

Recreation Facilities and programming:

Liveries:

- The fall season at the liveries brings reduced hours but still offers lots of boating opportunities.
- Gallup Park still offers boat rentals Wednesday-Sunday through October 22nd.
- We are looking forward to the family friendly, Trick or Treat on the river at Gallup Park on Sunday October 15th.

Buhr Park:

- During the off season at Buhr, we've been renting our rink out to different sports groups such as roller derby and Bike polo.

Mack:

- Currently there are 142 individuals learning to swim through the first session of swim lessons.

Veterans:

- Veteran's Memorial opened the Ice Rink on September 17th and started programming on October 1st.
 - o Current programs include Recreational Hockey and Skating Lessons. There are also many opportunities for public skating and for hosting a birthday party or event as well in the meeting room.

Senior Center:

- In November we will be hosting our first ever Friendsgiving event where U-M Theta Tau Fraternity will be providing multiple activity stations, and food will be donated by Olive Garden, Texas Roadhouse, and Bush's Fresh Food Market.
- We will be continuing one of our Out & About excursions to the U-M Natural History Museum on Nov. 16.
- We will be hosting our first Little Tiny Art Gallery Exhibit, featuring Tom Doyle's work of intricate watercolor and ink pieces (the little tiny gallery is outside of the center, feel free to stop by anytime to enjoy!).
- We will also be introducing two new weekly activities, Scrabble, and an Artist's Open Studio where residents can bring their own projects and art equipment to work on in a creative, and supportive environment.

Golf:

- September marks the unofficial end of summer for the golf courses.
- The yearly maintenance practices (aerification, top dressing, fertilization etc) are taking place.
- The courses were still busy, with Huron Hills seeing 3,563 patrons and Leslie Park seeing 4,878 users.

Ann Arbor Farmers Market

- In September we hosted our monthly Food Truck Rally at the market, with 17 food trucks and carts attending. Blue Chops Jazz & Blue Sky Jazz, two groups comprised of UM Jazz Performance students, provided live music. We had a pretty good turnout with a thousand attendees.
- Our last rally of the season will be Wednesday October 18, 5-8pm, and we have 18 trucks and carts signed up plus live music.

- On September 13 we concluded our 2023 Cooking with EdibleWOW magazine cooking demonstration series. The series featured local female chefs preparing seasonal ingredients grown by our farmers. We received a grant from the Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA) to include Food Safety information on the recipe cards we distributed during each demo.
- On September 14 we hosted the 2nd Annual Local Food Festival, presented by the Office of Sustainability and Innovations, in partnership with us and Argus Farm Stop. The event ran 5-8pm and featured tastings of melon and cherry tomatoes grown by our farmers, vendors, food trucks, games, info booths, and live music by local band Ain't Dead Yet.

Conservation Ops

Natural Area Preservation (NAP)

- NAP worked in cooperation with the Kalamazoo Nature Center (KNC) and the Kalamazoo Valley Bird Observatory (KVBO) to install a [Motus Wildlife Tracking Tower](#) at Huron Hills Golf Course (HHGC).
 - o The City's [press release](#) cover more details on this new partnership,
 - o [Michigan Radio](#) has published a piece on this exciting addition to the park system.
- NAP continues to lead oak wilt remediation efforts at Bird Hills Nature Area.
- Staff are currently working on establishing the necessary contracts with vendors to implement the requisite remediation plans, including the removal of 55 red oaks from the infected and potentially-infected area to prevent any further spread of the disease.
- Earlier this year, NAP, Forestry, and the Office of Sustainability and Innovations submitted a joint \$1M grant proposal to the US Forest Service to support urban canopy management across the City – on both public and private property.
 - o Last week, we received word that the City was awarded this funding.
 - o With these funds, NAP will be working to reassess ecological conditions across the park system, as well as develop urban canopy management plans focused on forest health and succession.

Greenbelt:

- The Greenbelt has closed its RFP for its first-ever Buy-Protect-Sell affordable farmland purchasing opportunity. The Greenbelt Advisory Commission is now reviewing the six applications that were received.
- Staff have an exceptionally busy month ahead as we look to submit 4-5 federal grant applications to the USDA NRCS ACEP-ALE program for Greenbelt acquisition funding before the mid-November deadline.