



The Butterfly and Pollen Garden

While the complex is a collaborative partnership between many organizations, the butterfly and pollen garden is a unique feature of the complex. Clare Parks and Recreation partnered with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and local conservation districts to develop these areas. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service seeded the area, then in the summer of 2021 a small footbridge and a 12' gazebo were built by the Clare-Gladwin CTE students and added in. Funding for these projects was provided by the Clare Rotary Club and International Space Monkey Alliance (ISMA). An eight foot-wide Afton Stone pathway goes through the garden. There are also resting benches located within the garden (along the pathway) that were constructed by a local Eagle Scout.

Once completed, the garden will have interpretive signage that was funded by the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN).



PARK INFO



With the assistance of the community and the 2012 approved parks renewal, the city was successful in the purchasing 26.3 acres within the City of Clare to be utilized as a new community park.

A layout and design for the property located on Pinecrest St., just southwest of the McEwan intersection, was a collaborative effort between the Clare Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members and the City of Clare.

The park is now home to the Clare Youth Soccer Program and will offer many other amenities that will benefit the whole community. Some of these amenities will include; paved exercise trails, a skate and bike park, an ADA accessible playground area, exercise stations, a butterfly and pollen garden with wildlife viewing opportunities. The future park plans also include; two pavilions, flush toilets, a concession stand and paved parking.



EMERALD ISLE RECREATION COMPLEX



303 Pinecrest Street
Clare, MI 48617



Park Amenities

At its completion, the park will contain many amenities for park visitors:

- PAVED WALKING AND EXERCISE TRAILS, COMPLETE WITH ADULT EXERCISE STATIONS.
- A SKATE AND BIKE PARK
- BUTTERFLY AND POLLEN GARDEN
- EIGHT YOUTH SOCCER FIELDS
- TWO PREMIUM FULL SIZE FIELDS, ONE WITH LIGHTING AND AN ELECTRONIC SCOREBOARD
- ONE MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD
- CONCESSION STAND AND BATHROOM FACILITIES
- TWO PICNIC PAVILIONS (SIMILAR TO SHAMROCK PARK)
- ADA ACCESSIBLE PLAYGROUND AREA
- PAVED PARKING
- SAFETY LIGHTING

Project Funding & Development

2023/24 Proposed Projects

- **Interpretive Signage** - Signage will be placed throughout the butterfly and pollen garden area and along the outer perimeter of the exercise trail. Signage will include plant identification and information regarding soil erosion and control, habitat, the water cycle, etc...
- **Playground Area** - The Pour-in-Place (PIP) surfacing is still needing to be added to the 50'x50' playground area.

2024/25 Proposed Projects

- **Concession Stand/Restroom Facility** - This will be a 30'x40' building with a 14' overhang. Until the park is completed, portable bathrooms will be utilized.
- **Two 30'x56' Park Pavilions** - These are additional features that will be added to the project in the future, as funding allows. These pavilions will be able to be used by park users, Clare Parks and Recreation, and other organizations for educational programs.

As Additional Funding is Available

- **Paving of the Parking Lot** - The parking lot will be a gravel surface until funds are secured to pave it. There will be clearly marked ADA parking spaces and two entrance/exits.
- **Lighting** - Lighting is an important feature that will be added to the park as funding allows. Electrical service has already been extended into the park.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

As you may know, every project takes a lot of time and planning in order to make it a reality. Clare Parks and Recreation needs help in many facets of the project. For more information on how you can help, contact Clare Parks and Recreation.



989-424-4074



www.cityofclare.gov



jsimmer@cityofclare.gov

