



2026 - 2030

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# COLFAX TOWNSHIP

## PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

## Acknowledgements

A public hearing on the 2026-2030 Parks and Recreation Master Plan was held on December 17, 2025. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by the Colfax Township Board on December 17, 2025.

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Chapter 1

# INTRODUCTION

# INTRODUCTION

Colfax Township has developed its first Parks and Recreation Master Plan (the “Plan”) to guide future decision-making for recreation facility improvements and the development of new opportunities over the next five years. This document will serve as the foundation for recreation initiatives that address the goals and interests of Colfax Township residents.

Before a Parks and Recreation Master Plan is adopted and enacted, it is important to first understand the needs of residents, existing recreational opportunities, demographic characteristics of the area, program initiatives, and projects best suited for the community. This Plan is based on input and suggestions from residents, Township officials, and the Planning Commission, with assistance from Spicer Group. Community input was a key component in shaping the Plan. The voices of the Township residents collectively contributed to developing the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, with the overall goal of enhancing the quality of life for both community members and visitors.

The foundation for the development of the Colfax Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan was based on the following goals:

- Involve the community throughout the process of creating a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Identify and map existing Township-owned property that could be used for future recreational development.
- Build common ground among Colfax Township residents and officials in addressing the Township’s recreational needs and priorities.
- Enable the Township to be eligible for financial assistance based on the Plan.
- Facilitate interagency collaboration in establishing parks and recreation goals, objectives, and actions in partnership with the Township and other local groups.
- Support the implementation of barrier-free access at future recreational sites.

This Plan serves as a guide for all future recreation developments within the Township. It also serves as a strategic document, outlining specific goals for agencies and organizations that fund local recreational and park projects. This Plan was developed in accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) guidelines for community Parks and Recreation Plans. An MDNR-approved, five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan is required for Colfax Township to pursue MDNR-administered grants. This Plan addresses all aspects of recreation within the Township for the five-year period from 2026-2030.



Chapter 2

# COMMUNITY PROFILE

# COMMUNITY PROFILE

## Regional Setting

Colfax Township is centrally located in Huron County, just west of the City of Bad Axe, in the region of Michigan commonly known as the “Thumb.” The Township encompasses 35 square miles and is bordered by Meade Township to the north, Verona Township and the City of Bad Axe to the east, Sheridan Township to the south, and Oliver Township to the west (see Figure 1). The area is primarily rural, characterized by farmland, scattered woodlands, and small residential clusters.

Figure 1 – Regional Location Map



## Demographic Analysis

In this section, background information from the U.S. Census is used to analyze Colfax Township's current demographic trends and conditions. The data presented in this chapter is drawn from the most recent sources, including the 2010 and 2020 decennial censuses, as well as the 2023 American Community Survey (ACS).

The following section analyzes population trends, education, economic data, and housing characteristics within the Township to provide a comprehensive demographic overview.

Understanding population characteristics is important when evaluating parks, recreation facilities, and Township needs. The table below compares key demographic data for Colfax Township, Huron County, and the State of Michigan.

Table 1 – Demographic Comparison

	Colfax Township	Huron County	Michigan
<b>Population</b>			
2010 Census Population	1,987	33,642	9,952,687
2023 ACS Population	1,808	31,258	10,037,261
Percent of the Population 65 and Older	22.8%	26.6%	19.6%
Percent of Population Under 18	21.6%	19.2%	20.7%
Percent of Disabled Population	11.0%	15.8%	14.5%
Median Age	42.4	49.4	40.5
<b>Education</b>			
Percent with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher	15.6%	17.6%	32.7%
<b>Income</b>			
Median Household Income	\$66,429	\$56,963	\$69,183
Per Capita Income	\$35,096	\$33,855	\$38,952
Percent of Population Below the Poverty Level	11.9%	12.2%	13.5%
<b>Housing</b>			
Average Household Size	2.53	2.22	2.40
Median Housing Values	\$141,400	\$141,300	\$236,100
Renter-Occupied Housing as a Percentage of Total Occupied Units	12.1%	17.9%	26.3%

Colfax Township's demographic profile highlights important considerations for future parks and recreation planning. While the Township's population has declined slightly since 2010, it maintains a relatively balanced age distribution compared to Huron County, with fewer older adults and more youth under 18. This suggests a need for both family-oriented recreational opportunities and amenities that support active aging. The Township's lower rate of disability compared to County and State averages also suggests fewer accessibility challenges, though barrier-free access will be a critical component to any new recreational facilities.

Economic and housing characteristics also shape recreational needs. Colfax Township households report higher median incomes than Huron County, which may translate into stronger community support for investment into local facilities. At the same time, lower housing values and a high rate of homeownership indicate a stable community that may prioritize long-term recreational assets such as trails, parks, and community gathering spaces.

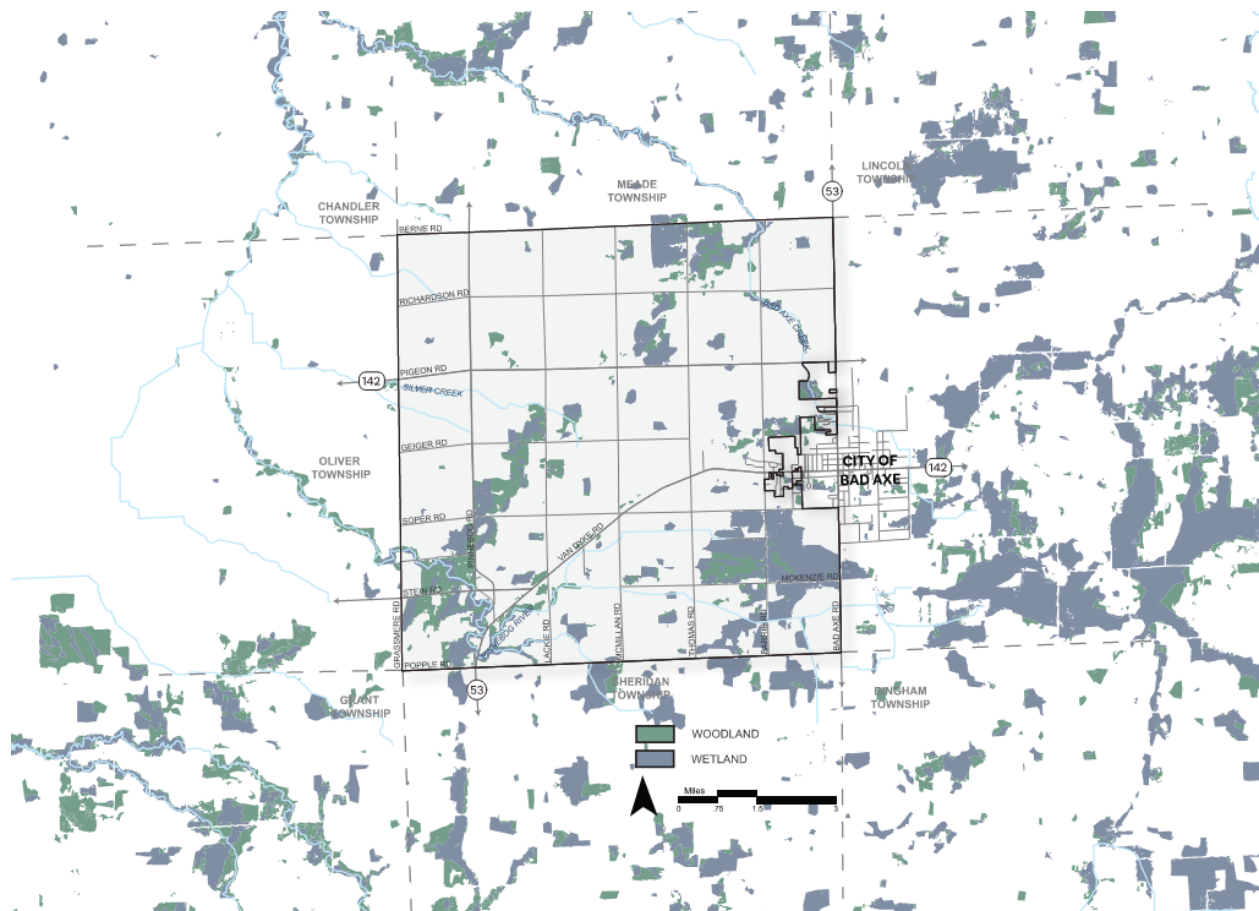
The Township is home to a diverse range of age groups, each with unique recreational needs. Well-planned park facilities can serve as multigenerational spaces that bring these groups together while also reaching across the broader community. Parks provide gathering places, encourage active lifestyles, foster civic engagement, and enhance the overall quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

## Natural Features Inventory

A natural features inventory is an important tool for recreation planning because it highlights existing resources and identifies potential gaps. The natural features map on the following page can serve as a guide for future park acquisitions as well as park and trail development. Natural features include elements such as wetlands, water bodies, and wooded areas. Colfax Township benefits from a variety of these natural amenities, including a river and two creeks.

Wetlands are the most significant natural feature in Colfax Township, with the largest concentration located in the southeast portions and additional areas extending toward the southwest and northeast. Woodlands represent the second most notable natural feature, concentrated primarily in the southwestern corner of the Township, with smaller pickets dispersed throughout, often in connection with wetland areas.

Map 1 – Natural Features



A photograph of a lush green forest. In the foreground, there is a field of tall, vibrant green grass. Behind the grass, several tall, mature trees with thick trunks and dense green foliage stand prominently. The background is filled with more trees, creating a dense canopy. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day, with some shadows cast on the grass.

Chapter 3

# ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

# ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

## Introduction

The Administrative Structure chapter outlines how recreational activities and resources will be governed and administered within Colfax Township. Currently, there are no recreational facilities in the Township. Therefore, at this time, no group has been established to oversee recreational matters. This chapter also describes Township departments and their roles and involvement with recreation.

The Township Board is a five-member body elected by Township voters to serve four-year terms. The Board’s role includes an annual budget with no designated line item for parks and recreation at this time. The Board currently meets on the third Wednesday of each month.

In the future, the Township Board will assist with park projects within the Township. Its goal is to listen to the community’s wishes and develop park facilities that serve Township residents. Future park facilities will be budgeted and maintained by Township staff and volunteers.

Understanding how the Township’s recreational structure and decision-making process will function in the future is crucial.

## Funding and Budget

The Township Board will determine the parks and recreation budget on an annual basis. Since the Township currently does not operate any recreational facilities, there currently is no designated line item for recreation operations. In addition to the Township’s general fund, future recreation improvements may also be supported with grant funding.

Table 2 – Parks and Recreation Budget

	Current Year 2025	Next Year 2026
<b>Operations &amp; Maintenance</b>	-	-
<b>Programming</b>	-	-
<b>Capital Improvements</b>	-	\$330,000
<b>General Fund Balance</b>	\$2,337,085	\$2,412,455

## Grant History

The Township has not been awarded any grants through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

## Additional Relationships

Building strong relationships can be especially important in communities with limited resources. Partnerships not only spark new ideas but can also provide support with funding and project development. The Township may consider fostering connections with volunteers, schools, neighboring jurisdictions, and local organizations.

Currently, Colfax Township does not have any organized volunteer groups. However, as the Township develops a park in the future, there may be opportunities to establish a volunteer group to support park-related projects and community events. Such a group could assist with activities like planting flowers, maintaining landscaping, organizing clean-up days, and helping with other park improvements.

## Community Activities

As parks and recreation opportunities grow in the Township, plans include offering a variety of programs and events. The Township has both the space and community need for recreation. Moving forward, it will focus on expanding resources for residents and establishing groups to support and enhance recreational opportunities.



Chapter 4

# RECREATION INVENTORY

# RECREATION INVENTORY

## Introduction

The following inventory examines how recreation could be implemented in the Township in the future. This chapter addresses ADA accessibility, Township-owned land, future park development, regional recreational facilities, and a recreation needs and opportunity analysis. Its purpose is to help the Township identify areas best suited for recreational development and envision what that development could look like.

## Accessibility

When developing a park system, it is important to ensure that it is safe, accessible, and usable for all individuals, including those with disabilities. To support this goal, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) created an accessibility grading system based on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. This five-point scale helps identify how well parks and facilities meet accessibility standards, ranging from one (none of the facilities or park areas meet accessibility guidelines) to five (the entire park was developed or renovated using the principles of universal design). See Table 3 below for the grading system.

Recognizing the importance of inclusive recreation, the Township is dedicated to creating park facilities and amenities where accessibility guides every stage of design.

Table 3 – DNR Accessibility Grading System for Parks and Recreation Facilities

Accessibility Grade	Definition
1	None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
2	Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
3	Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
4	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.
5	The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design.

## Future Park Plans

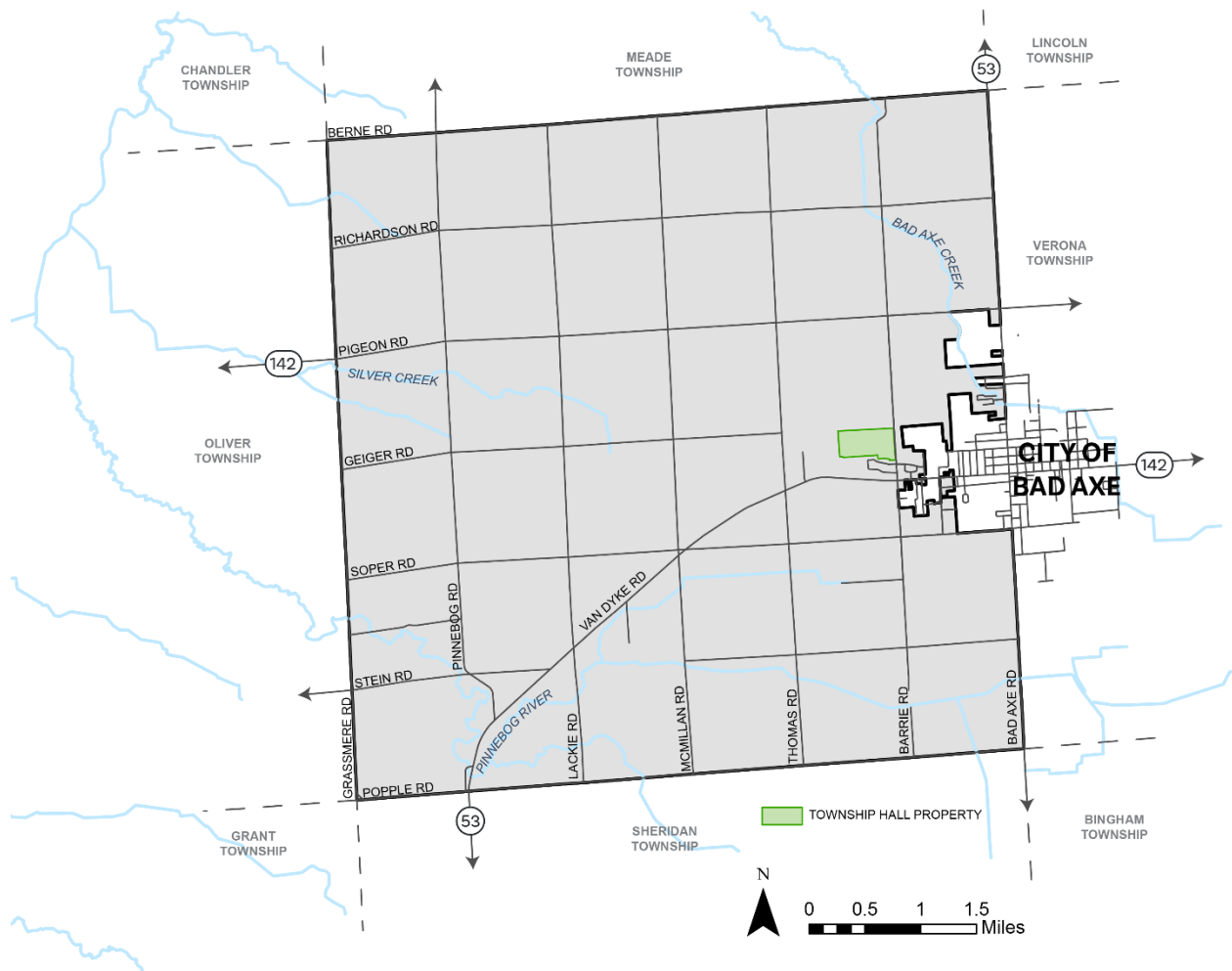
Colfax Township does not currently have any recreational facilities. The Township is in the early stages of exploring how its properties could be developed for recreational use. The property in consideration is shown in the map below.

### Township Hall Property

This property is home to the Township Hall as well as the Colfax Township Cemetery. The Township envisions developing a park on this property behind the Township Hall, which would include development of a walking path.

The property is approximately 80 acres in size, with about 13 acres already developed between the Township Hall and the cemetery. This leaves roughly 67 acres for future cemetery expansion and park development.

Map 2 – Township Park Facilities



# Regional Facilities

## Introduction

Regional recreational facilities, including local, county, and state parks, offer Township residents a wide range of opportunities for outdoor activities and leisure. These resources provide experiences beyond what the Township currently offers, such as open spaces, lakes, camping, recreation centers, and diverse recreational programs. The following section provides a brief inventory of these valuable regional facilities.

## Local Parks

### *City of Bad Axe*

- **City Park** – City Park is centrally located near downtown Bad Axe and features softball and baseball diamonds, basketball hoops, tennis courts, concessions, a walking path, and the Pioneer Log Village. The park also serves as a community gathering place for a variety of events.
- **Wilcox Park** – Wilcox Park is located on the northern edge of the City. It is a passive recreation area featuring a nature trail through the woods, a picnic pavilion, horseshoe courts, a playground, a sand volleyball court, and a multi-purpose building.
- **Bad Axe Skate Rink** – The Bad Axe Skate Rink is an outdoor inline skating facility located southeast of City Park. The site includes underdeveloped open space, a storage shed, and the skating rink itself. The rink is used for inline skating during the warmer months and is converted into an ice rink during the colder months.



*City of Bad Axe – Wilcox Park*

## County Parks

Many of the surrounding counties (Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola) operate county parks and recreational facilities.

*Huron County* – Huron County has seven park areas: Caseville Park, Lighthouse Park, McGraw Park, Oak Beach Park, Sebewaing Park, Stafford Park, and Wagener Park. The parks closest to Colfax Township are Oak Beach Park, approximately 18 miles to the north, and McGraw Park, approximately 20 miles north. The other five Huron County parks are located more than 20 miles from the Township.

*Sanilac County* – Sanilac County has four park areas: Evergreen Park, Forester Park, Lexington Park, and Delaware Park. The park nearest Colfax Township is Evergreen Park, located about 20 miles to the south. The remaining three parks are each more than 30 miles away.

*Tuscola County* – Tuscola County has one park, Vanderbilt County Park, which is situated along the Saginaw Bay shoreline, approximately 40 miles west of Colfax Township.

## State Parks

*Port Crescent State Park* – Port Crescent State Park, located along the Lake Huron shoreline near Port Austin, offers a modern campground, dark sky preserve, and a beach. The park also features the Pinnebog River, trails, and a variety of recreational activities. Additionally, it is located near Turnip Rock.



Source: Pure Michigan. (2025). Port Crescent State Park. [Online Image]. Port Crescent State Park. <https://www.michigan.org/property/port-crescent-state-park>

*Sleeper State Park* – Sleeper State Park is located along the shoreline of Saginaw Bay, northeast of Caseville. The park encompasses 723 acres of forest, wetlands, forested dunes, and a half mile of sandy shoreline.

There are two state game areas within the County: Wild Fowl Bay State Wildlife Area and Rush Lake State Game Area. An additional four state game areas are located within a 45-minute drive of Colfax Township.

- Wild Fowl Bay State Wildlife Area, Fairhaven Township, Huron County
- Rush Lake State Game Area, Kinde, Huron County
- Minden City State Game Area, Palms, Sanilac County
- Sanilac State Game Area, Greenleaf Township, Sanilac County
- Deford State Game Area, Ellington Township, Tuscola County
- Tuscola State Game Area, Caro, Tuscola County

## Non-Motorized Trails

There has been a growing movement among communities to develop regional trail systems that enhance residents' quality of life. These trails promote active lifestyles and healthier habits by providing safe spaces for walking, running, and biking away from vehicle traffic. In addition, trail networks create new opportunities to experience the community and improve mobility by supporting a variety of transportation options.

### The Importance of Trails

While trail development can be challenging, the benefits are clear. Trails build community pride, support local economies, increase property values, and provide safe, healthy recreation opportunities. As Michigan's trail network continues to grow, these pathways remain valuable assets to communities across the state.

Trail use is known to have a positive impact on the local economy. By collaborating with neighboring townships and jurisdictions, the Township can expand non-motorized pathways, support economic growth, promote healthier lifestyles, and provide safer travel options for residents.

In the future, the Township is interested in developing a non-motorized trail connecting the Township Hall property to Bad Axe High School.

## Recreation Needs and Opportunities Analysis

Several techniques are commonly used for this purpose. Perhaps the most widely applied method is comparing existing park acreage and facilities with established recreation planning standards. These standards outline ideal or recommended conditions that communities should aim to achieve, providing a benchmark for measuring progress.

However, it is important to recognize that such standards may not apply uniformly to every community. They must be interpreted in the context of a community's unique physical, social, and economic characteristics.

## Comparison to Standards

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) annually collect data from park and recreation agencies nationwide to provide an overview of their performance. Using this information, the NRPA publishes the NRPA Agency Performance Review, which presents reports, tables, graphs, and other visual data to illustrate what a "typical" agency looks like within a given population size.

The purpose of the performance review is to give agencies a tool for comparing their performance with similar jurisdictions across the United States. This comparison helps identify areas where an agency is performing well, as well as areas where improvements may be needed. The 2025 NRPA Agency Performance Review includes data from approximately 1,000 parks and recreation agencies across the country.

Because Colfax Township currently has no park or recreation facilities, it falls below the median in every category measured by the NRPA Agency Performance Review. This indicates that the Township is lacking in all categories included in the report.

While the metrics in the NRPA Agency Performance Review are useful, it is important to recognize that there is no one-size-fits-all solution for maintaining and improving a jurisdiction's parks and recreation system. The 2025 NRPA Agency Performance Review does not prescribe specific standards for agencies to achieve. Rather, it serves as a guideline informed by evidence from similarly sized jurisdictions.

For true success, each jurisdiction should tailor its offerings to the wants and needs of its residents, taking into account unique community characteristics such as age, interests, backgrounds, and economic conditions.

A photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there is a field of wildflowers, including yellow and white daisies, and tall green grasses. A wooden utility pole stands in the middle ground, with power lines extending across the sky. To the right, a dense cornfield is visible. In the background, a paved road runs horizontally, and further back, there are some trees and a few buildings under a clear blue sky.

Chapter 5

# COMMUNITY INPUT

# COMMUNITY INPUT

## Overview

Colfax Township believes that the thoughts and opinions of its residents should guide recreational decisions and future capital improvement projects. Community input not only helps leaders understand what residents want and need, but also shapes the goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the Township.

To ensure residents had a chance to be heard, the Township provided two opportunities for input. These included an online community survey and a 30-day public review period of the draft plan. These opportunities gave residents a direct role in shaping the future of recreation in Colfax Township.

The Plan was available for public comment during the required 30-day public review period held between November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, to December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and concluding with a public hearing on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and adopted by the Township Board on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## Community Input Survey

Colfax Township created a community-wide survey for both the Parks and Recreation Plan and the Master Plan. In October of 2025, an online survey was launched to gather input. The survey included 16 questions on Township conditions, potential park facilities, and respondent demographics. In total, the community-wide survey received 121 responses.

The survey was assigned the domain [www.colfaxtownshipsurvey.com](http://www.colfaxtownshipsurvey.com) and could also be accessed by scanning the QR code displayed on flyers placed throughout the community. Key findings from the survey are summarized on the following pages.

## About the Respondents

- Of the 110 respondents, 77% are Colfax Township residents, 11% live in the City of Bad Axe and 4% live in Verona Township.
- Every age cohort participated in the survey. The responses below are listed highest to lowest percentage.
  - Age 60-69: 28.6%
  - Age 50-59: 18.5%
  - Age 70-79: 17.6%
  - Age 40-49: 16.0%
  - Age 30-39: 12.6%
  - Age 18-29: 5.9%
  - Age 80+: 0.8%

## Survey Highlights

Understanding why residents live in the Township is important when determining what kind of improvements to make. The survey asked respondents why they live in the Township, with the top five answers listed below.

- Born and raised here: 41.5%
- Close to family and friends: 15.3%
- Like the community: 7.6%
- Retired here: 5.9%
- Job availability: 5.1%

Colfax Township currently does not offer recreational opportunities for residents. A key purpose of the survey was to identify which recreational facilities in surrounding areas residents are using. This information will help the Township understand what residents value and what amenities may be lacking locally as they consider developing a park, trail, or other recreational facilities. Below indicates which parks Township residents use.

- City of Bad Axe Parks: 39.4%
- Huron County Parks: 33.0%
- Regional Trails (water trails or non-motorized): 12.8%

Within those parks, the top ten facilities used by residents are listed below.

- Nature trails
- Public and private beaches
- School facilities
- Fishing
- Playgrounds
- Ballfields
- Sports fields
- Splash pads
- Picnic shelters
- Pickleball courts

The Township would like to create recreational opportunities for its residents. To help determine what types of facilities and features residents are interested in, the survey asked participants what amenities they would like to see in the Township.

- Trails/Pathways: 78.7%
- Playgrounds: 29.6%
- Other – Write In: 25.9%
- Athletic Fields: 16.7%
- Athletic Courts: 12.0%

### *Other – Write In*

- *Pool*
- *Bike Lanes*
- *Picnic Areas*
- *Pavilion*
- *Snowmobile/ATV Trails*

The final question in the survey asked respondents how important universal design features in future parks in Colfax Township are. Universal design ensures that facilities are accessible and usable by people of all ages and abilities. The feedback collected will help the Township prioritize inclusive features as park planning continues to move forward. The results are listed below.

- Very important: 49.1%
- Somewhat important: 35.3%
- Not very important: 11.2%
- Not important at all: 4.3%



Chapter 6

# GOALS & OBJECTIVES

# COLFAX TOWNSHIP GOALS

## Introduction

Setting clear and achievable goals and objectives is a key step in the parks and recreation planning process. The Planning Commission and Township Board share a vision of offering high-quality recreation opportunities that serve the entire community.

These goals and objectives are shaped by Colfax Township’s demographic trends, its physical and environmental characteristics, and input from residents. Together these factors guide the Township toward building a recreation system that reflects community needs and enhances quality of life.

## Goals and Objectives

**Goal 1: Work with community partners and neighboring jurisdictions to help expand parks and recreation opportunities in Colfax Township.**

### *Objectives*

1. Collaborate with the City of Bad Axe on recreational developments.
2. Partner with federal, state, local, nonprofit, and neighboring recreation providers and agencies to share ideas, coordinate efforts, and expand opportunities for complementary programs and new recreational facilities within Huron County.
3. Apply for grants and pursue donations, endowments, and sponsorships to support the maintenance and development of facilities that align with the vision of Colfax Township.
4. Maintain a relationship with the DNR.
5. Collaborate with DTE to explore partnership and funding opportunities for the development of a walking path near their adjacent DTE Renewable Energy Center.

**Goal 2: Acquire, retain, and develop appropriate property to expand public recreational opportunities.**

### *Objectives*

1. Develop passive recreation opportunities on the property located behind the Township Hall.
2. Host Township-sponsored community events, including seasonal celebrations and gatherings.
3. Develop a concept plan for a local park on the property behind the Township Hall.
4. Preserve and protect open spaces and significant natural features within Colfax Township.

5. Identify land for potential future park use and prioritize its preservation for recreational use and community benefit.
6. Acquire property as it becomes available, prioritizing sites that support recreation, open space preservation, and future community needs.

### Goal 3: Provide recreational facilities that are functional for a variety of ages.

#### *Objectives*

1. Provide outdoor recreation experiences for people of all ages and abilities.
2. Develop new recreational opportunities that can be used by those of all abilities.
3. Offer a balanced mix of active and passive recreation opportunities to meet diverse community interests.

### Goal 4: Identify and encourage accessibility in the development of future Colfax Township parks by incorporating Universal Design into all facilities and amenities.

#### *Objectives*

1. New recreational facilities should be designed to exceed minimum accessibility requirements, ensuring they are welcoming and usable by people of all abilities from the start.
2. Incorporate barrier-free elements in all future park improvements.
3. Design programs and activities that can be enjoyed by individuals with varying abilities, ensuring equitable participation.

## Action Plan

With goals and objectives established, Colfax Township has developed a five-year Action Plan to guide the implementation of specific projects. The Action Plan highlights initiatives aimed at enhancing recreational opportunities in the Township. Each action item corresponds to a goal or objective from the previous section.

The capital improvements listed in Table 4 serve as a guide for decision-makers and help the Township pursue grant funding for these projects. This list is flexible and not all-inclusive, reflecting feedback from Township staff and the community survey. The sequence and timing of projects may change based on future conditions, particularly the availability of funding.

Table 4 – Colfax Township Action Plan

Action Item	Related to Goal/Objective
Develop a park on the Township Hall property.	1, 3, 4
Develop a walking trail on the Township Hall property with interpretive signage.	1, 3, 4
Collaborate with the DNR for park development.	1
Collaborate with the City of Bad Axe on future recreation projects, such as a walking path leading to the Bad Axe High School.	1
Explore other Township lands that could be used for park development.	2
Develop a concept plan for a local park on the property behind the Township Hall.	2
Construct a pavilion or gathering space near the pond behind the Township Hall.	2, 3

## Financing Potential Improvements

Potential funding sources for recreation, non-motorized transportation, and environmental restoration projects change frequently. Staying informed about available programs, their requirements, and deadlines require ongoing monitoring. Jurisdictions must carefully target funding agencies and programs to ensure they meet the specific criteria. A list of potential funding resources is provided on the following pages.

### Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase of land or specific rights in land for recreation or protection of land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty, and the appropriate development of land for public outdoor recreation use. The goals of the program include the following:

1. To protect Michigan’s natural resources, and provide for their access, public use, and enjoyment.
2. To provide public access to Michigan’s water bodies, particularly the Great Lakes, and to facilitate their recreational use.
3. To meet regional, county, and community needs for outdoor recreation opportunities.
4. To improve the opportunity for outdoor recreation in Michigan’s urban areas.
5. To stimulate Michigan’s economy through recreation-related tourism and community revitalization.

Any unit of government may submit a land acquisition or development proposal for this grant. All proposals for grants must include a local match of at least 25% of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum funding request for acquisition grants. Development grants must have a minimum funding request of \$15,000 and the maximum amount is \$400,000. Applications are due annually on April 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

## Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service which distributes funds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the fund in recent years has been on community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields, and walking paths. Minimum grant requests are \$30,000 (\$60,000 total project cost) and maximum grant requests are \$500,000 (\$1,000,000 total project cost). There is no minimum or maximum on land acquisition grants. The match percentage must be 50% of the total project cost. Applications are due annually on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Michigan Recreation Passport Grant (RPG)

Recreation Passport grants provide funding to local jurisdictions for the development of public recreation facilities, including new facilities and renovations of old facilities. These grants have an emphasis on renovations of existing facilities that have outlived their useful life. The minimum grant request is \$7,500 and the maximum grant request is \$150,000. This grant is a reimbursement program, which means local units need to have funds available, then the percentage of the grant agreement will be reimbursed later on. Applications are due annually on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Michigan Department of Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

TAP is a competitive grant program that funds projects such as bike paths, pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, and preservation of historic transportation facilities. This program uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for these types of activities. Approximately \$29 million is available annually. TAP applications may be submitted online at any time throughout the year.

## Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS)

The Safe Routes to School Program is an international movement and a federal program to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. In Michigan, the program is supported by the Michigan Fitness Foundation. With the passage of the federal transportation legislation in 2005, Michigan's SRTS program made schools eligible for transportation enhancement funds, providing infrastructure improvements and education campaigns. The program offers two grant options, a major grant and a mini grant. Mini grants

are a great way for a community to get into the Safe Routes to School process and build momentum in their communities. The mini grant allows a community to receive up to \$15,000 per school for non-infrastructure projects and programming that educates students on safe walking and biking to school and supports active transportation. The major grant requires a more extensive planning process before applying and allows communities to receive up to \$300,000 per school in infrastructure funding.

### DTE Energy Foundation Tree Planting Grants

The DTE Energy Foundation partnership grant program is a grant available for tree-planting projects. The program aids communities within the DTE Energy service area with projects that help reduce the effects of climate change by planting trees along community streets and public spaces. Communities may request grants up to \$4,000.

### T-Mobile Hometown Grants

T-Mobile Hometown grants are awarded for community projects that foster local connections such as technology upgrades, outdoor spaces, the arts, and community centers. Any communities with a population of less than 50,000 are eligible to apply for this grant. T-Mobile will award up to \$50,000 for projects that are fully prepared and ready to begin work with funding in place.



Chapter 7

# PLANNING PROCESS

# PLANNING PROCESS

## Introduction

In a continuing effort to provide quality recreational opportunities for its residents, Colfax Township has developed its first Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This Plan will guide the development of community parks and recreational facilities over the next five years. It also establishes the Township’s eligibility for grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, helping the community achieve its recreational goals.

Colfax Township contracted Spicer Group of Saginaw, Michigan, to assist in completing the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The consultant met with the Township representatives’ multiple times throughout the development of the Plan.

During the development of the Plan, two opportunities for input, participation, and review were provided:

- Online community input survey that was available from October 3, 2025, to November 7, 2025.
- 30-day review period and a public hearing was held on December 17, 2025.

Based on existing information and public input, the Township developed goals and objectives for parks and recreation for the next five years. It then created an action plan to achieve these goals and objectives.

## Review and Adoption

Spicer Group completed a draft of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which was made available for review at the Township Hall and on the Township’s website. The review period, from November 12, 2025, to December 12, 2025, was publicized in the local newspaper. The final opportunity for community input occurred at a publicly advertised hearing held before the Plan’s adoption at the Board meeting on December 17, 2025. Following the public hearing, the Board passed a motion to adopt the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. On December 17, 2025, the 2026-2030 Parks and Recreation Plan was officially adopted by the Township Board.

Copies of the Plan were sent to the Eastern Michigan Council of Governments and Huron County. The Plan was uploaded to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for approval in January 2026. Copies of the public notices, hearing minutes, and the adoption resolution are included in Appendix B.



# APPENDIX

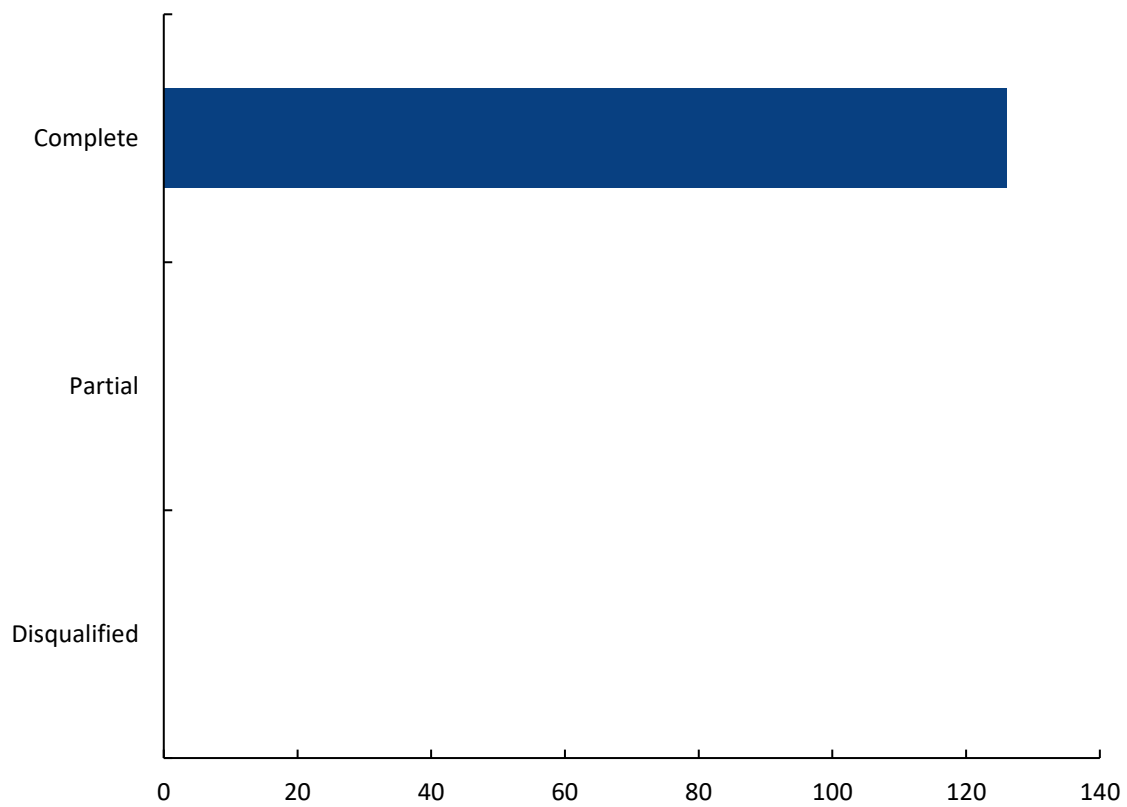
# APPENDIX A

## Community Input Results

# Report for 2025 Colfax Township Survey

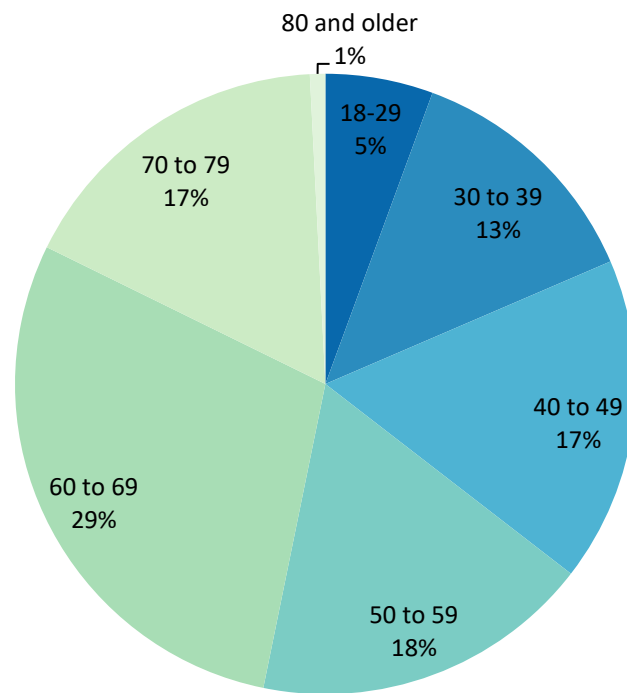
2025 Colfax Township Survey

## Response Statistics



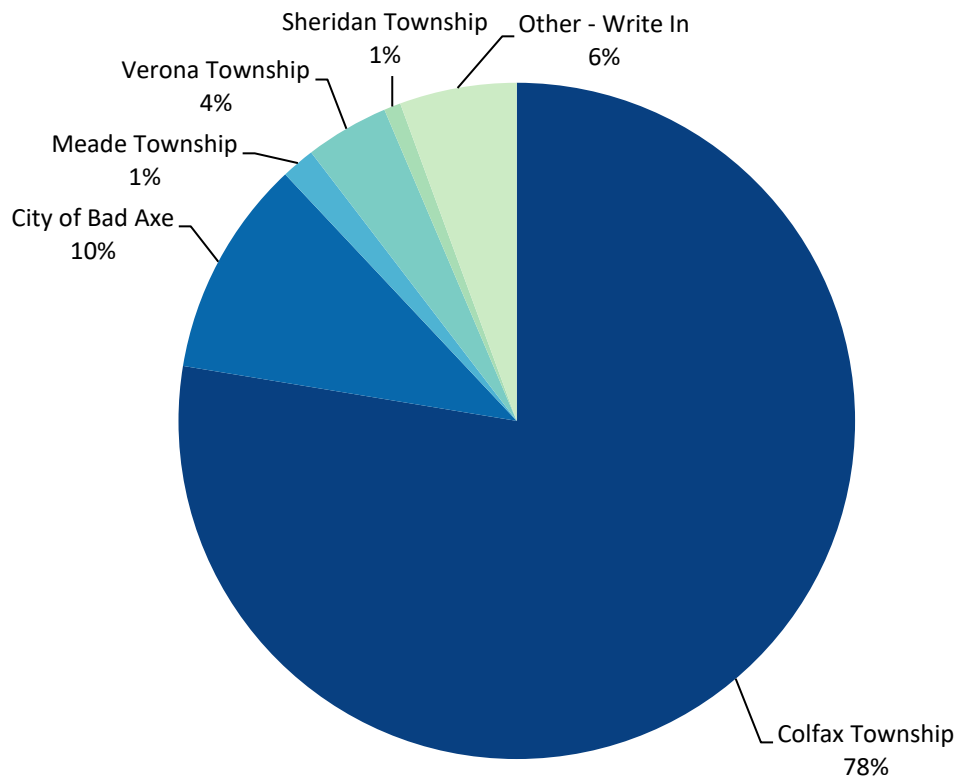
	Count	Percent
Complete	126	100
Partial	0	0
Disqualified	0	0
Totals	126	

## 1.What is your age range?



Value	Percent	Count
18-29	5.6%	7
30 to 39	12.9%	16
40 to 49	16.9%	21
50 to 59	17.7%	22
60 to 69	29.0%	36
70 to 79	16.9%	21
80 and older	0.8%	1
	Totals	124

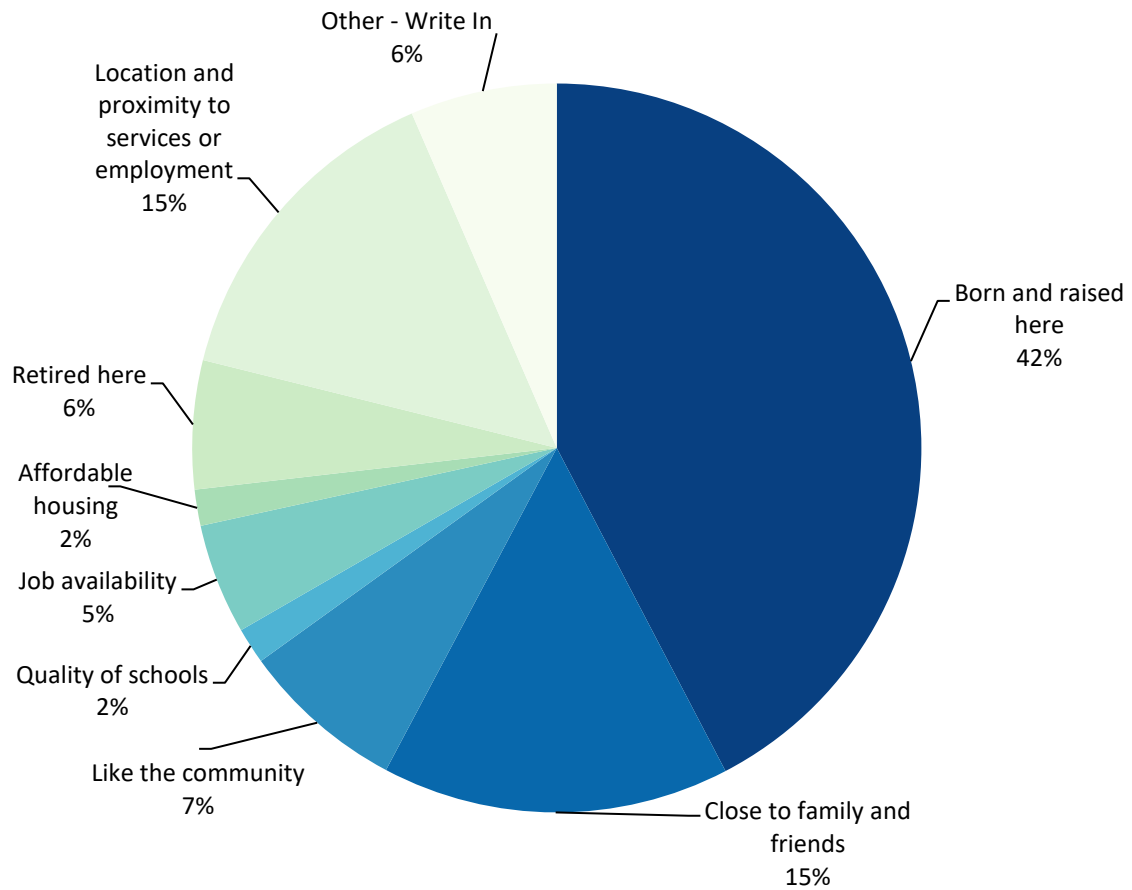
## 2. Where do you live?



Value	Percent	Count
Colfax Township	77.6%	97
City of Bad Axe	10.4%	13
Meade Township	1.6%	2
Verona Township	4.0%	5
Sheridan Township	0.8%	1
Other - Write In	5.6%	7
	Totals	125

Other - Write In	Count
Bingham Twp	1
Colfax	1
Harbor Beach	1
Lakeport	1
Lincoln Township	1
Port Austin Township	1
Ubly	1
Totals	7

### 3. Why do you live in Colfax Township?



Value	Percent	Count
Born and raised here	42.3%	52
Close to family and friends	15.4%	19
Like the community	7.3%	9
Quality of schools	1.6%	2
Job availability	4.9%	6
Affordable housing	1.6%	2
Retired here	5.7%	7

Location and proximity to services or employment	14.6%	18
Other - Write In	6.5%	8
	Totals	123

Other - Write In	Count
Don't live in Colfax	1
Dont Live in Colfax	1
Family farm	1
Got married moved here to raise a family since my husband was born here.	1
I love the rural-ness of the area... grew up here, I love the slow quiet pace here.	1
Married a farmer born and raised in Colfax.	1
Relocated to spouse's house	1
Work in Bad Axe	1
Totals	8

**4. In the following categories, how do you feel Colfax Township has changed in the past five years?**

	Better		Same		Worse		Responses
	Count	Row %	Count	Row %	Count	Row %	Count
Road Conditions	34	27.2%	67	53.6%	24	19.2%	125
Traffic	9	7.2%	70	56.0%	46	36.8%	125
Natural Environment (e.g., lakes, rivers, forests, open space)	7	5.6%	81	65.3%	36	29.0%	124
Blight	17	13.6%	77	61.6%	31	24.8%	125
Overall Township Services	10	8.0%	99	79.2%	16	12.8%	125
Trash Pick Up & Recycling	5	4.1%	89	72.4%	29	23.6%	123
Quality of Life	14	11.2%	89	71.2%	22	17.6%	125
Emergency Services	25	20.0%	89	71.2%	11	8.8%	125

Zoning and Enforcement Regulations	9	7.2%	96	76.8%	20	16.0%	125
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5.If you selected "worse" on the previous question, please explain why.

ResponseID	Response
33	Na
34	Solar panels.
38	Driving to and from work on paved side roads, I see abandoned cars parked in the right-of-way, and many dead animals on the side if the road.
40	I don't like the wind & solar & sand mining & cow farms everywhere. Our natural resources are being destroyed, rapid, & polluted for money.
41	The main roads are great and are always fixed, side roads are crap and never get touched. The trashy houses that are run down and not maintained are taking over. No places to rent and the ones for rent are double what a mortgage costs. The people have no say in anything. Give us a Marijuana dispensary and take the revenue from the taxes and fix our community up!!
51	Called and no response
57	—
59	Doesn't seem to seek the input of all community members. Appears that those serving on the board are accomplishing their own agendas rather than what the majority wants.

63	We have commissioners that are greedy, our judges are awful, our townships are run by idiots and no one has respect for the farmers that built this area.
64	People don't respect others or their property. People think they deserve or don't have to be responsible to maintain their property or themselves.
73	Need trash pick up for residents
74	We need recycling drop off or pick up
75	I have noticed that road conditions, are awful on dirt roads living down from big farmers and county blames the township because of money. We need more lights at certain intersections as we have many casualties. Quality of life, since the turbines came to the area I have noticed our cell phones have issues, unable to call out during an emergency (yes early this summer there was an issue ask Huron 911). The now solar panels that are on Pinnebog rd. Very concerned about what this will do to everyone's health. The environmental type cancer due to leaking or what if there is a fire how is this contained will the community be affected in the long term....so many unanswered questions.
77	Planning Commission changed the solar ordinance making excessive setbacks, leaving large areas of land unusable by solar companies. Finding a farmer with small enough

	equipment to work the area is going to be challenging for the landowners.
84	To many wind turbines and now the incoming commercial solar/battery storage practically in my back yard. Also, road travel has gotten worse, not necessarily because of the township, but because of just how people drive impatiently.
92	Heavily trafficked road (Grassmere) is unpaved & only getting busier. An absurd amount of dust/dirt covers everything, rocks from the road are regularly flung from tractors, trucks, etc.
97	Need more Retail and industrial
99	N/A
101	Allowing too many windmills and other projects taking up farm land.
102	Didn't chose worse
105	The solar panel program that's starting next year will scare this township for ever.
107	1. Traffic is terrible trying to get out at hatchet drive and 53; especially during school drop off and pick up hours. 2. Elected officials need to have office hours. An exception to this is the twp treasurer, she is readily available.
109	I have seen no changes

111	Tractors and DUST, need more cops for all the city ITS during summer time
113	Did not select worse!
115	Too many regulations and restrictions on zoning and difficult to get ahold of anyone
116	We need to quit rezoning for these junk green energy program, such as solar and windmills
119	Road erosion and road conditions on gravel roads that are HIGHLY traveled by large dairy herd farmers are highly impacted.
128	Stopped taking care of pond/walking trail as much Barrie road used more than ever Roads declining
129	Can't pay for recycling
130	Solar battery storage
131	Large dairy farms Safety of Roads, quality of roads, water levels, air quality
137	.
138	The process of getting blight cleaned up is long and seems never ending.
139	I'm not aware of trash pick up or recycling services. It would be nice if there was recycling services available.

140	Na
143	No transparency of approvals regarding solar, wind and BESS. Very disappointing for residents who care about their communities and the environment. Greed has taken over common sense. We should have a say before these projects are approved by those with conflicts of interests. Time for a board change at the township level as well as the county level.
150	Traffic and accidents have increased in my opinion

6.The Township recently received funding through the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's Renewables Ready Communities Award due to the solar and battery energy storage systems developments. How would you like to see these funds used throughout the Township?

ResponseID	Response
28	I would like to see Rapson Lane West continued west to Barrie Road, so there is an alternate route in and out of The City of Bad Axe. Also, I could see a short road being built from Rapson Lane north to Walmart as very beneficial and safer for the community. There is not stop light when entering or exiting Walmart, which at times can be very dangerous. This short road will allow for an alternate exit and entrance to Walmart with the option of going out to a stop light.
30	Put in a park, walking path, or sidewalks/bike ally on busy township roads
31	Walking trail
33	Sidewalk to school on Barrie road
35	Endow the funds to create long term administrative income stream
37	Pave Stein Rd
38	I would like to see fund spent on dead animal removal and better enforcement of code violations on unkept properties.

39	Buy some land for a nice walking path or bike path or coordinate with city on such.
40	Give the money back and keep those toxic solar developments off our farmland!
41	Fix up Wilcox park. A community pool would be amazing! Look at Cass City/Caro they are making their communities grow and look so much nicer.
42	Improve lighting around the townhall area. Development of walking paths along Barry rd. (Townhall wooded area). Tie them into school sidewalks. Update some street sings (speed limit and stop signs.) What about a couple scholarships for kids that live in Colfax, township every year? They must anattend a school in Huron County to be eligible. This could help bring kids back or keep them here.
44	Road improvements, including redesigned stop signs. Design the sign larger and use solar so the signs are lite and blinking. The rural stop signs need to be addressed.
46	Where's the food going to go from when all that crop land is destroyed?
49	Update the city parks for kids and make them safer.
50	Roads Walking path Trash pickup but too expensive

52	Wisely
53	<p>SPEND SOME OF IT ON A RECYCLING PROGRAM. OR GET US INVOLVED IN THE ONE FROM OUR LOCAL WASTE PICK UP PROVIDER, STOP PUTING IT IN CD's in the bank. And help get the Fire dept a new pumper/tanker with it!</p>
54	<p>Fix the whole Soper Rd, tractor traffic, Semi's, speeders and dirty air from constant traffic. I can not enjoy being outside for myself, nor can my grandkids get to enjoy being outside. I never had allergies until I moved to our dirt road. I have to make sure the wind blows from the south so I can go outside. Please take care of Soper Rd, let's not forget all the functions at the fairgrounds that a majority of vehicles travel on Soper Rd all in a hurry. If you can't pave then lay something like Thomas Rd has...no dust. Maybe the Dutch farm down the west end should cough up the money to fix the roads that they are screwing up.</p>
55	<p>I don't care to have that battery storage next to my house. Put it next to the persons house that wants it. Also why do some people get \$\$\$ and other people receive nothing when it is next to their house?</p>
56	Road improvements

57	Local trash pickup and a walking path. Better paved roads. Develop a park for families to enjoy.
58	Improved roads, community center with activities that can be utilized in the winter especially.
59	These funds will be needed to protect our environment and health after the inevitable decline of both will occur. They should be used to foster new programs to focus on stewardship on our land and the residents living nearby.
60	A bike trail or walking trail would be nice. Something to encourage people to exercise.
61	Pave some roads. Pretty bad when other townships offer to help pay to pave roads and still don't do it, Pretty sad
62	Recreation
63	Keep solar out of the fields and in the parking lots and rooftops
64	Walking and biking trails... lit if possible. The one near the Bad Axe park has no lights after dark or early morning. I walk in the dark due to work demands.
68	Fund trash and blight services. Maybe educational alternatives. Definitely funding for new housing.

70	Recycling-collection area
73	Trash pick up Township park Part time office staff at hall
74	1. Bike path/walking paths. We have none. 2. Recycling drop off
75	Take care of the dirt roads, more signals, signage at intersections. But I would prefer not to even of had this fund due to solar being here.
76	Not with solar and battery energy storage systems. Our county is already ruined because of the other eyesores (windmills) we don't need these pollutants here either. Go put it in Detroit/Flint. Dont ruin our county more like they did to Alpena.
77	Pave more roads. Recycling services ( a drop off area at the township hall). Pave more roads.
78	An outdoor venue for summer concerts.
79	More brining 3-4 times a year. Heavy traffic = lots of dust.
80	More dust control
81	Roads would benefit everybody.
82	Community pool
83	Pave more roads. More brine per year

84	<p>Make the funds available to residents for residential solar uses. I am not against renewable/alternative energy. But I am against commercial production of energy, where we have to look at it but do not get to really use the benefits of it. If residential solar funding was available to local homeowners to install solar for their own use, and the township backed that, you would see an influx of people coming to the area to be able to reap those benefits. More people, more tax payers.</p>
85	<p>Lower cost of ambulance services for residents! Offer trash removal at no cost to residents. Put in traffic light by school system for better traffic control. Public lights need bulbs replaced. Open township hall for residents to use for private family gatherings. There still was no need for a sidewalk on Jane Street. No one uses the sidewalk. Large percentage walk on the street. I would like to see how Collon Dr Residents would like there yard tore up for a sidewalk no one uses.</p>
86	<p>Make trails. Distracted drivers makes walking/biking unsafe. Also no where to ride atvs</p>
87	<p>I am unsure on what this funding is able to cover, but I would like to see our elderly being taken care of. Whether that's someone checking in on them, giving them a listening ear, helping them find treatment/resource options, ride assistance or meals. Single parents, such as myself, are</p>

	struggling with rising prices. Finding affordable housing is an almost impossible task.
89	Free trash pick up
90	Training in solar energy. Plus bring more solar energy to our area
92	Paved roads
94	Pave Lackie and geiger roads
97	Free trash pickup... Develop a huge park close to town, huge sport complex, A Stage,
98	Make downtown usable, improved parking and help build the hockey arena.
99	I would like to see ditches cleaned out. Lived in the same house over 30yrs and they have never been done.
100	Remove the energy storage systems.
101	Returned and the land restored to farming.
102	Road improvements/upgrades in some areas Walking/bicycle paths
104	Not through green energy
105	Return to money and turn the solar program off
106	I would like to see it, put back into our township by either making better recreational activity, such

	as walking and biking paths or considering giving all the township residence free garbage service
107	Do not use any farmland, instead those funds should help individual home owners who may want to place solar panels on their homes. No utility company should benefit from these funds, they already raise our rates enough.
108	Lower Property Taxes!
109	More paved secondary roads. Less gravel . Sick of dust and dirt with trucks going by all day long.
110	Energy grants for local people to fix up homes and save energy
111	HATE THE HOLE IDEA OF THEM.. ugly boxes in a field dumb idea .. give part of the profit of it to the people that live near them and have to look at them and see them every today
113	Curbside recycling! Carcass removal.
114	Roads , bridges, Schools
115	To train our firefighters in colfax and surrounding communities incase of emergency situations. Securing our ground water sources remain clean from any chemical contamination from the batteries. Towards a shade source at the splash pad in Bad Axe.

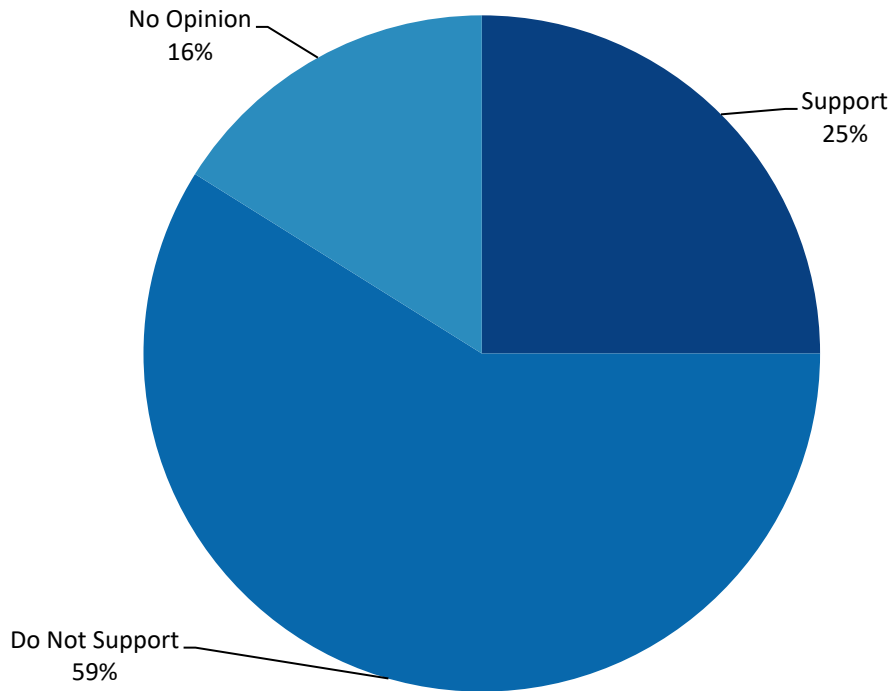
116	I would like to see you give the funds back to the people who gave them to you and get rid of this solar
117	Develop a pool for the community
118	Make sure farm land is not used for these developments. Do not take from farming, or pollute our environment. Verona Township gives their residents free garbage pickup, what has Colfax done for residents ? We have no idea where \$ are used. Detailed info should be given to residents itemizing where taxes are used. Especially since It keeps going up each year!
119	Set stricter standards on large dairy herd farmers regarding road erosion and more frequent spraying of dust control materials on gravel roads
120	Continue improving parks and infrastructure, offer tax incentives to local businesses so they can expand and offer better wages
121	Drop Solar and that portion of the funding back
122	Recycling Bike or walking paths
123	Keeping the roads cleaner in winter. Ditches mowed more often throughout the year.
125	Return the money and stop any further battery & solar-powered development.
127	Recreational and emergency services

128	Turning the trail into something more beautiful and usable. More recreational services
129	Recreation, emergency service,
131	Limit solar farms
132	Roads and Environment-keep our water ways clean.
133	Assist residents greatly affected, due to falling property value and health concerns first. A green space or walking/ bike path in our area would be a good project to consider.
134	<p>What can they be used for - anything? I'd like to see recycling services be available locally, even if just to drop them off somewhere. Maybe the funds could help make that available. It would also be nice to have a walking / biking path parallel to M-53 from the Tech Center to Bad Axe Schools and terminating at the City's sidewalks on West Huron Ave. Currently the only way to walk or bike along that stretch of road is to go along the edge of the highway, which is very dangerous. People have been killed in that area.</p> <p>There are many venues along that stretch that people should be able to access from town without driving - the hospital, health department, Huron Behavioral Health, the medical care facility, doctor's offices, the Tech Center / Learning Center, and Meadow Lane.</p>

135	Continue improving roads and possibly add trails or tennis courts/pickleball courts
136	Be sure that the systems don't make things worse.
137	Township wide trash collection
138	I would like to see more recreational opportunities.
139	Recycling services.
140	Not on destroying the precious land with battery/solar farms
141	Free trash pickup
143	Roads. Pave Soper and Geiger Road since now there's so much more traffic with your BESS project and a future solar project on Pinnebog. At least keep them brined.
144	Maybe create a recycling establishment
145	Set up a recycling center
147	Nature trail
148	Solar is the future. Don't take away farmland though
149	Roads and bridges

150	Roads, bridges, and infrastructure
151	Pave some roads that these dairy farms are using to cut down on the dust in my house. It is awful.
152	Make sure any of these facilities are safe and or set aside that money for any possible future cleanup or environmental concerns

**7. Do you support renewable energy installations in Colfax Township? (i.e., Large-Scale Solar, Battery Energy Storage Systems, Large-Scale Wind Turbines)**



Value	Percent	Count
Support	25.0%	31
Do Not Support	58.9%	73
No Opinion	16.1%	20
	Totals	124

**8. Do you have any additional thoughts about large-scale renewable energy projects in Colfax Township?**

ResponseID	Response
28	<p>Their new battery storage facility should provide excessive income, providing more than enough to purchase land for the roads described above. So, I guess that's good.</p>
34	<p>I don't like them. You spend more money than you get out of it. It's of no benefit to locals. Very disruptive to our environment . I and several neighbors are about to be surrounded by panels.</p>
35	<p>I applaud their forward thinking in terms of industry diversification</p>
37	<p>Limited amount . I feel they have been doing a good job regulating.</p>
38	<p>The idea of a large scale battery storage facility scares me. If a fire or other similar catastrophic problem arises, what happens to the surrounding environment or even water supply? Who will pay for cleanup when the technology is obsolete and no longer usable? Hasn't anyone seen the movie Wall-E with the dilapidated renewable energy projects in the opening of the movie???</p>
39	<p>Landowners have the rights to do whatever they want as long as it doesn't interfere with others everyday living. I.e. farmers don't get paid for the neighbors to look at their crops so what right</p>

	<p>does someone have to say I don't want to look at solar panels?</p>
40	<p>These have no benefit to our community at all. They are hiring all people from out-of-state, buying materials from who knows where, and where will the electricity produced go? To the cities that can't keep up with their electric cars. And will our electric bills go down? No they will raise them just like they did to pay for the windmills. And what will they do with the panels full of toxic chemicals when they break down? Bury them in our soil. Keep those things out of our township!</p>
41	<p>You're going to push everyone to leave, and piss a lot of people off.</p>
42	<p>I believe we have enough in our township, already. Honestly, I think we have enough in all of Huron county.</p>
44	<p>Farm land needs to remain farmland. We are a farming community. Put the solar where it's sunny everyday. I don't want to see farmland turned into solar or into wind farms. We have enough of them already. I am considering moving out of this county because of turbines and the soon to be solar farms.</p>
46	<p>Where's the food going to come from now that all that farmland is covered up or destroyed?</p>
49	<p>They're unnecessary.</p>

50	I believe the value of homes near the projects will decline
52	One Solar panel is all we need
53	THEY DO NOT BELONG ON FARM LAND,
54	Wind isn't doing anything for us, the solar isn't sustainable, check out the Cali solar farm, they are closing it down, do your research. Batteries, who benefits from them???
55	Put it next to your own house and then you will know how we feel
56	Long term not profitable... needs government funding.. administrations could pull funds then left with a mess ... wait till private sector can make it profitable
57	Landowner rights. If a farmer sees more opportunity to lease for renewable energy than for farming, it's their choice. Farmers may not have a family member who wants to take over the farm.
59	I wish these companies would foster residential programs that would allow home owners to install solar panels on our homes and out buildings. This would directly help individuals with rising energy costs and preserve our land at the same time. Do not take our productive farm land and use it to produce solar energy and call

	it renewable. You are simply exchanging one nonrenewable resource for another.
61	Bring them in
63	Get rid of it
64	Need to save our farm land
73	Need to set a limit so it doesn't cover all the good farm land
75	It is very concerning on health. We have turbines here and our energy costs are higher, why should we have any of this here if it won't help energy costs? Renewable energy is not helping lower costs across our state nor our nation. It's a scam!
76	Disgusting
77	We need energy. Solar is the most cost efficient of all our options.
78	They need to made sure the residents are safe from possible malfunctions of these projects AND make sure precious farmland is not depleted. Farming is our livelihood in Huron County and we need to farm every acre available.
79	Safe renewable energy. Glad it's not coal

84	<p>Why has this been approved first before open discussions to local residents. Again, I am not against renewable energy. But, this whole process has been pointed in the direction of revenue from the renewable energy farms, to the township without representation to the residents of Colfax township.</p>
85	<p>I don't feel it will benefit the residents in anyway. If our electrical or consumer power bills would go down, I would be in favor of it. There is millions of dollars being taken out of Murray pit and I am assuming that is not being taxed properly to provide revenue to lower cost for the residents of Colfax township.</p>
87	<p>I support renewable energy but I also question its safety. With large emissions of energy, can this cause a threat to the health and /or safety of our citizens?</p>
90	<p>Not at this time</p>
94	<p>Eyesores</p>
96	<p>I think it's an eyesore in such a beautiful community.</p>
98	<p>Do not sell off our land for industrial purposes today that hurts our environment. STOP ●</p>
99	<p>No</p>

100	I think it's disgusting that we as tax payers who live here are ruining our pristine country and farm land at the hands of our township officials.
102	Renewable energy can be a good thing when done responsibly keeping in mind the potential impacts on the community. Additionally, communities that participate in renewable energy should reap the financial benefits of their participation.
104	No
105	We already have to look at wind farms and now solar panels. Power's at be are making decisions that are destroying our township.
107	Wind turbines are blight, they wouldn't even be here if it wasn't for subsidies. Solar battery storage takes up way to much farm land. There should be no access for public utilities because they will raise our rates. Green energy is more expensive than natural gas or nuclear plants.
108	Leave our Agriculture property alone!!!!!!
109	Small scale solar panels better than wind mills. Doesn't ruin the sky line
110	Can't see anything until they are completely to be able to realize the benefits
111	HATE THE IDEA OF IT

113	It's ugly but beneficial.
114	If you own the land, pay the property taxes you should be able to do want within reason. I'd rather have solar or battery storage than more large Dairy Farms
115	There needs to be more research done in the long term affects with bringing in these forever chemicals in the batteries. What is the clean up plan in the case they end up unmaintained like so many of the wind turbines?
116	Yes, I do and my thoughts are keep it out of our township. Our environment will not sustain this toxic junk.
117	Needs to be limited
118	Is this a pollutant ?
120	If I'm forced to take one or the other I prefer solar over wind simply because solar only affects the landowner receiving the compensation. Windmills are ugly, they make a lot of noise and "flicker" the sunlight, the people dealing with the downsides of wind generally are not the ones being compensated.
121	It's crap
122	Solar yes Wind no

123	I hate the thought of it. I purchased my home for the scenery. Now there will be none. I also understand that it is the property owners right to do what they want on their land.
125	Don't destroy the well established rural culture here in Huron with continuous continuous renewable energy projects.
128	Wind is fine, solar is the biggest waste of space for such limited energy. It is an eyesore and a I would lose respect for the township for implementing it. It would be a complete money grab on your part to implement in my opinion, and may encourage me to move out of the township.
131	Limit them
132	Not totally apposed to them but need to contain them in one spot away from water ways and make containment to avoid ground and water contamination.
133	Show how these projects help our local energy infrastructure. Do the residents in Colfax use the energy from the solar panels and battery backup ? Most don't think so.
134	We need to use what opportunities we have to develop renewable energy in order to mitigate climate change and prepare for a future with less fossil fuels.

135	Try to keep those in areas where it affects little people/is not in a busy traffic area
137	No
140	Sad that it is going up. Destroying future land potential, so close to residential properties, projected decibel hum.
143	KEEP THEM OFF PRODUCTIVE FARM LAND AND AWAY FROM OUR HOMES AND BUSINESSES.
144	While I support renewable energy, I don't want to put it ahead of what we have - agriculture and safe pleasing landscapes.
145	I believe we have enough for now. As long as we follow the Colfax solar guidelines, that's fine with me.
148	Prefer solar over wind turbines. But using land that isn't farmland.
149	I feel like we have enough energy production in colfax township. But also think that land owners should have the right to do with there land as they see fit.
150	Leave the city in the city we live here not to look at eyesore but to enjoy God's country
151	We did not want it but you did it any ways.

152

Just plan ahead for any possible negative affects.

9. Looking ahead to the future of Colfax Township, how would you rank the importance of the following items? Please rank each from 1 (Most Important) to 5 (Least Important).

	1		2		3		4		5		Responses
	Cou nt	Row %	Cou nt	Row %	Cou nt	Row %	Cou nt	Row %	Cou nt	Row %	Count
Agriculture/Agricultural Economy	69	56.6%	26	21.3%	16	13.1%	2	1.6%	9	7.4%	122
Education Options	59	49.2%	28	23.3%	25	20.8%	3	2.5%	5	4.2%	120
Housing Choices	39	32.5%	32	26.7%	27	22.5%	15	12.5%	7	5.8%	120
Preserving Rural Characteristics	55	45.8%	29	24.2%	14	11.7%	9	7.5%	13	10.8%	120
Local Conveniences (services, shopping, etc.)	40	33.6%	30	25.2%	26	21.8%	9	7.6%	14	11.8%	119

## 10.What do you like best about Colfax Township?

ResponseID	Response
28	Their township supervisor, Doug Gentner. He does a heck of a job!
30	Good roads
34	I live here because I love the rural area. Now I'm about to live in an industrial park. It was bad enough when you brought the windmills in. Now it looks like an airport at night. But these panels are just devastating.
35	Proximity to amenities
36	The officers and board members always seem to strive for the best way to continue to move forward for the benefit of all residents in the township.
37	Pretty safe place to live
38	The rural feel and low population density.
39	Close to Bad Axe
40	The fact that I don't have a giant solar farm to look at... let's keep it that way.
42	Half of Bad Axe is Colfax township, and it's in the middle of Huron County. So we are about the same distance to the water if you go North,East,

	or West. That's a great thing. Sun rises and sunsets are better than anyplace.
45	It's a pleasant serene area
46	Rural lifestyle
50	Open space and paved roads
52	Rural
53	The close nit community where it feels like you know your neighbors.
54	I live in the country...peace Town traffic is horrific
55	I like the open country, able to watch the wildlife and enjoy nature the way god intended it to be.
57	Quality of life is good. Close to everything I need.
59	That we have great educational options for our kids.
60	For me, it's being close to town. Shopping, the library and dining choices are all near me.
61	Variety
62	Rural living
63	That it doesn't have a wind park or solar yet

64	Close to Bad Axe
68	Having a country feel outside of the city limits.
70	The rural area and close shopping amenities.
73	Proximity to work and school but not in city
74	Safe, clean area. Nice people
75	Our natural land, rivers, farm land, woods.
76	Peacefulness and has been a good place to raise a family.
77	Colfax has the best of both worlds. It has ag community and rural living with town amenities nearby.
78	The Bad Axe Chamber's efforts to support our businesses and bring people to Bad Axe through events.
79	Mix of city and country living
80	It quit here.
83	Proximity to shopping while being rural
84	Rual peace.
85	Being close to town, but not in town.

87	It's environmental beauty of the wooded landscape and agriculture. The feeling of safety in our small towns.
89	Quiet
90	Small home town community and agriculture
92	The relative quiet, spaced out neighbors.
94	Clean air, beauty of environmental
97	Close to town... No city water,people, Community
98	Small town family living with options for growth.
99	It's quiet and peaceful
100	The rural environment.
101	I did like the rural beauty
104	Not too busy...not cluttered
105	The vast amount of farm land
108	Peaceful and quite!
109	Nicer side of the county . Shopping education opportunities VA
111	More cops in area , less solar power boxes .

113	Peaceful living, low taxes, little traffic most of the time.
114	Rural
115	I love the natural beauty, the ability to drive to the beach within 15 minutes, clean fresh breathable air, knowing your neighbors.
116	I like that it's very rural and full of trees and easy living
117	Community
119	They do great job on snow plowing
120	Quiet community with country atmosphere
121	Peaceful
122	Not in city limits but close by
124	I like the small community living
125	It's small town appeal, kind and caring neighbors. Peaceful, secure and privacy that must be preserved for future generations.
127	Good location to education and businesses
128	I like the people and the nature
129	Low taxes and proximity to shopping and services

132	Lots of farm land and all my neighbors are friendly.
133	Safe neighborhood, local police fire and ambulance service.
134	Affordable housing, proximity to Lake Huron, proximity to the essential stores in Huron County (Meijer, Walmart, etc).
135	Mostly agricultural
136	Kindness shown by residents.
138	Safety and positive community spirit
143	Lived here all my life. Would like to see it remain unscathed. It's a unique area with its agricultural diversity. Leave it alone.
144	That it is uncrowded, relatively safe, and near necessities such as health services and basic shopping.
145	I like the relaxed rural area where I live with trees and space to enjoy the natural outdoors. That's why we bought property in Colfax and built our home.
147	Close to business district and city of bad axe
149	Small town atmosphere

150	Community of neighbors and closeness of hunting and fishing
152	Close to town, and I like the fact that I can take my leaves and brush to the township.

**11. What is one thing you would do to improve Colfax Township over the next five to ten years?**

ResponseID	Response
29	Free trash pickup and lower taxes
30	Better ambulance service. Better traffic flow
33	Roads , walking paths
34	Electric new commissinors.
37	Improve heavily traveled rural roads.
38	Fewer large scale farms, better water conservation to ensure a plentiful well-water supply, and continued road maintenance.
39	Help farmers control the smell from their operations.
40	Ban all types of windmills & solar farms.
41	Fix the roads, lower water prices and more housing.
42	One thing would be traffic safety try to get something going towards that. (running stop sings, & speed in the township) Try to get businesses to come and fill the existing empty buildings instead of instead of building new ones. Limit the amount of solar, wind, & battery storage installation in the township. People live

	here because of the way it is. Over the last twenty years this has really changed the landscape and not for the better.
44	Improvement of Stop signs. And preserve farmland.
45	More activities for the children. We need to keep them busy.
46	Staying rural
49	Update roads, add traffic lights in high risk areas.
50	Clean up the numerous blight areas
52	Less dairy farms
53	Try to introduce more employment opportunities in the tax base.
54	Do a better job and pave highly traveled roads like Soper Rd. Air Quality would be highly appreciated
55	Keep solar and wind projects outside of our township.
57	Roads and trash pickup!
58	Affordable Housing option
59	Time needs to be spent getting a clearer understanding of what is important to our

	residence. There should be more opportunities for public input, and more programs addressing our mental health and addiction needs.
60	Pave more of the dirt roads.
61	Pave some roads
62	Recreation Blight
63	Fix up old buildings or tear down if unable to fix make room for new businesses, and keep renewable energy away.
64	Maintain housing, internet services, electric grid so outages are less, more jobs for those willing to work, education influence on learning basic skills like cooking and cleaning.
68	More housing
70	Recycling collection area.
73	Trash pick up and more roads paved
74	Recycling center and walking/ cycling paths
75	Keep solar and turbines out.
77	If paving roads isn't feasible, please consider bringing the gravel roads three times a year.

78	Outdoor venue for summer concerts and to fill all the empty spaces with businesses and places to shop.
79	Wife wants a public pool
80	The dust control
83	Pave all the roads
84	The ability to listen to the residents
85	Try and bring in some franchise restaurants with fine dining.
87	Build on community. Strength in numbers. We are only as strong as our weakest members.
89	More activities
90	Improve roads and cellphone connection
94	Prevent wind turbines from infecting the area
97	Parks closed to new, new housing subdivision, new retail,
98	Make common sense of spending and improve the business areas.
100	Stop letting the township fall to greed.
101	Keep the roads in good shape and the dead animals removed from beside the roads.

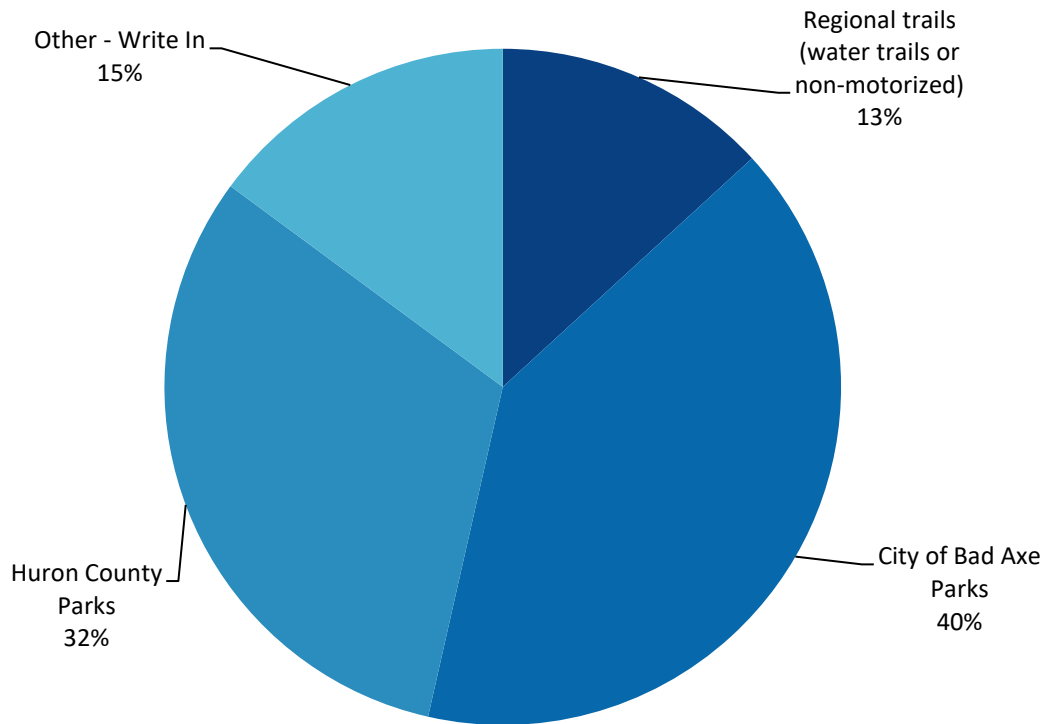
105	Township was fine the way it was. The solar panels will make our home look industrialized. It's sad
107	Incentives to bring new businesses in.
108	Lower Property taxes and abolish them!!
109	Less gravel roads more businesses more education opportunities wish we had a long bicycle walking trail like other Michigan communities
110	Improves options for a better life and more services including more information of what is happening before it happens
113	Recycling
114	Start paving the roads
115	Bring back grass by the side walks in town, stop cutting down the trees that provide shade and clean our air. More community events to bring people together. Fix the smaller side roads in town neighborhoods.
116	Get rid of all the renewable energy junk that keeps popping up in our township without a vote from the residence
117	Pay wages higher at colfax

119	Limit or at least somehow regulate large dairy herd farmers and road erosion
120	Help businesses to be successful so they can offer better compensation and benefits. Community improvements will happen naturally when people have more disposable income
121	Clean up the ditches. Otherwise, we fine.
122	More community access activities
123	Get more people involved. Don't keep large projects secret until it's too late for their voice to be heard. It's our community we should all have a say in it, not just a few.
125	More retail shopping & restaurant options.
127	Have more community recreational activity
128	I would implement more recreational services
129	More recreational opportunity. More transparency in local government Reduced rate for trash, pick up and recycling
130	Never allow battery storage systems ever
131	Limit extra large farms Limit solar farms Cut back on windmills
134	I'd like to see recycling services be available locally, even if just to have a drop-off location.

	Currently I'm not aware of a recycling drop-off site anywhere in Huron County. We have to go out of the county to recycle common household materials, or send them to the landfill.
135	Keep up my property and keep it appealing to others
136	Fix roads.
137	Trash collection
138	Provide garbage pick up as part of the Township services
141	Free trash pickup
143	Use grant funds to help restore the economy and improve living standards in the region. We have hurting people and a Recreation Trail or expensive fire truck is not practical for most residents. Let's look outside the box.
144	Create a recycling program
145	In number 9, the reason I checked agriculture last in what I care about is because of all the chemicals put on the fields and how farming has changed to just industrialized farming with no interest in health or the environment. I want clean air, water, and food. Start with checking everyone's water for arsenic and chemicals. Apply for grants to get RO system for people.

147	Lower taxes
149	Better infrastructure
150	Roadways
151	Pave the roads by all the dairy farms. The dust, dirt and mud in the spring is awful. Most of the surrounding townships have paved roads why don't colfax? Step up and do better!
152	Not sure. Maybe a recycling drop off area or possibly paved walking trails

12. Which of the following parks/trails did you use in the last year?

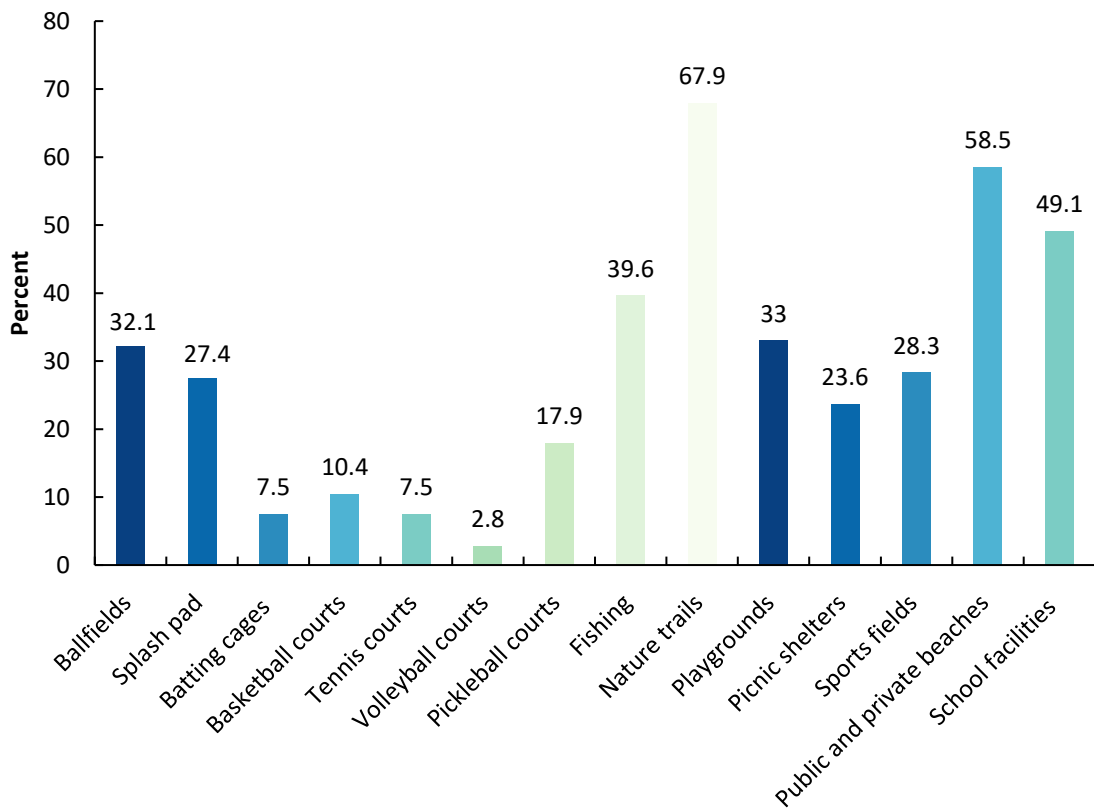


Value	Percent	Count
Regional trails (water trails or non-motorized)	13.2%	15
City of Bad Axe Parks	40.4%	46
Huron County Parks	31.6%	36
Other - Write In	14.9%	17
	Totals	114

Other - Write In	Count
------------------	-------

None	4
All	1
All of them. I visit at least one park or nature trail a week.	1
Bad Axe& Regional Trails.	1
City of Bad Axe Parks and Huron County Parks	1
I go outside the area	1
I have used all of the above	1
I hike trails all over the state, which we don't have much of in huron county.	1
I used walking trail in Bad Axe and Huron County Nature Center.	1
Nature trails in Hume Twp	1
None	1
Nothing around here	1
We have our own walking trails.	1
We use all of the above...canoeing, kayaking, beaches, Huron Co Nature Center trails	1
Totals	17

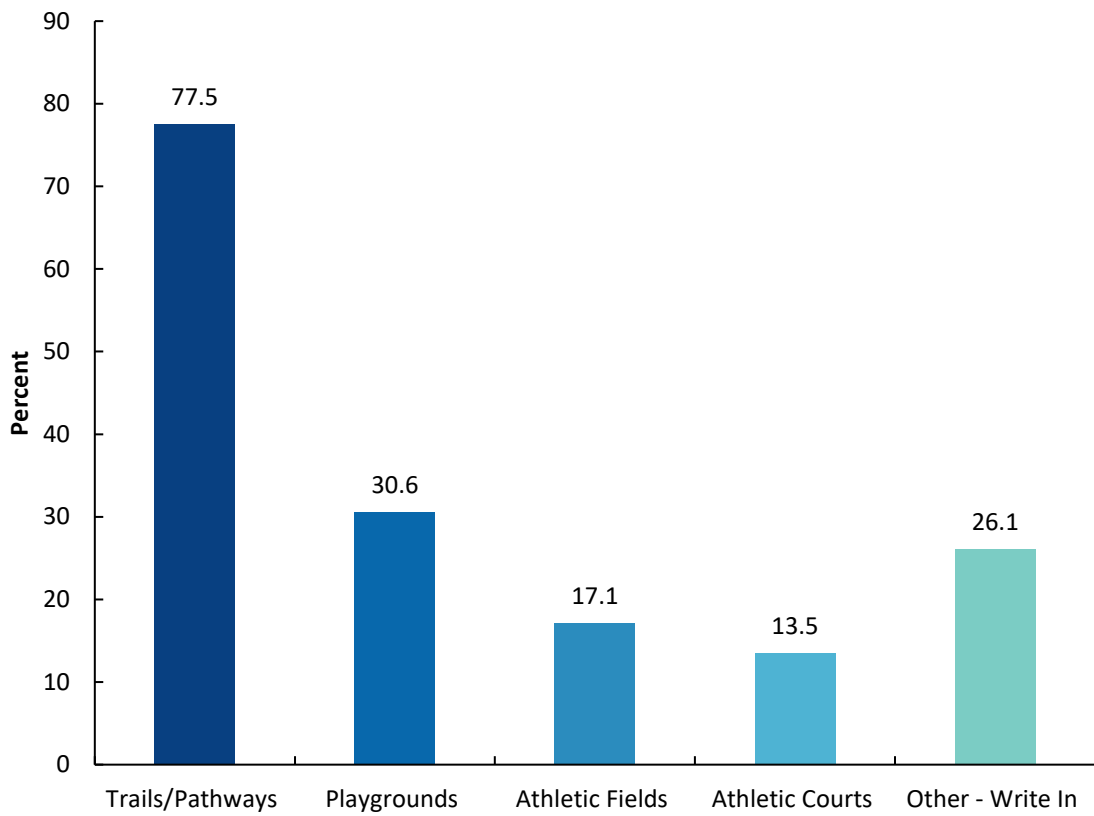
13. What amenities do you or your family use in the area? Please select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Count
Ballfields	32.1%	34
Splash pad	27.4%	29
Batting cages	7.5%	8
Basketball courts	10.4%	11
Tennis courts	7.5%	8
Volleyball courts	2.8%	3
Pickleball courts	17.9%	19

Fishing	39.6%	42
Nature trails	67.9%	72
Playgrounds	33.0%	35
Picnic shelters	23.6%	25
Sports fields	28.3%	30
Public and private beaches	58.5%	62
School facilities	49.1%	52

14.If the Township were to offer recreational opportunities, what would you like to see? Please select all that apply.

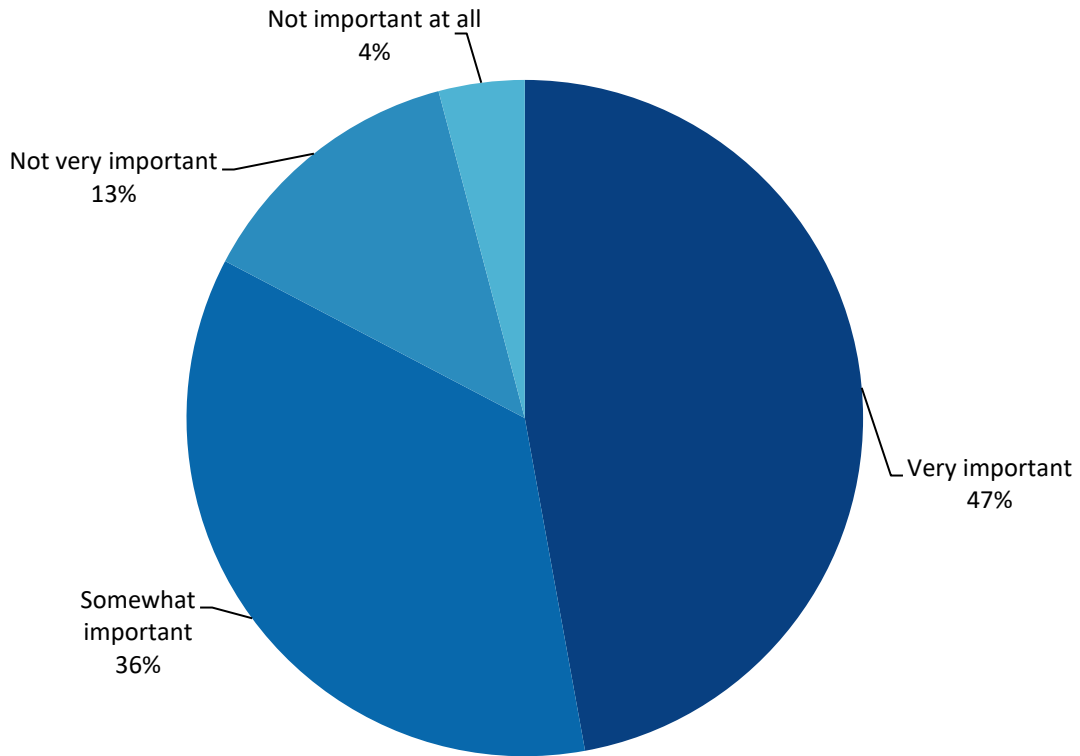


Value	Percent	Count
Trails/Pathways	77.5%	86
Playgrounds	30.6%	34
Athletic Fields	17.1%	19
Athletic Courts	13.5%	15
Other - Write In	26.1%	29

Other - Write In	Count
Community pool	2
Pool	2
A campground	1
A walking park for seniors with stations of rest and exercise.	1
Bike trails as well as walking trails/paths.	1
Fish stations	1
Hockey arena	1
Hockey stadium	1
In door activities during winter	1
Indoor community swimming pool	1
Large sports complex like the Laker's school district has.	1
Mire thing for our children to do.	1
None of the above!	1
Outdoor concert venue	1
Pavilion	1

Picnic areas	1
Pool!!	1
Pool. All the other amenities are nearby	1
Public pool	1
Rec center	1
Road side bike lane	1
Snowmobile and ATV trails	1
Swimming pool and/or athletic complex	1
We don't need trails, we have sidewalks that people don't use.	1
We go to Laker Legacy because Bad Axe does not have a facility	1
Zip-line, rope course, community garden, bike trails, haunted trails/or themed for other holidays	1
swimming pool and lazy river. All the other amenities are nearby.	1
Totals	29

**15.How important is it for Colfax Township to incorporate universal design features, such as accessible trails and playground equipment, into future facilities to ensure they can be used by all people of all ages and abilities?**



Value	Percent	Count
Very important	47.1%	57
Somewhat important	35.5%	43
Not very important	13.2%	16
Not important at all	4.1%	5
	Totals	121

Unsure - Write In	Count
Totals	0

**16.Are you interested in being on the Township Board? If so, please provide your name and phone number/email address below, or contact the Colfax Township office.**

ResponseID	Response
28	Sure, it would be great to learn even half of what Doug knows. Brent Walker 989-550-4383 bwwalker08@gmail.com 1625 S Hellems Rd Bad Axe, MI 48413
37	No
44	I would, but I live in Meade
46	No
53	I'm already on two of the township boards.
54	Hell no...a pathetic group, you ask a question and they laugh at you and give snide remarks, huge attitudes.
57	No
74	No
77	Been there, done that.
78	Unfortunately I cannot, I am not a township resident. I only work in Colfax township and am a member of the Bad Axe Chamber of Commerce.
79	Nope. Retiring soon

83	No
85	No thank you! I am sure I would not fit in. My thoughts on change in a community would not align with what others think.
87	I don't believe I have enough knowledge on how a township is run or the politics behind it. I am, however, an open minded person with curiosity, creativity and a heart for preserving our land and bettering our community. Whitney Erla whitneyerla@gmail.com
105	No thank-you
108	Nope
109	No
110	Kevin Sharp 2620 Stein Rd Bad Axe Krsharp40@hotmail.com 248-444-6374
111	No
113	No
116	Not at this time, but maybe one day when my work schedule isn't so busy
118	Will think about contacting Colfax.
133	No, thank you to all who serve, I appreciate your service to your neighbors.

134	No, thank you.
135	Not at the moment
136	Yes .
151	No

## **APPENDIX B**

### Adoption Documentation



**HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF COLFAX TOWNSHIP!**

**SCAN HERE**



**We're updating our Master Plan - and we want to hear from YOU! Share your ideas to help guide the Township for the next 10-20 years!**

**TO TAKE THE SURVEY**

**[www.colfaxtownshipsurvey.com](http://www.colfaxtownshipsurvey.com)**

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TO TAKE THE SURVEY

Huron Publishing Company LLC  
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN:  
COUNTY OF HURON

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Michigan, on this day personally appeared, a Newspaper Representative for Huron Daily Tribune – dba: Huron Publishing Company LLC, a newspaper published in Huron County, Michigan and generally circulated in the Counties of: Huron, Sanilac and that the publication, of which the annexed herein, or attached to, is a true and correct copy, was published to wit:

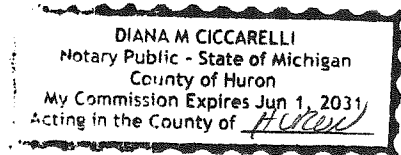
Customer ID	Customer	Campaign ID	Publication	Pub Date
21067986	COLFAX TOWNSHIP	11079773	Huron Daily Tribune	11/12/2025

Mark Birdsall  
Newspaper Representative (signature)

MARK BIRDSALL  
Newspaper Representative (printed)

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 17 day of NOVEMBER A.D. 2025

Diana M Ciccarelli  
Notary Public in and for the State of Michigan



# **COLFAX TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN NOTICE OF REVIEW DRAFT FIVE YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN**

Colfax Township has developed a Parks and Recreation Plan. The Plan evaluates existing recreation opportunities, review's public input regarding recreation, establishes recreational goals, and proposes a five-year schedule of improvements and other related items that the Township wishes to pursue. A copy of the Draft Plan is available for review at <http://www.colfaxwp-huron.com> and can also be reviewed at the Colfax Township Hall, 177 N. Barrie Rd., Bad Axe, MI 48413 during regular office hours.

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the Draft Plan, please send comments to Angelique Shupe, Colfax Township Clerk, at [sctc2024@gmail.com](mailto:sctc2024@gmail.com), or by phone at (989) 269-2271.

A public hearing to take input on the draft plan will be held on December 17, 2025, at the Colfax Township Hall at 177 N. Barrie Rd., Bad Axe, MI 48413 at 7:00 PM.



Colfax Township  
Huron County, Michigan

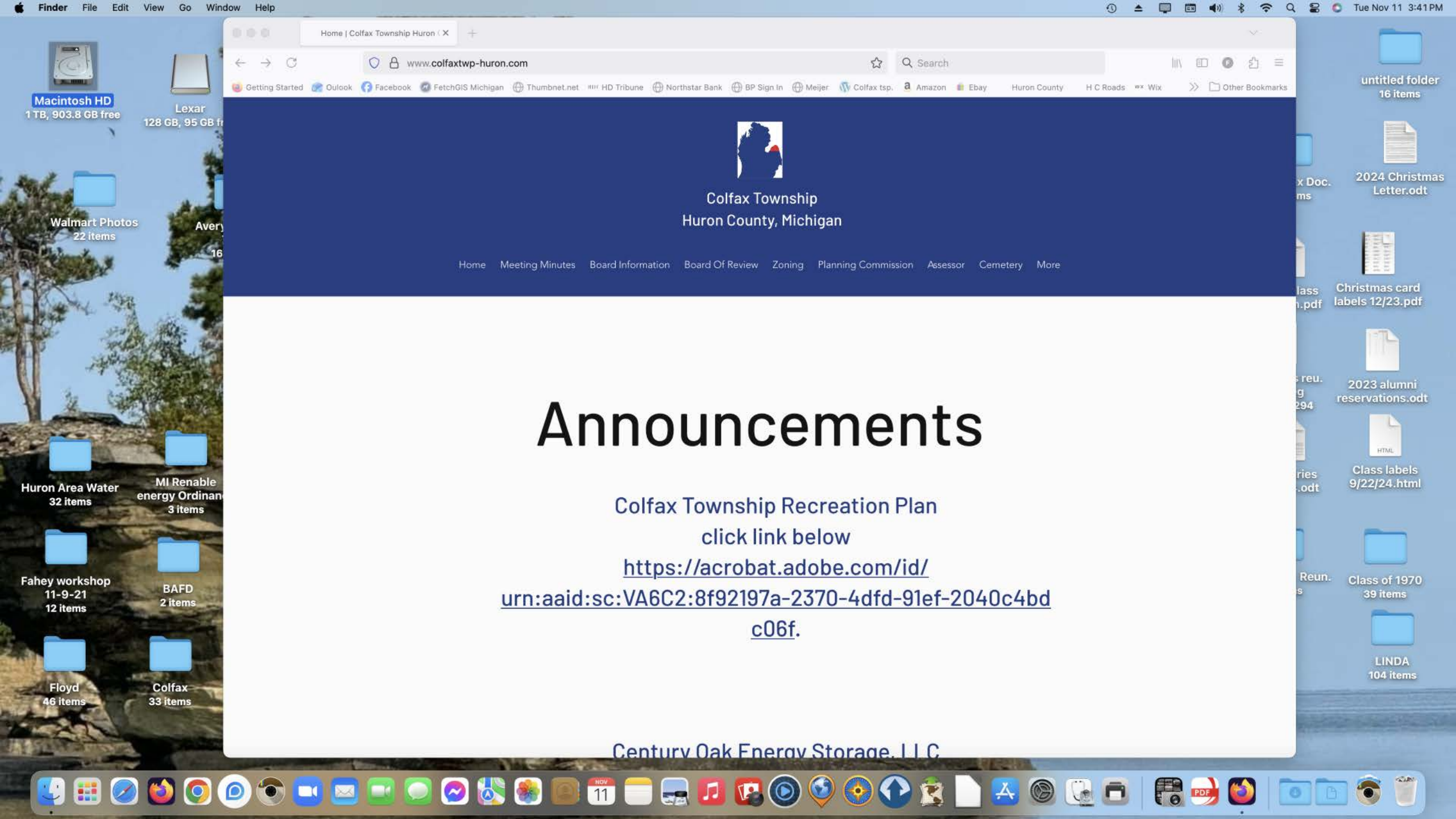
Home Meeting Minutes Board Information Board Of Review Zoning Planning Commission Assessor Cemetery More

# Announcements

Colfax Township Recreation Plan  
click link below

[https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:8f92197a-2370-4dfd-91ef-2040c4bd-c06f.](https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:8f92197a-2370-4dfd-91ef-2040c4bd-c06f)

Century Oak Energy Storage, LLC



Huron Publishing Company LLC  
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN:  
COUNTY OF HURON

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Michigan, on this day personally appeared, a Newspaper Representative for Huron Daily Tribune – dba: Huron Publishing Company LLC, a newspaper published in Huron County, Michigan and generally circulated in the Counties of: Huron, Sanilac and that the publication, of which the annexed herein, or attached to, is a true and correct copy, was published to wit:

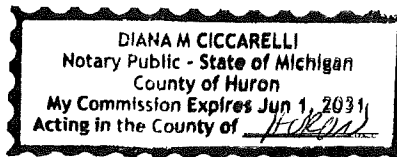
Customer ID	Customer	Campaign ID	Publication	Pub Date
21067986	COLFAX TOWNSHIP	11079839	Huron Daily Tribune	11/26/2025

Mark Birdsall  
Newspaper Representative (signature)

MARK BIRDSALL  
Newspaper Representative (printed)

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 1 day of DECEMBER A.D. 2025

Diana M. Ciccarelli  
Notary Public in and for the State of Michigan



**COLFAX TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Colfax Township Board shall conduct a public hearing for the Colfax Township Recreation Plan on December 17, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Colfax Township Hall at 177 N. Barrie Rd., Bad Axe, MI 48413, for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed draft of the Colfax Township Parks and Recreation Plan.

The Plan evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public input regarding recreation, establishes recreational goals, and proposes a five year schedule of improvements and other related items that the Township wishes to pursue. A PDF copy of the Plan is available for review online at <http://www.colfaxtpw-huron.com>, or in person at the Colfax Township Hall, 177 N. Barrie Rd., Bad Axe, MI 48413, during regular office hours.

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the Draft Plan, please send comments to Angelique Shupe, Colfax Township Clerk, at [sctc2024@gmail.com](mailto:sctc2024@gmail.com), or by phone at (989) 269-2271. All comments, written and oral, will be noted for the record.

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**COLFAX TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Colfax Township Board shall conduct a public hearing for the Colfax Township Recreation Plan on December 17, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Colfax Township Hall at 177 N. Barrie Rd., Bad Axe, MI 48413, for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed draft of the Colfax Township Parks and Recreation Plan.

The Plan evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public input regarding recreation, establishes recreational goals, and proposes a five year schedule of improvements and other related items that the Township wishes to pursue. A PDF copy of the Plan is available for review online at <http://www.colfaxtpw-huron.com>, or in person at the Colfax Township Hall, 177 N. Barrie Rd., Bad Axe, MI 48413, during regular office hours.

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the Draft Plan, please send comments to Angelique Shupe, Colfax Township Clerk, at [sctc2024@gmail.com](mailto:sctc2024@gmail.com), or by phone at (989) 269-2271. All comments, written and oral, will be noted for the record.

**Legal/Public Notices**

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT  
HURON COUNTY  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate  
CASE NO. and JUDGE  
25-43, 678-DE  
Hon. Julienne M. Ferris  
Estate of Brian Michael Zakrzewski  
Date of birth: 03/16/1968

**TO ALL CREDITORS:**

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11/20/2025

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331 E. First Street  
Imlay City, MI 48444  
810-724-0555

John Chippeva  
6236 Church Street  
Marlette, MI 48453  
810-417-9339

**Legal/Public Notices**

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT  
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Approved Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Colfax Township Board  
Colfax Township Hall  
December 17, 2025

Supervisor Doug Gentner called the regular meeting of the Colfax Township Board to order at 7:00 pm. Board members present were Doug Gentner, Linda Smith, Floyd Stroschein, and Angelique Shupe. Seven guests were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

At 7:01 pm Gentner opened the public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments on the proposed Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan. No comments were given. No written comments were received on the plan. At 7:03 pm the public hearing was closed.

The board returned to regular business.

Motion by Stroschein, supported by Gentner, to approve the Agenda with one addition. All ayes, motion carried.

Commissioner's Update: Given.

Other Officials: None.

Public Comment: Opened at 7:06 pm. Comments were given. Closed at 7:08 pm.

Correspondence: Presented by Gentner. Discussed accepting the Spicer Group, Letter Agreement for Professional Services on Concept Design & 2026 DNR Grant.

Motion by Stroschein, supported by Smith, to approve the November 19, 2025, Board Minutes as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Gentner, supported by Stroschein, to approve the December 10, 2025, Special Minutes as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Stroschein, supported by Gentner, to approve the December 10, 2025, Closed Session Minutes as presented. All ayes, motion carried. Minutes were circulated among Colfax Board Member attendees to initial.

Planning Commission: Not Reviewed at this time.

Cemetery: Reviewed.

Ambulance Board: Reviewed.

Fire Board: Reviewed.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed.

Zoning Activity: Reviewed.

Ongoing Business:

Reminder to follow up with Adam Fluegge, Nobel Fox Media on start date.

Continue looking into a credit card for the Township.

New Business:

Resolution 2025-14: Motion was made by Genter, supported by Stroschein to adopt the proposed Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan.

Roll Call: Gentner, Yes; Smith, Yes; Stroschein, Yes; Shupe, Yes. Gordon, Absent. Motion Carried, Recreation Plan is adopted.

Resolution 2025-15: Motion by Stroschein, supported by Shupe, to set the 2026 regular scheduled Colfax Township Board Meeting dates. The Board will look at changing certain dates, if necessary, to enable attendance at combined Township meetings.

Roll Call: Gentner, Yes; Smith, Yes; Stroschein, Yes; Shupe, Yes. Gordon, Absent. Motion Carried, Resolution setting meeting dates is passed.

Motion by Gentner, supported by Stroschein, to purchase an 86" Television for use in the Colfax Township Hall for Zoom meetings, etc., not to exceed \$750.00. All ayes, motion carried.

Cemetery Payables: Motion by Stroschein, supported by Smith, to approve the Cemetery Payables #5870-5877 as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

General, Liquor, Lagoon, Road Payables: Motion by Stroschein, supported by Gentner, to approve the General Payables #9199-9229, Liquor Payable #829, Lagoon Payables #2190-2193, and Road Payables #1094, as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Public Comment: Reopened at 7:47 pm. Comments were given. Closed at 7:53 pm.

Board Comment: Given.

Motion by Smith, supported by Stroschein, to adjourn. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Angelique A. Shupe  
Colfax Township Clerk  
January 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION 2025-14**  
**COLFAX TOWNSHIP, HURON COUNTY, MICHIGAN**  
**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT RECREATION PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, Colfax Township has undertaken a five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan which describes the physical features in the Township, future recreation plans, and the desired actions to be taken to develop recreation facilities during the period between 2026 and 2030 and,

**WHEREAS**, public input was received via an online survey that was available from October 2, 2025, to November 7, 2025, to provide an opportunity for citizens to share ideas and express opinions regarding the future of parks and recreation in Colfax Township, and,

**WHEREAS**, the draft plan was made available for review from November 12, 2025, through December 12, 2025, at the Colfax Township Hall and online at [www.colfaxtpw-huron.com](http://www.colfaxtpw-huron.com), and,

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on December 17, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Colfax Township Hall at 177 N. Barrie Rd., Bad Axe, MI 48413 to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and

**WHEREAS**, Colfax Township has developed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the benefit of the entire community and wishes to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Colfax Township Board adopts the Colfax Township 2026 – 2030 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Motion by Gentner, Supported by Stroschein, to adopt this resolution.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Yeas: Gentner, Smith, Stroschein, Shupe.

Nays: None.

Absent/Abstain: Gordon, Absent.

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.**

