



Chartiers Township Parks and Recreation Plan

Executive Summary

Chartiers Township,
Washington County
PA

JUNE 2016



This plan was prepared for the Chartiers Township Board of Supervisors by the Chartiers Township Parks Board and Township Staff, who dedicated their time and efforts to ensuring that the future of parks and recreation in the Township will meet the demands of a growing community.




Our Vision

Parks, recreation and open space are essential to the health, general well-being and quality of life of Chartiers Township. The Township must provide the leadership necessary to take an active role in recreational planning to ensure that these lands are preserved for current and future generations and to enhance the leisure activities within its borders.

Our Mission

This mission of the Chartiers Township Parks Board is to “enhance and develop the parks in Chartiers Township to meet the needs of current and future residents.”

Our Goals

-  Improve the overall **administration** of parks recreation.
-  Provide parks and recreation **facilities** that meet the needs of a growing community.
-  Provide high quality **programs** for all ages.

Improve the overall Administration of parks recreation

Guiding Principle #1:

Ensure that the Township staff for parks and recreation can perform their jobs at the highest level.

What we will do:

- ⇒ Create a “Parks and Recreation Director” staff position.
- ⇒ Adopt an administrative manual for parks and recreation.
- ⇒ Designate a staff person(s) for parks and recreation maintenance.
- ⇒ Establish clear job descriptions and roles for staff.
- ⇒ Update personnel policies and develop a performance evaluation system.
- ⇒ Provide staff with the opportunity to maintain proper training and clearances.
- ⇒ Establish bylaws and a code of ethics for the recreation board and the parks board.

Guiding Principle #2:

Build and maintain partnerships to enhance parks and recreation.

What we will do:

- ⇒ Improve the Township’s relationship with Chartiers Houston School District.
- ⇒ Develop partnerships to advance shared interests.

Guiding Principle #3:

Increase communication and public awareness of Township parks and recreation facilities.

What we will do:

- ⇒ Update the Township’s website to offer additional recreation information.
- ⇒ Expand the use of social media to promote the Township’s parks, recreation facilities and programs.
- ⇒ Create and maintain a database of contact information.
- ⇒ Partner with other organizations to promote programs and facilities.
- ⇒ Increase the use of community signs to publicize upcoming events and programs.



Provide parks and recreation Facilities

that meet the needs of a growing community

Guiding Principle #1:

Enhance existing parks and recreation sites.

What we will do:

- ⇒ Prepare a master site plan for Arnold Park.
- ⇒ Improve Allison Parkette in accordance with the site drawing.
- ⇒ Improve Pine Lawn Park in accordance with the site drawing.
- ⇒ Prepare a master site plan for Ullom Park.
- ⇒ Improve the overall safety and usability of community parks and recreation facilities.
- ⇒ Develop a formal maintenance and risk management plan that includes the following:
- ⇒ Ensure that park and recreation facilities are compliant with the most recent ADA requirements.
- ⇒ Utilize green sustainable design in parks and recreation areas.
- ⇒ Install directional signing to the parks throughout the Township.

Guiding Principle #2:

Effectively plan for the future needs of Chartiers Township residents .

What we will do:

- ⇒ Update Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to include a mandatory dedication / fee-in-lieu of provision to provide either new parks / recreation open space or fees to support park improvements.
- ⇒ Seek to acquire land along Chartiers Creek to develop as a passive recreation area to provide access for anglers, paddlers and (potential) trail users.
- ⇒ Conduct annual or semi-annual park user surveys to gauge residents' usage of existing parks and needs for new facilities.
- ⇒ Provide annual funding for parks within the Township budget. Leverage these dollars with grants and other funding sources.
- ⇒ Utilize the "Friends of Chartiers Parks" organization to actively fundraise for park improvements.



Guiding Principle #3:

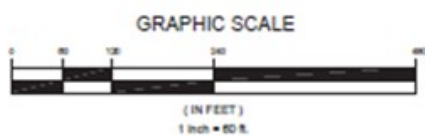
Create an interconnected parks and recreation system.

What we will do:

- ⇒ Construct a trail loop around Allison Parkette.
- ⇒ Develop an off-road trail system that connects Arnold Park to surrounding neighborhoods.
- ⇒ Develop a share-the-road route to connect to the off-road trail system.
- ⇒ Conduct a feasibility study to determine the potential for an off-road ADA-accessible trail along Chartiers Creek.
- ⇒ Partner with Montour Trail Association to support future extensions of the trail system into Chartiers Township.



CHARTIERS TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION PLAN ALLISON PARK



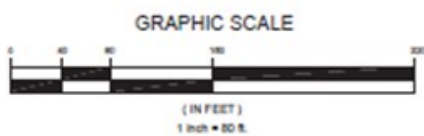
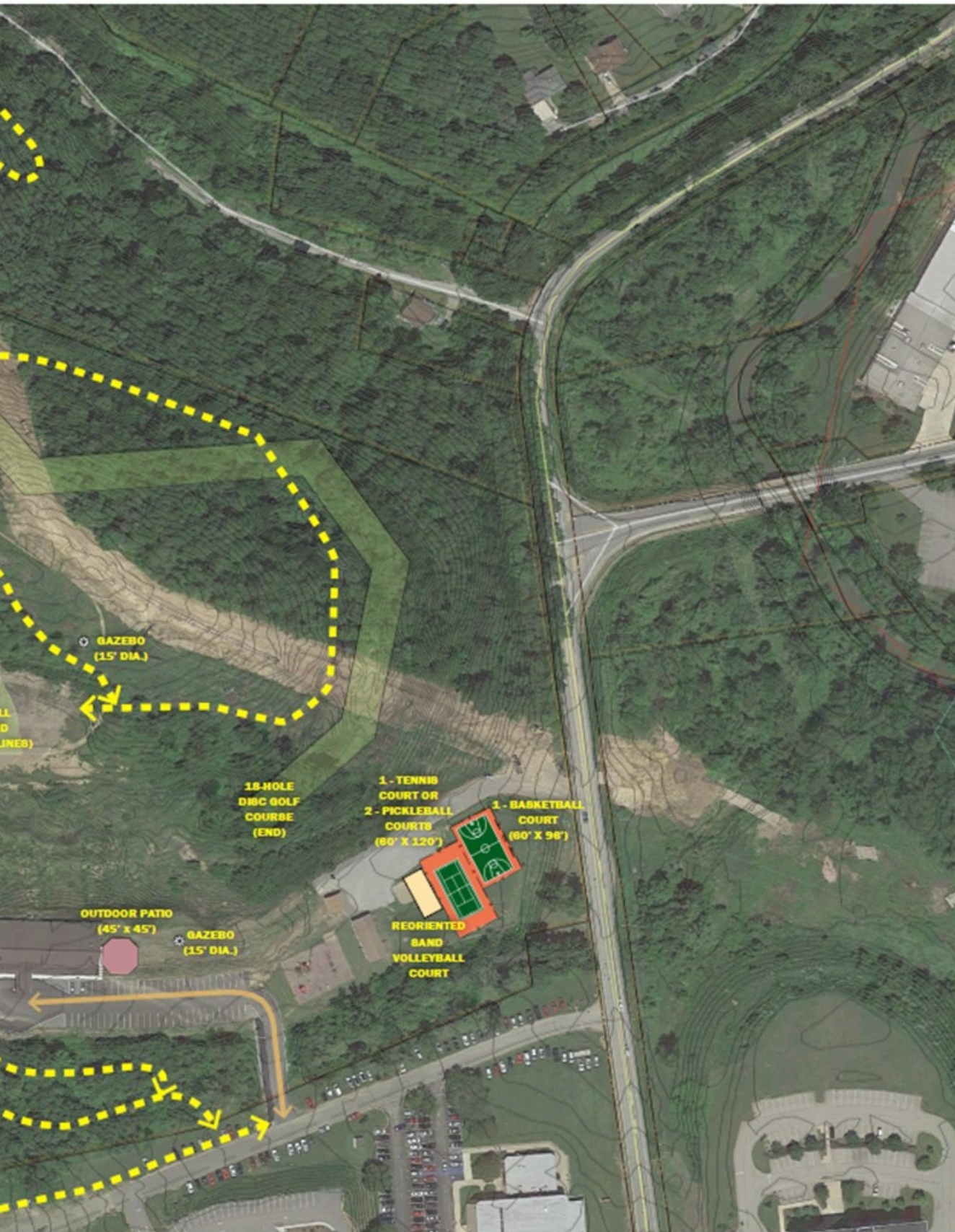
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CHARTIERS TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION PLAN ARNOLD PARK



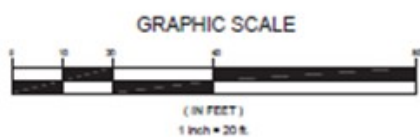
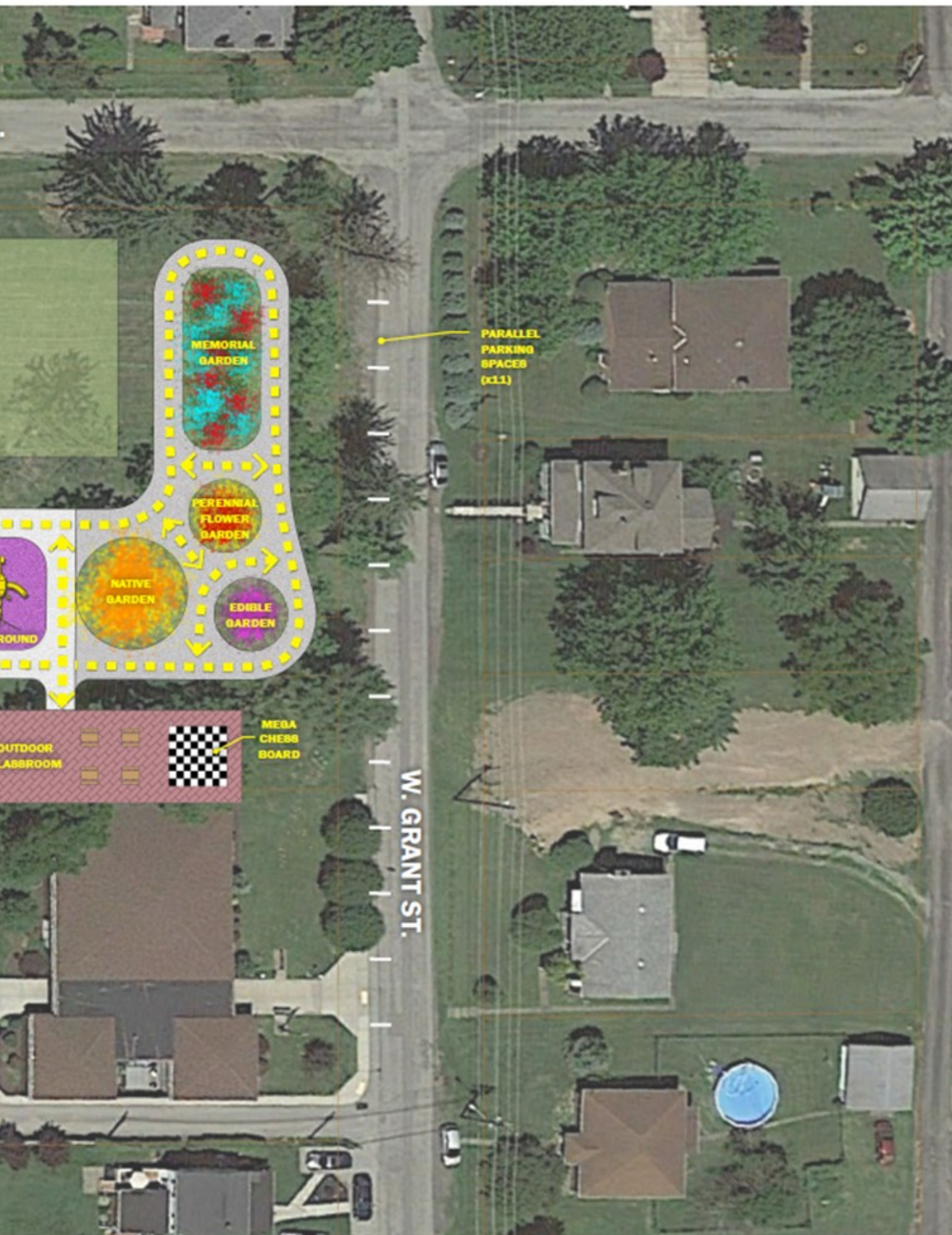
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CHARTIERS TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION PLAN PINE LAWN PARK



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Provide high quality Programs for all ages

Guiding Principle #1:

Expand the types of programs offered to best utilize existing and planned community facilities.

What we will do:

- ⇒ Develop new programs targeted for specific population groups.
- ⇒ Develop outdoor programs.
- ⇒ Conduct user surveys to assist in program evaluation.

Guiding Principle #2:

Develop partnerships to expand recreation programs.

What we will do:

- ⇒ Partner with the Chartiers Houston Community Library.
- ⇒ Develop multi-municipal partnerships.



<http://cityofwatsonville.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/MovieNight1.jpg>



A large, leafy tree in a park setting with a playground in the background.

This plan was prepared with assistance from:



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and James Watenpool, CPRP