/Mini-Parks

Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population, or specific groups such as small children or senior citizens. For example, suggested recreational amenities for an individual mini-park are a tot lot, 2 picnic tables and ½ acre open space.

##### 2. Playfield or Athletic Fields/Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood parks should offer a variety of activities to accommodate a range of ages, physical abilities, and recreational interests. Therefore, it is recommended that neighborhood parks should be comprised of approximately 50% active uses (fields, courts, playgrounds, skating, etc.) and 50% passive

uses (trails, picnic areas, etc.). It is recommended that a minimum of 7-10 parking spaces should be provided.

### 3. Community Parks

Community-wide parks include larger parks with diverse environmental quality. A variety of passive and active uses are provided, including athletic fields, sledding hills, trails, picnic areas, and playgrounds. Typically, uses are separated by activity and age group to limit potential conflicts between different types of users. Other potential activities include outdoor swimming, lighted spectator-type athletic fields, ice skating, and ample off-street parking.

### 4. Connector Trails

Connector trails would include a multi-use trail to give non-motorized access to parks and other uses throughout Armada Township, and would also provide connections to the Macomb-Orchard Trail. Modes of travel include walking and biking. These trails could be located in an independent right-of-way, such as along the utility corridors, or within road rights-of-way. There are no current standards for trails within/around a community.

#### Park types and sizes

Armada Township's modest population and development pattern, with low-density development and dominant agricultural land uses, make particular demands on the Township's recreation offerings. Many, though not all, residents have direct access to limited casual outdoor recreation activities on their own land. The Township's role is to provide facilities that residents do not customarily have access to, and this has been the focus of the development of the township park. Playground equipment, baseball fields, a world-class skate park and gathering places, such as the pavilion, afford Township residents recreational opportunities they would not easily be able to access without public facilities.

The Township currently does not have its own system of **connector trails, paths and greenways**. It does, however, have a network of largely rural roads capable of accommodating bicycle users, and is crossed by the Macomb-Orchard Trail.

#### Assessment of Township Facilities

In determining the recreational needs for the Township as a whole, it is important to consider the location of parks and facilities. Armada Township Park is located north of the village, on the east side of the township. The Township's development pattern limits the need for mini-parks.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has developed a set of standards based on NRPA guidelines entitled "Michigan Recreation Opportunity Standards," which will be utilized in this recreation needs and deficiency analysis. These standards state the amount of locally developed recreation acreage and the amounts of various specific recreation facilities and equipment that a community should have per every 1,000 persons in the community's population. Table 5-1 presents these standards.

**Table 5-1: Michigan Recreation Opportunity Standards**

Type of Recreation Opportunity	Plan Standard
Developed Local Park Land	10 acres / 1,000 population
Archery Ranges (including private & commercial)	1 / 50,000 population
Ballfields (not including school facilities)	1 / 3,000 population
Outdoor Basketball Courts (not including school facilities)	1 / 5,000 population
Bicycle Trails (miles)	1 / 40,000 population
Golf Courses (including private & commercial)	1 / 25,000 population
Indoor Ice Rinks	1 / 50,000 population
Outdoor Ice Rinks	1 / 20,000 population
Picnic Areas (tables)	1 / 200 population
Playgrounds (not including school facilities)	1 / 3,000 population
Rifle Ranges (including private & commercial)	1 / 50,000 population
Shotgun Ranges (including private & commercial)	1 / 50,000 population
Sledding Hills (not including school facilities)	1 / 40,000 population
Soccer Fields (not including school facilities)	1 / 20,000 population
Outdoor Swimming Pools	1 / 40,000 population
Outdoor Tennis Courts (not including school facilities)	1 / 4,000 population
Public Boat Launches (parking)	1 / 400 population
Campground Sites (including commercial)	1 / 150 population
Cross-Country Ski Trails (miles)	1 / 10,000 population
Fishing Access (feet)	1,000 / 1,000 population
Fishing Piers	1 / 100,000 population
Hiking Trails (miles)	1 / 5,000 population
Horseback Trails (miles)	1 / 20,000 population
Nature Areas (each)	1 / 50,000 population
Nature Trails (miles)	1 / 20,000 population
ORV Areas	1 acre / 7,500 population
ORV Trails (miles)	1 / 10,000 population
Snowmobiling Land	10 acres / 1,000 population
Snowmobiling Trails (miles)	1 / 3,000 population
Swimming Beaches	1 / 25,000 population

### **Analysis of Needs and Deficiencies**

While the Recreation Opportunity Standards reference a very broad set of facilities, it is important to note that many of the standards reference populations that are considerably larger than Armada Township's, or in several cases, populations larger than the Township and its neighbors combined.

Township residents have close access to some of these facilities, but must travel to access the rest.

The Township falls short of the recommended local park acreage standard. Under the standard, the Township would have 36 acres of local park land, as compared to the 22.7 developed acres of existing parkland. Parkland is also highly concentrated, with all developed acres embodied in the Township Park near the village. Exploring opportunities to expand the park system's physical footprint, and distribute its land across the Township would generally expand recreational opportunities for all residents. The undeveloped parcel owned by the township may provide such as opportunity.

There is also an opportunity to strengthen the township's connections to the regional trail network by providing points of access to the Macomb-Orchard Trail.



## 6 The Planning Process

The recreation planning process is intended to involve individuals who represent a broad cross-section of the community's population. The Township Board is responsible for implementing the Recreation Plan, but the Planning Commission provides input, analysis and recommendations.

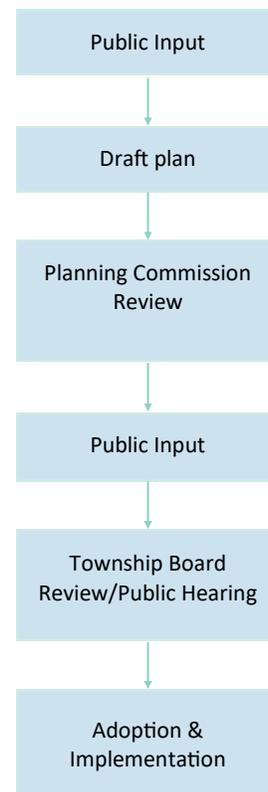
The planning process began with an inventory of all Armada Township parks facilities. A survey was developed and posted online, and was also distributed with summer tax bills to reach more people in a community where many do not have high-speed internet access.

Using the inventory and survey findings, this Recreation Plan identifies strengths and opportunities of the current parks facilities, along with goals for the future.

The draft plan and 5-year action program of priority projects were reviewed by the Planning Commission.

Following the recommendation of approval by the Planning Commission, the plan was presented to the Township Board. The draft plan was made available for public review and comment for at least 30 days prior

to formal adoption by the Township Board. Notice of the public review period was provided in the local newspaper. The plan was presented at a public hearing held by Township Board. Copies of the notices announcing the review period and public hearing are included in the Appendix.



## Public Input

### 2018 Public Input Survey

The public input survey measured basic familiarity with the park system, the ways in which respondents interact with Township Parks & Recreation, perceptions of park quality and maintenance, and optimal communication methods. Open-ended questions asked respondents what is missing from the Township parks, what recreation opportunities residents pursue elsewhere, event and activity participation, what programming is missing, and whether they had any other thoughts.

The township received 165 responses. 25 people completed the survey online, while the others responded by mail.

A large majority respondents (84%) were aware of the township's existing park. Slightly less than half indicated that they visit this park with some regularity (at least once annually). 11.5% indicated that they visit frequently. Nearly all visitors to the park drive there.

In general, respondents felt the park was very well-maintained.

The baseball fields were the top draw to the park (55 respondents), likely owing to the existence of organized leagues in the area. The playground followed (36 respondents), with the senior center (23) and picnic shelter (21) also drawing significant visitors. The relatively new skate park was used by 13 respondents.

When asked what additional facilities they desired in either the existing park or on the township's undeveloped potential park site, a trailhead for the Macomb Orchard Trail, a sledding hill, nature trail, more exercise facilities, improved playground facilities, and a dog park were popular suggestions. Several respondents wrote in requests for a swimming pool and/or splash pad. 35 respondents did not support development of a second park on Armada Ridge Road.

Those who left the township to access recreational facilities used a wide variety of facilities and programs. Many respondents (13) left the township for water facilities (pools, splash pads), and as many left for

larger playgrounds. Other examples cited by multiple respondents included concerts in the park, dog parks, walking or hiking trails and exercise facilities.

A set of residents resistant to new recreational facilities, and particularly spending township money to fund them was a thread running through all questions. A subset of these residents simply felt that they did not have a need for recreational facilities, and several of these cited the large amounts of land they lived on.

In general, the memorial to CPO Jason R. Freiwald is admired by park-goers, and the Township Board is particularly interested in ensuring that the park accommodates future memorials.

### **Communication**

Residents who use parks cited connecting with nature and the outdoors, personal health and wellness, spending time with their children (or grandchildren), and socialization as their leading reasons for engaging in parks and recreation activities.

69% of respondents who provided their age were over the age of 55, and more people who brought children to the park were visiting with their grandchildren than their own children. 67 respondents indicated that they brought children to the park.

When asked how best to reach them with parks and recreation information, 58 respondents selected newsletters, with social media and the township website following. Given the aforementioned inconsistent availability of high-speed internet service, it is likely that multiple communication methods are necessary to reach the maximum number of people and households.

Full survey results are included in the appendix.



# 7 Goals & Objectives 2019-2023

**Goals and Objectives** formulated by Armada Township are the basis of the recreation planning process. They form the framework for public and private decision-making regarding recreational facilities and programs in the Township. This Recreation Plan seeks to pursue long-range recreational goals and objectives through specific short-range actions on the part of the Township, County, and State as well as private entities.

## General Recreation Goals

1. Enhance and increase the quality of life for Armada Township residents by providing recreation programs and facilities to meet their needs.
2. Cooperate with the school districts, county, and other regional recreation providers in the delivery of recreation opportunities to Township residents.
3. Preserve and utilize the Township's existing natural features and habitat (woodlands, wetlands, topography and floodplains) for open space and recreation purposes, such as hunting, hiking, and connecting with nature.
4. Acquire additional land in appropriate locations as it becomes available.
5. Examine whether partnership opportunities to expand township recreational programming while limiting costs.
6. Encourage volunteering and embrace volunteer fundraising efforts.

## Recreation Facility Goals

1. Use the Township's planning and zoning powers to encourage developers to incorporate open space into new residential development and to provide recreation space as an integral part of new developments.
2. Maintain the capacity and space for the expansion of memorial facilities in Armada Township Park.
3. Provide for a range of both passive and active recreation facilities.
4. Explore additional opportunities to connect to the Macomb-Orchard Trail
5. Incorporate ADA compliance and universal design into any new facilities.
6. Begin to develop new park facilities on township-owned Armada Ridge property: develop master plan, conduct topographic survey, establish access driveway with culvert, parking lot. Consider a Macomb-Orchard trailhead with restroom, programmatic nature trail, and sledding hill as part of plan.

## Administrative Goals

1. Continue to monitor and adjust program offerings to reflect changing recreation preferences and age characteristics by way of community surveys and/or questionnaires.
2. Work with community groups to establish cooperative agreements for the protection, maintenance and use of recreation sites.
3. Provide for necessary staffing and an administrative infrastructure to support the expansion of recreation opportunities.
4. Provide a consistent level of funding, through county, state and federal sources, to support improvements to the Township's recreation facilities and programs
5. Budget for upgrades and proactive maintenance to existing facilities.



Friends of Armada is a volunteer organization that has been active in raising funds for improvements to Armada Township Park.



## 8 Action Strategies 2015-2019

**Action Strategies** outline Armada Township’s approach to implementing the goals and objectives identified in the previous chapter. These strategies are intended to provide guidance for planning and budgeting purposes for the next five years. They suggest priorities generally, but are not intended to be set in stone or limit additional creative approaches. Generally, parks and recreation action strategies should consider the following when outlining a strategy to implement goals and objectives:

1. Are there immediate health and safety concerns that need to be addressed?
2. What are opportunities that exist to partner with other groups towards a common goal?
3. Is there a person or group who can champion specific goals/objectives?
4. Are there multiple goals that can be achieved by implementing a project?
5. What projects affect the greatest number of people in the community and/or address the greatest need?
6. How can projects be broken down into phases for a multi-year approach?
7. What funding opportunities exist for implementation of certain goals?

**Planning Actions** reflect strategies aimed at identifying an approach to achieving certain goals and objectives. These are activities that can be undertaken at a variety of levels, including the Parks & Recreation Commission, the Planning Commission and the Township Board.

**Maintenance Actions** address those issues identified in the plan as needing upgrades or attention to repair, safety or appearance. These activities will likely be addressed by the parks & recreation director, but may also include assistance by various community groups.

**Administrative Actions** will pursue strategies that keep an inventory of recreation facilities, programs and events for the Township. Strategies developed through planning actions will be implemented and/or coordinated through administrative efforts.

**Funding Actions** will actively pursue local, cooperative and grant funding approaches to implementing the goals and objectives of the plan.

Armada Township Parks & Recreation 5-Year Action Plan			
Park	Action	Year	Projected Cost(s)
Armada Township Park North Avenue	New play structure	1	\$100,000*
	Re-gravel and scrape parking lot	1	\$3,000 per inch of gravel
	Develop drainage along south side of entrance drive	2	\$8,000
	Plan for memorial expansion	2	\$2,500
	Improve, expand Coon Creek path	3	\$4,000
	Develop perimeter path—1/2 mile paved	4	\$280/linear foot for paved 8-foot path
	Basketball court	5	\$20,000
Undeveloped Armada Ridge Property	Topographic survey of property	1	\$13,000
	Develop park master plan with design of facilities. Potential amenities include nature trail, sledding hill, soccer fields, baseball diamond, basketball court, trailhead, restrooms, benches, picnic area, concession stand	2	\$20,000
	Establish access point and driveway to property, with drainage culvert	3	\$70,000
	Develop initial parking lot	4	\$100,000-\$120,000
	Make connection to Macomb-Orchard Trail	5	\$280/linear foot for paved 8-foot path

Costs for many of the above items are dependent on quality of construction, brand of manufacturer, and scale of design.

This plan does not target any specific property for acquisition, but the Planning Commission reserves the right to recommend to the Township Board the acquisition of appropriate property for future park development as opportunities arise.

\*Friends of Armada is currently engaged in fundraising for this structure.



# 9 Appendix

<b>1. Resolutions of Adoption</b>
<b>2. Public Notices</b>
<b>3. Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>4. Conceptual Park Plans</b>
<b>5. Survey Results</b>
<b>6. Transmittal Letters</b>

## Appendix 1: Resolution of Adoption

### TOWNSHIP OF ARMADA MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

#### RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2019-2023 ARMADA TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of Armada Township, Macomb County, Michigan, held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019.

Present: Goetzinger, Nikkel, Paterek, Swiacki and Finlay

Absent: none

The following preamble and motion were offered by Swiacki, and seconded by Goetzinger.

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Armada has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2019 through 2023, and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Armada began the process of developing a recreation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines adopted by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

**WHEREAS**, residents of the Township of Armada were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resources conservation plan, and

**WHEREAS**, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on January 9 at the Armada Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Armada Township Recreation Plan for 2019-2023, and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Armada has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for Armada Township, and

**WHEREAS**, after the public hearing, the Township Board voted to adopt said recreation plan,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Township Board of Armada Township hereby adopts the Armada Township Recreation Plan for 2019-2023.

Yeas: Goetzinger, Nikkel, Paterek, Swiacki and Finlay

Nays: none

Absent/Abstained: none

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF MACOMB )ss

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Board of Armada Township, Macomb County, Michigan, at a regular meeting duly called and held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019, the original of which resolution is on file in my office, and that notice of said meeting was given, the meeting was held and the minutes filed in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

Mary K. Swiacki

Mary Swiacki, CMMC  
Armada Township Clerk

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF MACOMB

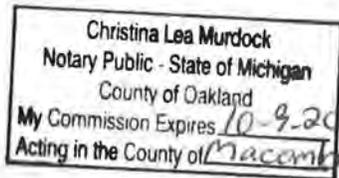
Lawrence Sobczak appeared before me and duly swore that the he is the publisher of The Record Newspaper, a newspaper printed in the County of Macomb, State of Michigan and that the advertisement for Public hearing notice for 1/9/19, of which the attached tear sheet is true copy was published on Dec. 26, 2018.

By: Lawrence A Sobczak

Subscribed to me on this 3 day of January year of 2019 Notary Seal:

Christina Lea Murdock

Notary Public



with five other communities in Oakland County last week.

Oakland Township Treasurer Jeanne Langlois said this did not mean the fire department was going to slow down their process in reaching their goals.

"It just means we're not under the gun any more to try and get this number to 100 percent any sooner than is operationally feasible," she said.

"Adding one new full-time ALS firefighter would mean that one of the platoons would have two ALS firefighters and be ready to respond one-third of the available hours per week," Strelchuk said.

He went on to say that two full-time firefighters would have two-thirds of available hours per week, and three full-time firefighters would fully cover one station and all available hours

when it comes time to actually make the decision we can go through the list. We can build that list, then when the time comes, make that decision, and go down the list and see who's still available," he said.

Upon hearing that, Trustee Robin Buscar made the motion to advertise for full-time firefighters, which was unanimously approved.

Supervisor Mike Bailey also read from an e-mail from former Trustee Sharon McKay regarding the fire department.

"The fire department has our back, meaning they are helping us in our name of need. We need to have their backs," she said in the e-mail.

After the meeting, those in attendance were invited to take a look at the fire department's new ambulance which was delivered to the department

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.  
 Present: Bartholomew, Edwards, Fowler, Hart, Ruzhanski, Seider, Malzahn  
 Absent: None

Approved minutes from November 19, 2018. Approved minutes from December 3, 2018 with spelling correction and corrections to Council Comments. Approved bills. Approved agenda with changes of New Business order and addition to agenda of Past Administration. PUBLIC FORUM Justin Parker 259 Support, commented on not being able to obtain an electrical permit in the absence of the head of the Building Department. OFFICER REPORTS – President – President Malzahn gave report. Clerk – Clerk gave a report. Committee Reports – Fire and Sewer Trustee Edwards gave report. Armada Sewer – Trustee Goettinger (of Armada Board of Trustees) gave report. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Armada Township is requesting a 6 month extension to the current Sewer agreement. Motion passed. Final approval of the Office Business District Ordinance. Planning Commission approved the updated ordinance on December 13, 2018. Board to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation of the new language. Motion Passed. NEW BUSINESS – Presented Lisa Hall for vacant Planning Commission seat. Motion Passed. Presented the 2019 Village Office holiday calendar. Motion Passed. DPW submitted bids to acquire 2 new Ford 350 trucks and a Falcone hot box. Motion Passed. Special Events permits for 51' Bathhouses on March 23, 2019. Motion passed. Bid for Clinton Street Properties. No bids were submitted at the December 13, 2018 deadline. Resubmitted until January 2019 meeting. Motion passed. ADDED AGENDA ITEM: Past Administration: Discussion on the past administrator. Administrator. President Malzahn presented language for an updated President's Salary ordinance. Table item for January 2019 meeting. Motion failed. Approval of the language of the updated President's Salary ordinance. Motion passed. Approval of new Village of Romeo By-Laws. Rules of Procedure as written with updates. Motion Passed. COUNCIL COMMENTS heard. PUBLIC COMMENTS heard. Meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Complete copies of the foregoing minutes are available at the Clerk's Office or may be viewed on the Village of Romeo website at [www.villageofromeo.org](http://www.villageofromeo.org).  
 Kathryn Trapp  
 Village of Romeo Clerk  
 Publish: 12/26/18

12/16/18 approved as presented. Payment of Bills 501-420-50 as presented. Heard updates from the Sewer Commissioner and the Street Administrator. Unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. A Complete text of minutes is available for public inspection at the Clerk's office during regular business hours.  
 Michelle Poules-CMMAC  
 Armada Village Clerk  
 Publish: 12-25-18

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**RAY TOWNSHIP**  
**BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS**  
**Tuesday, December 18, 2018**  
 The Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at 64255 Wolcott, Ray, MI 48096. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Jerzyca, Lascoe, Shier, Bohm and Ghaderi. Agenda Approved as amended. Correspondence-work heard. Public Comments were heard. Minutes Approved as revised. Budget Modification Approved. Bills 110 Approved. Officers Reports were reviewed & Read. Department Reports were reviewed & Read. Unfinished Business. Consent Judgment for Four Star Development for proposed sewer with Shelby Top Measmb Interceptor Dam Drainage District (MIDDOT) Tabled. 2019 Legal Holiday Policy Approved. Room Request. Mchen Thumb Knitters Approved. School Tax Collection Approved. Clinton River Watershed. Dues Approved. Set Public CDBG Public Hearing Approved. 11:15-19 @ 7:00 p.m. MI Assaic Municipal Clerks Seminar Approved. Resignation of Recreation Leader Approved. Resolution for Poverty Exemption 2019 Asset Test Approved. Resolution for Property Guidelines for 2019 Assessments Approved. Status of Township owned property for 2019 remain of tax roll. Appointments to Planning Commission Approved. Appointments of Board of Review Approved. Resolution for Proctor Cemetery to be part of annexation to Village of Romeo Approved. Room Request. St & Stinch Approved. Room Request. KD & Kompany 4-H Club Approved. Extend temporary structure permit Approved. Room Request. Escrow Group Approved. Public Comments were heard. Adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The minutes are available at the Township and [www.raytownship.org](http://www.raytownship.org).  
 Len R. Lascoe  
 Ray Township Clerk  
 Publish: 12/26/18

**RAY TOWNSHIP**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
 At 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at Ray Township, 64255 Wolcott, Ray, MI 48096, a public hearing will be held to obtain the views of the citizens concerning community development and housing needs, as required by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.  
 Ray Township will be receiving \$10,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant funds for FY 2019 from the Macomb "Urban County" Program. Federal guidelines require that maximum priority be given to activities which primarily benefit low-or- moderate-income families or which aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. A variety of projects are eligible for community development funding. These include:  
 Property acquisition      Handicapped Barrier Removal      Public Facilities  
 Code enforcement      Rehabilitation of Buildings      Public Infrastructure  
 Housing Rehabilitation      Public Services      Homebuyer Assistance  
 Planning and Administration  
 Citizens residing in blighted areas or lower-income persons are encouraged to participate. If you cannot attend this meeting and want your views known, please write or call Lori Lascoe, Ray Township Clerk, 64255 Wolcott, Ray, MI 48096, (586) 749-5171.  
 Publish: 12/26/18

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TOWNSHIP OF ARMADA**  
**Notice of Public Hearing**  
**Armada Township Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan**  
 This notice is published in accordance with the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans adopted by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.  
 This notice is to provide notification that Armada Township will be conducting the required public hearing prior to the adoption of the proposed Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan. The Plan has been available for public review and comments for the last month. The Planning Commission recommended adoption of the plan at a special meeting on December 10th, 2018. The Township Board will review the plan, hold a public hearing and consider adoption of the plan at its January 9, 2019 meeting. Comments can be submitted to the Township during normal business hours or at either of the above described meetings.  
 The Plan is available for review Monday – Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Armada Township Hall, 23121 E. Main, Armada, MI.  
 Mary K. Swiacki  
 Armada Township Clerk  
 Published: 12/26/2018

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## Appendix 3: Meeting Minutes

ARMADA TOWNSHIP BOARD  
23121 East Main  
Armada, MI 48005

Regular Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2019 7:00 p.m.

### PUBLIC HEARING – Recreation Master Plan

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Paterek

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Goetzinger, Nikkel, Paterek, Swiacki, Finlay  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING:** Motion by Paterek seconded by Swiacki to open public hearing at 7:00 p.m.  
**Motion CARRIED**

**Public Comments:** None

**ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING:** Motion by Paterek seconded by Swiacki to close the public hearing 7:01 p.m.  
**Motion CARRIED**

### REGULAR MEETING

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:01 p.m. by Supervisor Paterek.

**MINUTES:**  
Motion by Swiacki seconded by Nikkel approve regular minutes of December 12 as presented. **Motion CARRIED**

**SET/AMEND AGENDA:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Nikkel to approve the agenda as presented.  
**Motion CARRIED**

**BILLS:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Finlay to approve bills as presented.

Previously paid: \$ 3,320.56 - Fire \$ 3,933.23 - Township  
Payroll: \$ 60,831.57 - Fire \$ 16,242.77- Township  
Open invoices: \$ 4,468.58 - Fire \$ 6,844.74 - Township  
Tax disbursements: \$ 282,670.16  
Trust & Agency: \$ 2,740.00 Open: \$260.00  
Total of \$ 381,311.61

**Ayes:** Finlay, Swiacki, Nikkel, Goetzinger, Paterek **Motion CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only:** Caroline Sweeney, Monica Job, Jason Berger, Bob VanPamel, Dave Clor.

**CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION:** None

#### REPORTS:

◦ Fire Department	Chief Reynolds
◦ Code Official	Mike Klein
◦ Planning Commission	Steve Nikkel
◦ Building Department	Christine White
◦ Macomb Agricultural P.D.R.	Ken DeCock
◦ Parks & Recreation	No report
◦ Water/sewer	Jim Goetzinger
◦ Macomb Orchard Trail	No report
◦ Senior Center	Donne Peitz

January 9, 2019 7:00 p.m.

- Policies & Procedures No report
- Treasurer Camille Finlay

Motion by Swiacki seconded by Nikkel to accept and file reports as presented.

**Motion CARRIED**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Petition of Armada Twp. On permit issued to Edward P. Kerner:** No new report.

**Armada Township Park – Security Cameras:** Trustee Goetzinger will contact Pro Tech for a bid and report back to the board.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution to adopt the 2019-2023 Armada Township Recreation Plan:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Goetzinger to adopt to 2019-2023 Armada Township Recreation Plan as presented by resolution.

**Ayes:** Nikkel, Finlay, Goetzinger, Swiacki, Paterek

**Motion CARRIED**

**Macomb Agricultural P.D.R. – Support:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Nikkel to approve \$250 payment in support of the Macomb Agricultural P.D.R. Committee as presented.

**Ayes:** Finlay, Paterek, Goetzinger, Swiacki, Nikkel

**Motion CARRIED**

**Fire Dept.: FY18/19 budget amendment(s):** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Paterek to approve budget amendment as presented:

From line item #206.336.710.004 Part time wages move \$35,000 to line #206.336.710.200 Overtime

**Ayes:** Swiacki, Nikkel, Goetzinger, Finlay, Paterek

**Motion CARRIED**

**Superior Lock & Key, LLC - Invoice:** Supervisor indicated he had authority and did contact the Clerk by email as to reasons for changing locks.

**Set C.D.B.G. public hearing for February 13:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Goetzinger to set public hearing for Community Development Block Grant for February 13 at 7 p.m.

**Motion CARRIED**

**Credit Card Policy Resolution:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Goetzinger to approve Resolution #2019-32 as presented which changes the submission of credit card receipts to township clerk from 24 hours to the end of the month.

**Ayes:** Finlay, Nikkel, Swiacki, Goetzinger, Paterek

**Motion CARRIED**

Motion by Swiacki seconded by Finlay to cancel current debit card issued to fire department and issue a credit card in Chief Dan Reynolds name with a limit of \$2,500 through Fifth Third Bank. Debit card can be utilized until receipt of credit card.

**Ayes:** Goetzinger, Finlay, Paterek, Swiacki, Nikkel

**Motion CARRIED**

Motion by Swiacki seconded by Goetzinger to cancel Fifth Third Bank credit card ending in #2348 in the name of John W. Paterek and Armada Fire Department.

**Ayes:** Nikkel, Paterek, Finlay, Goetzinger, Swiacki

**Motion CARRIED**

**Village of Romeo Water & Sewer Agreement Amendments:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Goetzinger to ratify the Township Clerk's and Township Supervisor's execution of the First Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement for Sewage Disposal Service with the Village of Romeo.

**Ayes:** Finlay, Goetzinger, Nikkel, Swiacki      **Nays:** Paterek

**Motion CARRIED**

January 9, 2019 7:00 p.m.

**Bruce Township Water & Sewer Agreement Amendments:** Motion by Goetzinger seconded by Swiacki to authorize signing Amendment No. 1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement for Water Supply Services with Bruce Township to amend the operational date of the Agreement to be December 31, 2019 and increase water capacity to 100,000 per day.

**Ayes:** Paterek, Swiacki, Finlay, Goetzinger, Nikkel

**Motion CARRIED**

**Code Official – Interim replacement and set two person panel for interviews:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Paterek to have Trustee Nikkel and Supervisor Paterek on the two person panel for interviews. **Motion CARRIED**  
Code Official will be on the January 17 agenda for discussion.

**Pro Tech Security Systems – Annual Fire & Security Monitoring:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Finlay to cancel monitoring system altogether and remove cameras.

**Ayes:** Nikkel, Finlay, Swiacki **Nays:** Goetzinger, Paterek

**Motion CARRIED**

**FY18/19 General Fund budget amendment(s):** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Finlay to approve budget amendments as presented:

Line item #101.101.804.000 Bookkeeping move \$ 100 to line item #101.101.835.000 Insurance/bonds

Line item #101.101.804.000 Bookkeeping move \$ 350 to line item #101.756.930.000 Maintenance/park

Line item #101.101.804.000 Bookkeeping move \$ 700 to line item #101.253.861.000 Education/training – Treasurer

Line item #101.101.804.000 Bookkeeping move \$ 500 to line item #101.101.860.000 MTA/Membership/Mileage Govt.

Line item #101.101.804.000 Bookkeeping move \$4,000 to line item #101.210.820.000 Sewer/SAD attorney

Line item #101.101.804.000 Bookkeeping move \$ 200 to line item # 101.253.860.000 Membership/mileage - Treasurer

**Ayes:** Nikkel, Finlay, Goetzinger, Swiacki **Nays:** Paterek

**Motion CARRIED**

**2019 Planning Commission Meeting Dates:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Paterek to approve dates as presented.

**Motion CARRIED**

**Waste Hauler Services – Bid(s):** Only one bid was received from Busy Bee at a cost of \$6,130 per month, annual cost \$73,560.00 for a one year contract as presented.

Motion by Swiacki seconded by Finlay to approve bid as submitted.

**Ayes:** Goetzinger, Finlay, Nikkel, Swiacki, Paterek

**Motion CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chief Reynolds, Alan Hoxie, Chris Bednar, Monica Job, Cris Martin, Steve Nikkel, DJ Kehrig, Jason Berger, Al Patchak.

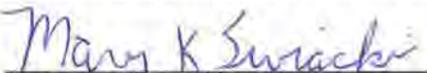
**Pro Tech:** Motion by Swiacki seconded by Finlay to rescind motion.

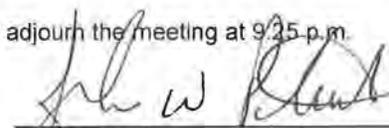
**Ayes:** Goetzinger, Finlay, Swiacki, Nikkel, Paterek

**Motion CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Paterek seconded by Swiacki to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

**Motion CARRIED**

  
Mary K. Swiacki, CMMC  
Armada Township Clerk

  
John Paterek  
Supervisor

Published: 1/16/19

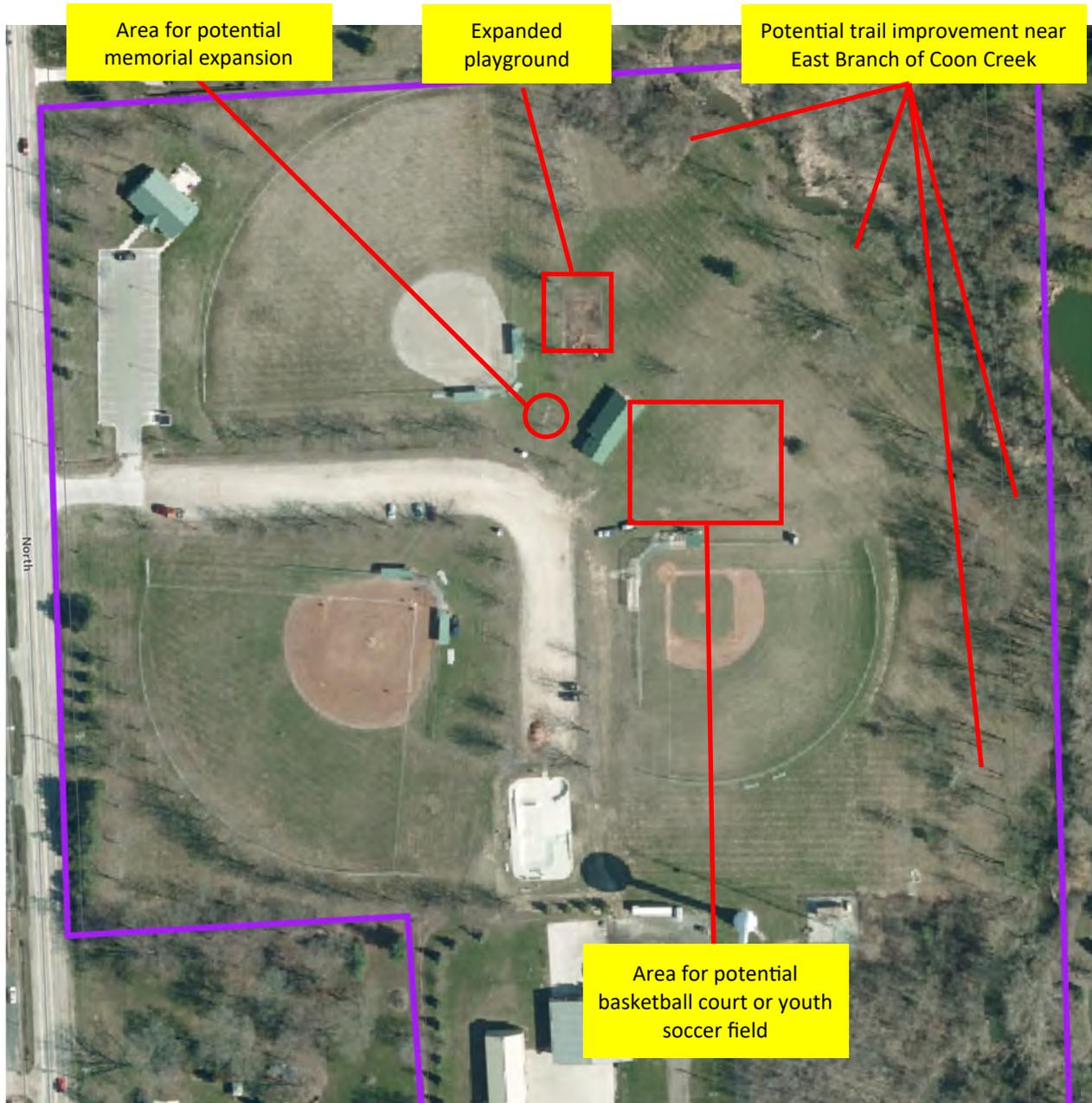
## Appendix 4: Conceptual Park Plans: Undeveloped Armada Ridge Property

The conceptual plan for the undeveloped, township-owned property on Armada Ridge Rd seen below was developed for the 2013 Recreation Plan and shows one possible configuration of the site. This plan identifies the development of a final master plan for this park as an action item for the upcoming five-year period.



## Appendix 4: Conceptual Park Plans: Armada Township Park, North Avenue

The aerial photo below shows the existing Armada Township Park as of late 2018. The park acreage is substantially developed at this point, though there remains room for some additional development, as noted in the labels below.



giffels  
webster

0 100 200  
Feet

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library,  
Macomb County GIS  
Created December 6, 2018

 Armada Township Park

**Armada Township  
Park**  
Armada Township  
Macomb County, Michigan

## Appendix 5: Survey Results

The compiled results of the 2018 Recreation Plan Survey follow. 25 surveys were completed online, and an additional 140 surveys sent with summer tax bills were completed and returned.

Armada Township Rec Plan Survey  
Responses to open-ended questions

### Question 1

#### **How familiar are you with Armada Township Municipal Park?**

- 26 I do not know where this park is located
- 78 I know where this park is located, but I do not go there often
- 42 I know where this park is located, and I go there sometimes (1-3 times a year)
- 19 I know where this park is located, and I go there frequently (4+ times a year)

### Question 2

#### **How do you typically access the Township's park? Circle all that apply.**

- 88 Drive
- 7 Walk
- 7 Bike
- Other
- 63 I do not visit the Township's park

### Question 3

#### **What features and activities do you enjoy at the park? Circle all that apply.**

- 23 Senior Center
- 13 Skate Park
- 21 Picnic Shelter
- 36 Playgrounds
- 55 Baseball Fields
- 5 Other Sports
- 24 Other

#### **Responses to Other (Please Specify)**

- None-11
- I do not visit the Township's park-5
- I wish the Senior would sponsor pickle ball center
- Have no use for a park
- Just paid for it and don't use it. We live on an acreage.
- Great grandchildren
- Community picnic
- BathroomsJ Jason's memorial – beautifulJ
- Events
- Wednesday concerts/Summer Church Service
- Baseball fields when children were young
- Softball field
- Baseball for the kids

#### Question 4

What features would you like to see in the Township's park?

- 42 Pet friendly areas
- 21 More Sports Facilities
- 50 Exercise facilities/equipment
- 37 Other

#### Responses to Other (Please Specify)

None-7  
Pond for swimming or pool  
Swimming pool year round  
Swimming pool-2  
A large playground for kids  
Walking path  
I do not visit the Township's park  
Pickle ball courts & leagues  
A bigger playground area  
More playground and splash park  
I really think the bathrooms need to be redone. I feel like it's a dungeon!!  
(?)  
Splash pad like Shelby Township (Chief Gene Shephard Park)  
More trees permitted & flowers  
More community activities for children and adult  
Concessions  
A dance pavilion/picnic pavilion available for rent  
Walking trail  
Splash park  
More/better playground equipment – 3  
Soccer  
Events  
Pool  
Walking Path

#### Question 5

**If you visit parks outside of the Township to access facilities and activities not available here, what are those facilities and activities?**

Large play structures, walking paths, dog friendly areas  
Walkways  
Walking path  
I fly radio control planes (electric only) and flew at Stony Creek for years before they prohibited it. Just recently reinstated it so having an area designated for RC might be useful though the surrounding trees could prevent much usage.  
Track with distances marked, pull up bars and trails  
Exercise classes  
We often drive to Romeo/Bruce/Stony for a kids playground  
N/A-4  
Horse Trails  
Trails  
Not a park Go'er  
East China: Dog Park / Mt. Clemens: Dog Park  
Graduation party at a park under pavilion  
I play pickle ball in Romeo, Washington & New Baltimore  
Frisbee Golf  
None-2  
Splash pads, farmer markets, pools, water parks and music

Splash pads and larger variety playground  
 Music shows – Shelby, Romeo  
 POOLS! Nature trails and bike/walk trails. Anchor Bay Aquatic Center 2-6 times a week for pool and fitness classes and equipment. Imlay City Pool for kids swimming lessons and open swim. Grosse Pointe Shores pool and sledding hill.  
 Goodells park splash pad and playground  
 Concerts  
 Splash pads  
 Stony Creek Metropark – bike, hike and Romeo High School- pool  
 Recreation facility with physical fitness facility, inside track and basketball court  
 How about a water park for the kids when it is so hot like it has been this year.  
 Pool, exercise room & classes  
 Wood carving at the Senior Center  
 Splash parks and swimming pools  
 Bike trails  
 Pool in Richmond  
 Splash pad like in Shelby Township (Chief Gene Shephard Park)  
 Dog park, kids play structure, splash pad.  
 Playground that is designed for younger children  
 Romeo – Fitness Center full gym \$2.00 per visit or \$95 yearly nonresident.  
 More picnic tables and more benches  
 Exercise/bike trail  
 More parking  
 City of Richmond, Walking Path (for us and our dog)  
 Playground equipment – more variations  
 Dog Parks, walking trails – Village Park for Music  
 Swimming at St. Clair County Park. Stoney Creek for walking and hiking  
 Stoney Creek Metro Park, hiking, nature center and the lake  
 Swimming  
 Native trail/water  
 Village Park  
 Do not

**Question 6**

**How well maintained is the Township Park?**

- 1 Not well maintained
- 31 Somewhat well maintained
- 57 Very well maintained

**Question 7**

**Armada Township owns 28 acres south of Armada Ridge Rd, just west of the village. The Macomb Orchard Trail passes through the lot. In your opinion, what park and recreation facilities should be developed on this land?**

- 50 Trailhead
- 25 sports fields
- 63 sledding hill
- 55 nature trail
- 41 dog park
- 35 I do not support development of a second township park in this location.
- 44 Other

**Question 7 continued:**

**Responses to Other (Please Specify)**

Resident is 92 years old  
Manmade lake/beach  
The idea of an expanded trailhead with additional “features” is appealing. Although as one who bikes the trail the parking lot & April’s little park with rest benches is already very convenient and nice.  
Swimming pool year round  
We have enough sports fields  
If we do a second park the current park should strickly be for baseball fields & skate park – 2<sup>nd</sup> park more for play structures & trails, etc.....feel like we could utilize the current location better instead as my 1<sup>st</sup> choice  
Playground  
Frisbee golf – Public restroom  
Waterpark  
Nothing! Understand!  
Sell the land – Use the money to cut our taxes-2  
Enclosed walking path  
First, before a Park – We need new roads in this village!!  
A pool please  
A swimming place or splash park for kids  
If it’s as good as the bike trail – DO NOTHING  
Restroom facility, picnic shelter, parking, water. The trail is a great asset – maximize it!  
Mixed feelings  
A park for the kids to run and play with a picnic area  
N/A  
Splash pad  
Armada is perfect the way it is, don’t change it!  
Bathrooms at Trailhead  
Restrooms-2  
Anything would be great. We’re on the trail every day.  
Picnic shelter  
Hold property – decide later  
Playground equipment for children  
No dog park  
Township Hall  
Should have never purchased this property; not a good use of tax dollars  
The current park is empty most of the time. We do not need a 2<sup>nd</sup> empty park!  
Picnic pavilion  
Restrooms for bike and nature trails  
Swimming  
Sell it. Never should have bought it to begin with. Waste of money.  
As long as it doesn’t cost us more money  
Playground  
Pool – 2  
Splash pad  
Soccer fields  
Horse trail

**Question 8**

**Do you participate in Township recreation events and activities? If so, which ones?**

No-26  
Sports  
Community picnic  
Walk trail, attend music  
Not now, softball and music in the park  
T-ball  
I don’t participate in many events, but like having the facilities available and use them from time to time.  
I watch kids baseball – my kids used fields when they were younger.  
Township picnic  
T-ball and soccer

ABA

Not now. Not living up there.

At times – Senior Events

No. Nothing in the brochure appeals to us

Children's baseball and softball

Parades – celebrating various holidays, craft shows, graduations and music in the park

Baseball-2

Where do they post events & activities? What do they offer at the Senior Center? Where do they post their activities?

Senior Center Activities, baseball games and picnic areas

N/A-2

Lighted Parade, Fly in Santa, Armageddon, Egg Hunt

Jason Friewald Memorial was great. Watch games with the kids. Music in the park is always wonderful

I participate in a lot. Don't know who sponsors them.

T-ball through Armada Enrichment program

Community picnic

Wednesday Concerts in the park (potluck)

Township would provide classes I was interested in

Unaware of activities

Not often due to the focus on team sports rather than individual recreation activities.

Sometimes

Yes-2

Yes. Any I can make it to.

Baseball, softball and skate park

Enrichment classes

No, just visit

What activities? Didn't know the township sponsored recreational activities

No, I don't know what they are. Getting the internet here is difficult so we are not aware of what is going on except the Armada fair.

### Question 9

**What other types of programming would you like to see offered by the Township? List up to three suggestions below.**

None-6

Music-2

Senior Day

Yoga in the park, organized recreation league (sports).

Free concerts in the park, art fair, food trucks, ski trails and snowshoe trails.

Basketball, softball over 40 league

Single trash pickup

Silver sneakers exercise – could even use township hall room. Bike trail groups. Widows groups. Christian groups. Volunteer groups. History/culture events

Accurate reporting of issues. Open government. Less good ol'boy behavior.

Water park / Splash Pad

History Programs, art

Township should not be involved in recreation planning, schools, non-profits, churches do a great job. Focus on infrastructure instead.

Pool

Not sure-2

Composting for village residents – a place to bring yard waste that can be turned to compost which can then be used by the village or residents.

Internet service – desperately. This is more important to every home owner and should be a priority. It will also help selling homes and the value of real estate.

N/A

Outdoor family movies

Maybe Summer Movie night (all ages). It will Project into something hung up on field fence behind home plate (bring your own chairs and blanket for the outfield. Sell popcorn, candy, drinks and glow sticks – concession is already there.

Maybe a meet and greet of the township staff one time a year in the form of a picnic for the entire community with focus on invites of new home owners in Armada.

Bring back apple fest  
 Book club, fitness, community card games  
 More concerts, fitness activities and cultural speakers  
 Older adult yoga and exercise classes. Also, classes for older adults: Facebook, Word, Excel and Twitter.  
 Art classes  
 1) Tie together the Apple Orchard Trail, Village Park and Township Park for extended walking and biking 2)  
     Maintain principal focus on team sports  
 Concessions  
 Community events – picnic and flea market type once a month.  
 Nature trail/walking trail  
 Golf

**Question 10**

**What is the best way for you to find out about Township parks and programming?**

- 58 Newsletter
- 13 Newspaper
- 23 Published pamphlets
- 27 email
- 33 township website
- 6 text messages
- 41 social media
- 4 In person
- 10 other

**Responses to Other (Please Specify)**

- Do not care
- Don't bother
- Romeo Record
- Newspaper (The Record). Please no social media (facebook)
- The Township has a website....What newspaper?
- N/A
- Need multiple ways as we have to consider people who don't have social media.
- Activity board at park
- None
- NEMC

**Question 11**

**Do you bring children to the park?**

- 50 Yes
- 67 No

**Responses to “if so, what is your relationship to those children (i.e. your children, grandchildren)?”**

- Only for baseball the playground is lacking
- Parent-2
- Grandchildren-15
- Mine-9
- Nieces

**Question 12**

**Why are parks and recreation programming important to you? Circle all that apply.**

- 63 Personal health and wellness
- 48 social opportunities
- 67 connecting with nature and the outdoors
- 56 something to do with the kids
- 21 access to cultural opportunities
- 14 other

**Responses to Other (Please Specify)**

- Good for community
- They're not-2
- N/A-2
- No-2
- Listen to music shows-2
- Township should not be involved in this
- Connecting & using the resources that our tax dollars supports
- Community involvement
- It makes our community family friendly!
- Not important

**Question 13**

**What is your age?**

- 0 18 or under
- 8 19-34
- 3
- 6 35-54
- 9
- 6 55 or over

**Question 14**

**How many people live full time in your household?**

- 22 1
- 64 2
- 24 3
- 15 4
- 5 5
- 8 over five

**Question 15**

**Please share any other thoughts or recommendations you may have for Armada Township's parks and recreation.**

- I do not want my taxes to increase to support recreation needs or desires
- Parking is terrible there when baseball is in season – lot fills up quickly – limited spots especially with skate park there now
- Don't spend no more money on things like the skate arena. Too much money put into that – where a Fire Truck could be fixed! (Which was a shame! Or replaced).
- I question the decision that led to the spending of tremendous amount of tax payers money to benefit a very few skate board enthusiasts

Sell them-2

Cameras at skate park, etc. to enforce loitering issues

If there will be an increase in taxes that already increase annually. I do not want any development. More people are building homes but taxes keep going up.

No need to spend extra money on Park 2. Very little use in Park 2 except during ball games

This is silly, most people have big yards. We don't need to duplicate what is available at the schools. Village residents need parks.

People are really trying to get into "safe" cycling. The trail was horrible! Not safe, not smooth to ride on. Scary by myself

Ice Skating Rink?

The township should maintain passive recreation sites. Leave programming to other organizations better suited to the task. Don't spend tax payer's dollars on programs.

Thank you for your concern and work to provide activities and facilities for members of our community

None

I don't drive I am in a wheelchair. The park is nice for others.

The skate park is great but when the regulars come they overpower the beginners and the language is not appropriate for younger children (need a number posted so non-official can see what's really going on).

1. Car show once a year with picnic 2. Ice carving show with chili cook off in the winter

We would go to this Township Park more if the playground was designed for younger aged children

Keep this town the way it is. Quiet country town, people don't like it don't change it for them been doing just fine forever and have GREAT people.

Sport equipment rentals – badminton, volleyball, sleds, etc.

The property north of the picnic shelter is beautiful.

It would be great to have more musical and fitness activities

Park was used infrequently when our kids were little. Kids have grown so we do not use it anymore. We did enjoy it when we used it.

Parking isn't adequate

It might be useful to post opportunities at Township Parks around town or at Township Hall or other frequently used places.

None. We don't need more taxes.

1) Work with trail commission and Village Parks and Recreation to develop mutually beneficial park activities. 2) don't commit resources to low interest and low participation activities (skate park/Frisbee golf)

Thanks for this survey. Although we didn't have much to say, it gives people who do have a chance to voice their concerns! J

Concessions during games

We have a bike trail, skate park, lots of sports fields. Dog park would be great!

1) I believe a second township park can be forthcoming and profitable connected to the trail, multi-person bike can be rented out 2) Covered picnic areas can be rented for afternoon parties 3) A child's train tracks can be installed to offer rides for a fee. 4) Raised gardens can be built and rented for those not able to have one at home. 5) Food and drinks can be sold as well.

This is a way to generate Township income without raising taxes.

Relating to question #6 – Bathrooms were closed most of the time – even when baseball season had started.

Develop soccer fields and teams so Armada can have teams to participate in games with the new soccer fields in Washington Twp. Also develop an area to get on the trail that has bathrooms. There are no bathrooms in Armada. Only in Richmond. That's a long stretch for bike riders.

It doesn't seem like there's much to do for kids in the Township. A catch and release pond would be fun or disc golf area. Just thought of that at the end of the survey. If we were to go to town and have lunch we can't really walk to the park because the sidewalk doesn't go that far. So that makes it difficult. This town is growing drastically so something more to do in Armada would be great!

A running path like Ray Township has would be nice, it could run the perimeter of the park and down by the creek.

A dog park would be nice but not if my taxes go up!

You need more soccer fields

I didn't even know that the skate park had been built until a few months ago... I remember the fundraising for it, but always wondered why it wasn't built. Then I discovered it while at the park for other reasons.

Just looking for more downtown activities too that bring the community together and also creates interest for others to visit the downtown that don't live here. Stay rural but make the city I interesting and fun.

I think our community is great but would love to see some additional opportunities as our tax base grows.

ARMADA TOWNSHIP  
2018 RECREATION SURVEY

Armada Township is updating its recreation plan. Please complete and return the following survey to help us better understand how best to serve the recreation needs of our residents. Thank you.

This survey can also be taken online at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ArmadaTwp\\_Parks](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ArmadaTwp_Parks)

**SECTION 1: TOWNSHIP PARKS**

**Q1** How familiar are you with Armada Township Municipal Park?

- I do not know where this park is located
- I know where this park is located, but I do not go there often
- I know where this park is located, and I go there sometimes (1-3 times a year)
- I know where this park is located, and I go there frequently (4+ times a year)

**Q2** How do you typically access the Township's park? Circle all that apply.

- Drive
- Walk
- Bike
- Other (please specify)
- I do not visit the Township's park

**Q3** What features and activities do you enjoy at the park? Circle all that apply.

- Senior Center
- Skate park
- Picnic shelter
- Playgrounds
- Baseball fields
- Other sports (such as temporary soccer fields)

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q4** What features would you like to see in the Township's park?

- Pet friendly areas
- More sports facilities
- Exercise facilities/fitness equipment

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q5** If you visit parks outside of the Township to access facilities and activities not available here, what are those facilities and activities?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Q6** How well maintained is the Township Park?

- Not well maintained
- Somewhat well maintained
- Very well maintained

**Q7** Armada Township owns 28 acres south of Armada Ridge Rd, just west of the village. The Macomb Orchard Trail passes through the lot. In your opinion, what park and recreation facilities should be developed on this land?

- Trailhead
- Sports Fields
- Sledding Hill
- Nature Trail
- Dog Park
- I do not support development of a second township park in this location.

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Armada Township  
23121 East Main Street, Armada, Michigan 48005  
586-784-5200 | [www.armadatwp.org](http://www.armadatwp.org)

**SECTION 2: RECREATION PROGRAMMING**

**Q8** Do you participate in Township recreation events and activities? If so, which ones?

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**Q9** What other types of programming would you like to see offered by the Township? List up to three suggestions below.

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**SECTION 3: ABOUT YOU**

**Q10** What is the best way for you to find out about Township parks and programming?

- Newsletter       Newspaper       Published pamphlets       Email  
 Township website       Text messages       Social media, such as Facebook       In person

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q11** Do you bring children to the park?

- Yes       No

If so, what is your relationship to those children (i.e. your children, grandchildren)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Q12** Why are parks and recreation programming important to you? Circle all that apply.

- Personal health and fitness       Social opportunities       Connecting with nature and the outdoors  
 Something to do with the kids       Access to cultural opportunities

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q13** What is your age?

- 18 or under       19-34       35-54       55 or over

**Q14** How many people live full time in your household?

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**Q15** Please share any other thoughts or recommendations you may have for Armada Township’s parks and recreation.

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Armada Township  
23121 East Main Street, Armada, Michigan 48005  
586-784-5200 | [www.armadatwp.org](http://www.armadatwp.org)



January 28, 2019

Macomb County Planning & Economic Development Department  
1 S Main, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Mount Clemens, MI 48043

**SUBJECT:** *Armada Township Recreation Plan*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Township of Armada, we are hereby transmitting a copy of the recently adopted Armada Township Recreation Plan (2019-2023) for your records.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Tangari".

Joe Tangari  
Senior Planner  
Giffels Webster



January 28, 2019

SEMCOG  
1001 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1400  
Detroit, MI 48226

**SUBJECT:** *Armada Township Recreation Plan*

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