

## Portsmouth Township

### Community Description

Portsmouth Township is located in the southern Bay County, east of Bay City and south of Hampton Township. The land within the Township is largely agricultural with some more densely populated residential lands on the west side near the City of Bay City. According to the 2000 Census the population of Portsmouth Township is 3,619.

### Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Portsmouth Township are administered by the seven-member Township Board. Some of the operation and maintenance of the Township Park is handled by a township staff person and some is contracted out to a local prison work crew.

**Budgets**

The source of **funding** for the park and recreation budget in Portsmouth Township is the township general **fund**. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

<b>PORTSMOUTH TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Operation & Maintenance	1,000	1,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	0	0

**Recreation Inventory**

Portsmouth Township owns Portsmouth Township Park and a portion of the area rail-trail. The Township **Supervisor** provided the information to complete the current inventory. The inventory of amenities in the parks is shown below. A location map is at the end of the section.

<b>PORTSMOUTH TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY</b>		
	<b>Portsmouth Township Park</b>	<b>Rail-Trail</b>
<b>Park Type*</b>	<b>Community Park</b>	<b>Park-Trail</b>
Acreage	3.5	2 miles
Accessibility*	3	4
Service Area	Entire Township	Entire County
Beach Volleyball	yes	
Playground Equipment	yes	
Basketball court	yes	
Horseshoe Pits	yes	
Pavilion	yes	
Restrooms	Port-a-john	

\*See County inventory section for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Portsmouth Township received an Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant in 1995 (TF95-200) for \$102,3000 for development of the Township Rail Trail.

## Goals and Objectives

Portsmouth Township has developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation.

### GOAL 1

Retain public land for future generations.

**Objective:** Retain existing parkland and, if the opportunity becomes available, acquire new public lands to meet future needs of the community

**Objective:** Preserve existing recreational facilities and acquire new public lands to enhance and expand those facilities.

### GOAL 2

Provide quality leisure time activities with special consideration given to improving health and fitness.

**Objective:** Provide and upgrade existing facilities, with consideration to health and safety.

**Objective:** Continue to work with existing recreation partners in the community to provide programs and facilities for special events, if needed.

### GOAL 3

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Portsmouth Township and Bay County.

**Objective:** Continue to add amenities to Portsmouth Township Park based upon community input, need, and **funding**.

**Objective:** Partner with other units of government and recreation providers to further promote broad-based recreation where available in Portsmouth Township.

### GOAL 4

Enhance and improve the existing Rail Trail (Portsmouth Township section) for recreational use.

**Objective:** Where possible, connect existing rail trail to regional trails and destinations.

**Objective:** Where feasible, encourage the Bay County Road Commission to provide easements for trails and possibly help with maintenance and improvement projects.

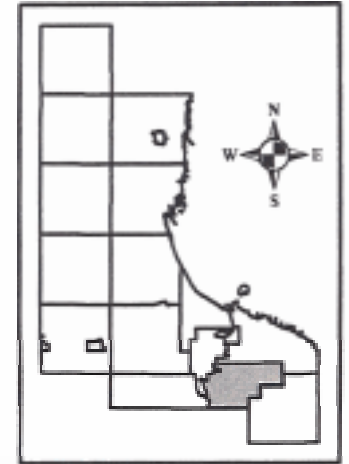
**Objective:** Develop and enhance existing features of the rail trail to ensure that it is accessible to the greatest number of people and meets existing and **future** safety concerns.

#### Action Plan

1. Network with area realtors regarding potential lands that may become available for **future** development opportunities.
2. Continue to maintain and upgrade existing facilities by utilizing township maintenance person, who has a background in safety training. Continue to utilize work crews from the Department of Corrections to maintain and improve existing facilities at the Township Hall.
3. Start and maintain a dialogue with neighboring townships, Bay County, and Bay City so as to be included in any broad-based recreation opportunities.
4. Apply for any state **and/or** federal grants that could be uses to enhance and improve the existing section of the Rail Trail that runs through Portsmouth Township. Also work with Rail Trail Committee to utilize its 'maintenance endowment fund' to maintain trail.

Feb 10, 2009

# Portsmouth Twp Park & Trail Locations



Map Produced By  
Bay County Department of Environmental Affairs 2  
Community Development - GIS Program  
Data Source - Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

DISCLAIMER This map is intended for general planning purposes only. The information has not been verified and was compiled from very generalized information and therefore SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR ANY SITE SPECIFIC PURPOSES. Bay County shall not be responsible for any direct or consequential damage resulting from any use of this information.

## Legend

- |              |                  |                          |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Parks        | Boat Ramps       | Railroad                 |
| Golf Courses | Existing Trails  | Streams & Drains         |
| Schools      | Local Roads      | Township City Boundaries |
|              | State Trunklines | Saginaw Bay              |
|              | Major Roads      |                          |

