



Monthly Director's Report, February 2022
City of Clare Parks and Recreation
Prepared by Joy Simmer

Current and Upcoming Programs/Events

The **Senior Cards and Coffee** has resumed at the Pere Marquette District Library. The group is supplied with coffee and card decks. The program takes place on Wednesdays from 10-12 p.m.

Emerald Isle Recreation Complex

Playground Area - The Clare-Gladwin RESD Parent Coalition rep is still waiting for award notification to move forward with sensory play signs to be placed within the playground area at the Emerald Isle Recreation Complex. The grant was submitted at the end of 2021 to purchase these signs and Simmer has agreed that it will be a great addition. The signage would be relevant to what playground equipment already exists and would be a nature-based theme. Simmer, the youth services librarian at the Pere Marquette District Library and the Clare-Gladwin RESD parents services coordinator will meet once the grant notification has come through sometime after January of 2022.

Upcoming Programs/Events

Art in Sculpture – Parks and Recreation has been working with Middle Michigan Development Corporation, the Clare County Arts Council, and local artist Jeff Best for this 2022 art event. Next meeting for AIS is set to take place on February 9, 2022.

The city has been continuing to meet and correspond with MDOT to keep the project moving for the **Pere Marquette Rail-Trail** extension. Simmer submitted a timeline update for the project to MDOT. The project timeline had to be adjusted because the project needed to include the need for a ROW phase to be included due to consents to grade being required, as well as additional survey work at Pioneer Parkway to evaluate trail routing options. Proposed Schedule: • Plan Review (GI Meeting) – January 13, 2022 • Plan Completion/ROW Certification – February 2022 • Letting – 7/1/2022 • Anticipated construction start date – sometime in late summer 2022.

The **Irish Pet Photo Contest** kicked off at the end of January and will run until March 16, 2022 at 3 p.m. Proceeds from the contest will go to the Spay-Neuter Animal Project. This is a collaboration between Clare Parks and Recreation and the Pere Marquette District Library. Members from the S-NAP will be picking the top three entries. Submissions are able to be dropped off or submitted online. The winners of the Irish themed contest can win one of three top prizes; 1st Place: \$75 in Clare Cash, 2nd Place: \$50 in Clare Cash, 3rd Place: a \$25 in Clare Cash. Winners will be announced on The Irish Pet Photo Contest Facebook Page on Saturday, March 19th at 6 p.m.

Simmer finalized the draft of the **5-Year Michigan DNR Recreation Master Plan** . There was a public meeting on 1/17/2022 and the plan was available for public view on the City of Clare website, on Facebook, the Pere Marquette District Library, and at Clare City Hall. Simmer completed the plan and submitted it to the MDNR through the MiRecGrant portal on January 26, 2022.

In the Works

Currently working on planning for 2022 Easter themed events, the Clare Summer Concert Series, and trail walks with the Pere Marquette District Library.

The voter approved 3/4 **parks millage** is up for renewal this year, and the City Commission has approved wording for a five-year renewal to be added to the May ballot.

Additional Information

Simmer ordered donation recognition plates for the DPW/cemetery and for the Emerald Isle Recreation Complex projects. The metal was on backorder and Simmer just received notification that it is back in stock and the plaques should be completed within the next couple of weeks.

MSU Exotic Forest Pest Research Team has completed another report regarding what they found during their insect collection and research at McIreland Trail. This report has been attached to this DH report.

The MPARKS Conference will be taking place in Traverse City from March 7-10, 2022. Simmer will be attending the conference. The MDNR will have their special roundtable and grant discussions, and there will also be program and trail workshops and seminars.

MICHIGAN STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

January 10, 2022

Joy Simmer
Clare City Hall
202 W Fifth Street
Clare, MI 48617

Dear Ms. Simmer,

I work on the Exotic Forest Pest Research project in Dr. Deborah McCullough's Forest Entomology laboratory at Michigan State University. As you may remember, a major goal of this project is to facilitate early detection of non-native woodboring insect species that could be a problem if they arrive and become established in Michigan. We also gain considerable information about the diversity and distribution of native woodborers. Data from this research does, however, provide important information about the native woodboring communities in Michigan forests. Many of these species play valuable roles in cycling nutrients and maintaining healthy, productive forests.

I am writing to thank you for your cooperation with our 2021 efforts. In 2021, we set up and monitored an array of traps at 30 locations across Michigan. We collected and identified a total 3,636 longhorned beetles, metallic woodboring beetles, and horntails, representing 97 different species. We are happy to report that we did not capture any of the non-native forest pests targeted by our study at Stamina Stadium & McIreland Trail.



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Enclosed is a list of the woodboring insect species we collected from traps placed at Stamina Stadium & McIreland Trail. We captured a total of 47 individuals representing different 12 species at your location. If you have any questions regarding the exotic forest pest research project, please do not hesitate to contact us. Feel free to circulate this letter to the public.

Thank you again for working with us – this project would not have been possible without your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paige Payter".

Paige Payter
Research Technician, MSU

cc: D.G. McCullough, Professor, MSU
R. Miller, MDARD

Insects Collected and Identified from Stamina Stadium & McIreland Trail

Family	Species	Total Individuals
BUPRESTIDAE Metallic Woodboring Beetles	<i>Dicerca divaricata</i> (Say)	1
CERAMBYCIDAE Longhorned Beetles	<i>Asemum striatum</i> (L.) <i>Astylopsis macula</i> (Say) <i>Clytus ruricola</i> (Oliver) <i>Cyrtophorus verrucosus</i> (Olivier) <i>Hyperplatys maculata</i> Haldeman <i>Monochamus carolinensis</i> (Oliver) <i>Monochamus s. scutellatus</i> (Say) <i>Neoclytus a. acuminatus</i> (Fab.) <i>Saperda imitans</i> Felt & Joutel <i>Xylotrechus colonus</i> (Fab.)	11 2 3 2 1 3 15 4 1 1
SIRICIDAE Horntails	<i>Tremex columba</i> (L.)	3