

Recreation Facilities and programming:

Golf:

- The warmer than usual winter/spring has allowed us to open Huron Hills golf course much earlier than we normally do. Play has been predictably very busy.
- Sign up has begun for our golf instruction programs. We've had 160 Junior Camp and 115 Adult Instruction sessions registered for within the first 10-days.
- Homeland Solar has finished solar panel installations at both Leslie Park and Huron Hills golf courses. This installation supports the electrification of the club operations. Additionally, one double sided EV car charging station was added at the Huron Hills site and two double EV car chargers were added at the Leslie Park site.

Farmers Market:

- Due to the warmer winter weather and earlier arrival of spring, vendors have both stayed at the market later into the fall/winter and returned to the market earlier than in past years.
- For the second year in a row, we have been awarded a Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA) grant to fund food safety programming as part of our 2024 Cooking Demo series at Wednesday market.
- At the recent MIFMA conference, market staff won a Free Handwashing Station and a Free Rapid Market Assessment in the drawing. The last Rapid Market Assessment was done in 2019 so we are looking forward to this. In addition, with the upcoming market office closure the Handwashing Station will be instrumental to our ability to host our Cooking Demo series.
- We are partnering with Jewish Family Services to host their Refugee Entrepreneurship Program participants at the market. Their growers, food producers, and artisans aim to sell collaboratively at the market this year, in line with our goal to support more immigrant-owned businesses at the market.
- We are currently hiring for our Assistant Manager position and hope to be fully staffed by April.
- The Market Office is slated to close on May 1. We are getting ready to start a community engagement process for visioning about improvements to the full market space.

Buhr Park:

- Buhr Park has been able to keep ice on the ice rink during the warm days this season and has held additional skating opportunities during the school breaks on MLK day and President's day.

Mack:

- Mack has given 130 private lessons this past month which takes us to nearly 900 lessons given at this season so far. Our Octopods swim team has won all of their dual meets and will be attending championships this weekend with the hopes of placing in the top three teams for the second season in a row.

Veterans:

- With the end of high school hockey season, Veteran's Memorial Park has increased general open skating, sticks and pucks and other skating opportunities for the public. On the warmer days that Buhr has been forced to close, we have worked with the groups that were affected to find ice time at Vets.

Senior Center:

- We are finishing up our mall walks this month, and in the process of planning where our spring/summer park walks will be (these start late April, weather dependent).
- We've been invited to participate in a County wide project to provide workshops where seniors will tell their stories about aging solo, and then in May, all of the stories and participants will attend a symposium hosted by the Ann Arbor Public Library. The project is called [Solo Acts: A Theatrical Compilation on Solo Aging](#), by Limelight.
- We transitioned our Wednesday morning workshop series to Wednesday Lunch & Learns, so far, each lunch has been very well attended. The March topics include:
 - Plant-Based Eating (VegMichigan)
 - Meeting Resource Needs (Oasis Senior Advisors)
 - Living with Our Wild Neighbors (HVHS)
 - Senior Living Options (Brookdale Memory Care)
 - Late April, we are looking forward to having Eleva Potter of NAP back to work with us on "The Art and Science of Invasive Species Series" where seniors will learn how to use invasives to make paper, pesto and take a trip out to a park to make an earth loom.

Liveries:

- Installation of the solar panels to replace the old pergola in front of the Gallup livery building has begun. Construction is expected to take 2 weeks and the panels should be fully operational before the liveries open for the year.

GIVE/AAP:

- The [GIVE 2023 season report](#)

Cobblestone Farm, Field Rentals and Park Rentals

- Cobblestone Farm hosted various city meetings in preparation for budget and summer season.
- Fields rentals and park rentals will begin mid-April.

Conservation Ops**NAP:**

- [NAP's 2023 year end report](#)
- NAP held its first community science kickoffs of the season, with 50 volunteers attending Salamander Survey Training and 38 volunteers attending Frog & Toad Survey Training.
- NAP hosted our annual volunteer prescribed burn training, with 42 volunteers attending. Feedback from participants can be found [here](#).
- NAP had its first Environmental Education and Engagement events at the AADL including 'Winter Birds & Watercolors' for K-5 students and their adults (57 participants), and the first event of the Diversity in the Outdoors Series (25 in-person participants and 20 online).
- NAP staff helped to plan and implement the Michigan Prescribed Fire Council's annual Burning Issues Symposium. Nearly 150 fire practitioners from around the region were in attendance. Accolades for our facilitation included:
 - It was a delight to work with you. You're the facilitator with the mostest! You made our presentations and cohesiveness as easy as we could have asked for. Thanks for that.

- Tina Stephens, NAP's Volunteer and Communications Coordinator, was accepted into and began participation in [MSU Extension Great Lakes Leadership Academy's Leadership Advancement Program](#).

Greenbelt:

- City Council approved three Greenbelt participation projects in Webster and Scio Townships, totaling 116 acres.
- Buy-protect-sell continues. The sites passed their septic soil evaluations with the County. Closings expected in April.