

VERONICA VALLEY WORK

Make improvements to Veronica Valley, creating a passive, four-season recreational facility. Provide every opportunity in allowing nature to reclaim the property while allowing multi-generational visitors to enjoy the natural features on site:

- a. Reapply for a MNRTF grant in April, 2020
- b. Design, fund, and implement a walking pathway circuit in the park
- c. Encourage winter activities, such as cross-county skiing, etc.
- d. Provide universally accessible access to the pond
- e. Promote environmental sustainability through conversion of property back to natural processes once on site (Prairie, Forest, etc.)
- f. Construct a small pavilion for picnicking near the fishing pond
- g. Consider wayfinding (informational kiosk, trail map, wayfinding signs)
- h. Refine O&M (operations & maintenance) schedules in the park
- i. Mitigate invasive species throughout the park, including pond weeds
- j. Design, fund, and implement educational signage and displays

Continue reclamation of old golf course towards an all-native habitat for all wildlife and passive recreation for all citizens, offering multiple experiences:

- a. Apply for a MNRTF or Recreation Passport grant through the Michigan DNR
- b. Develop ADA trails around front fishing ponds, upgrade parking, picnic, and Porta-potty facilities
- c. Create a plan for yearly invasive species mitigation work
- d. Continue tree and shrub planting with consultation/guidance from the Conservation District
- e. Document all collaboration with other groups through Memorandums of Understanding or Agreements

Increase citizen use of the park and encourage participation of citizen groups in park life:

- a. Apply for a MNRTF grant or Recreation Passport grant through the Michigan DNR
- b. Develop a set of “volunteer chores” available annually at the park
- c. Work to develop the volunteer group(s) who will commit to completing those chores
- d. Assist the Lake Leelanau Lake Association in solving the aquatic weed problems in the fishing ponds
- e. Actively encourage local schools to utilize the park for their science/natural history education

Leverage County funds into larger sums for park development through grants:

- a. Complete successful application for MDNR grant
- b. Apply to the Cherryland Rural Electric for an additional grant
- c. Develop a relationship with County Commissioners to obtain Tribal 2% allocation funds
- d. Identify educational possibilities for future development
- e. Establish a relationship with the GTB as consultants on Native American use of native plants

Develop Veronica Valley Park with a focus on natural history education

- a. Identify educational possibilities for future development
- b. Establish a relationship with the GTB as consultants on Native American use of native plants

Expand, develop, and maintain a long-term parks and recreation maintenance program to ensure quality recreational opportunities at County facilities

- a. Develop an annual operations and maintenance program with County staff to adequately address immediate and long-term equipment, budgetary, and personnel needs for existing and proposed facilities
- b. Provide the Parks and Recreation Commission with oversight responsibility to assist staff with creation and management of an operations and maintenance program and to make recommendations for improvements to the County Board of Commissioners
- c. Seek out additional in-kind or sub-contractual services where and when needed to supplement the annual operations and maintenance program and efforts of County staff
- d. Participate in the development of the annual County Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and submit an annual budget to the County Board of Commissioners to fund projected or anticipated recreational needs or proposed improvements