

St. Joseph County Parks

Master Plan Update • 2009 – 2013



Section F:

Progress Evaluation



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St. Joseph County Parks

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Accomplishments and Changes 2004–2008

2004 Administrative Highlights

- The Five-Year Master Plan was submitted to the DNR in April. Copies were available for public review in the St. Joseph County Public Library. An abridged version was on the Parks' web site.
- In March, the Eco-Summit at Ferrettie/Baugo Creek brought together over two-dozen local and regional agencies and NGOs to talk about environmental issues.
- Participated in the Northern Indiana Math, Science and Engineering Center discussion team spearheaded by St. Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame. The group supports whole-community efforts in science, math and technology education.
- Completed a new picnic rental brochure and had it translated into Spanish.
- Assisted with the launch of the Michiana Greenways Vision Charrette with representatives from adjacent counties in Indiana and Michigan to discuss greenways visions for the future.
- Recognized for our long-standing partnership with the Kankakee Marsh Restoration Project funded by the North American Wetland Conservation Act.
- The interpretive and leisure services staff achieved Certified Interpretive Guide status through the National Association for Interpretation, making St. Joseph County Parks the first county parks department to certify their entire programming staff.
- The park board approved "80/20 guidelines" for development at park sites. The guidelines suggest development should be limited to 20% at sites with heavy recreational use. Development should be below 20% at those sites categorized as natural areas, or state dedicated nature preserves.
- Received two grants: \$300 for interpretive signage from the National Association for Interpretation and an IAC grant administered through the Community Foundation of \$3,459 in support of the Blues & Ribs Fest at St. Patrick's Park.
- A prescribed burn was completed at Place Trail Marsh. Funds came from a contribution by the Ritschard Brothers. Ducks Unlimited supervised Phase 2 development of the Eller tract. Worked with area farmers to develop a hydrology system compatible with adjacent land uses.
- Through a public auction, purchased 75 acres of adjacent land at Spicer Lake Nature Preserve in May. The purchase was supported financially by individual donors, the Parks Foundation, the Friends of Bendix Woods and Spicer Lake, South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society and the Indiana Nature Conservancy. Two state and federal grants to support funding for the purchase are pending.
- The following institutions of higher learning conducted research projects at our sites: University of Notre Dame, Indiana University of South Bend and Bethel College.



2004 Project Highlights

Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park

- Installed firearm and park hours signage on bay property and island
- Installed new Deco-Quartz flooring in Baugo Station restrooms and hall
- Repainted routed park signs as needed
- Repaired or rebuilt many of the existing parking lot lights as needed

Bendix Woods County Park

- Sanded and repainted fresh water well tank
- Painted interior of several buildings including the Van Paris, Glenn Bauer and Studebaker Shelters
- Installed new kiosk
- Miscellaneous repairs to the Sugar House

St. Patrick's County Park

- Completed and moved into new Maintenance Service Center
- Installed new grills at the Hurwich Shelter
- Rebuilt lower lift station located near Brown Barn
- Cleanup of area south and east of main entrance
- Removed old maintenance compound and installed new grass

Spicer Lake Nature Preserve

- Installed new bird observation window on west wall of Visitor Center
- Installed new audio gear for bird observation window
- Painted interior of Visitor Center

2004 Program Highlights

New Public Programs

- Adult Spinning and Dyeing class at Penn High School
- Gourmet Maple Syrup Dinner and Workshop
- GPS classes for schools
- Home School Program Series
- Joint Disc Golf Tournament with Madeline-Bertrand Park
- Mad Scientists
- Natural Art Series

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- Nature Photography Workshops
- Pet First Aid
- Public Maple Syrup Programs (i.e., Maple Syrup by Moonlight)
- South Bend Tribune - Newspapers in Education Earth Day - Recycling
- U93 Public Hayrides
- Whales Tales
- Winter Warm Ups
- WZOW Twilight Tubing and Snowshoe Party

New Partnered Special Events

- Eco-Summit (Elkhart EnviroCorps)
- Site for Mutt March (Pet Refuge)
- Site for Teddy Bear Run/Walk (Aids Ministries)
- Site for Woodstock '04 (WZOW)

Program Enhancements

- Beach improvements including: raft repainted and carpeted; sand mountain created; water noodles purchased
- Four one-person kayaks and one two-person kayak purchased for rentals
- Disc golf course tees re-painted and re-set
- Ski rental areas and trails re-vamped; skate skiing offered
- Self-guided nature trail at Ferrettie/Baugo Creek
- Outdoor Elements (half-hour nature show in partnership with WNIT-TV) airs Monday-Saturday.

2004 Successes

- Total estimated attendance =281,341
- 15,194 participants joined us for interpretive programs
- 31,417 participants joined us for leisure activities
- 335 picnic shelters or buildings in the parks were rented for approximately 35,915 visitors, generating \$39,665
- Leisure Services income: \$97,633.23
- Interpretive Services income: \$17,609.12
- 919.05 hours in volunteer time was donated to Interpretive and Leisure Services programming, translating to a value of \$14,704.80 (based on The Independent Sector group).
- \$90,013.18 worth of materials, cash and in-kind services were donated for program support. Of that, \$81,880 was directed towards the Spicer Lake land acquisition.



2005 Administrative Highlights

- In February, we launched bimonthly meetings with the administrative teams of South Bend and Mishawaka Parks and Recreation departments.
- In July, we assisted with the organization and facilitation of the Michiana Greenways and Trails Charrette. Memorial Hospital was a major sponsor. Eleven counties participated and created a “vision map” of existing, planned and wish list trails for the region.
- At the recommendation of the Efficiency Study Team, our department conducted a fee review with the park board. Fee changes go into effect January 2006.
- We conducted two park board retreats, one in March and one in November. In September, we held an all-staff training on severe weather with Sam Lashley of the National Weather Service.
- In October, we held an appreciation dinner for partners, donors and supporters of the park system. It was held at St. Patrick’s Park and honored Florie Fischgrund.
- In fall, we received the news that the Firefly Board had dissolved.
- In December, we met with Commissioner Bodle to discuss expectations for the Jackson Road site.
- Tom Stankus completed his term on the park board, and retired after eight years. Marge Riemenschneider was appointed by the Commissioners to fill the post beginning in 2006.
- We installed a wireless access point system at the amphitheater at St. Patrick’s Park.
- Deputy Director, Steve Slauson received the Outstanding Professional of the Year Award for Indiana Parks and Recreation. Director Evie Kirkwood received the Lawson Award from the Great Lakes Park Training Institute and the Henry R. Ferrettie Award for Outstanding Community Service from IUSB.

2005 Project Highlights

Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park

- New roof on the Oak Tree Shelter
- New sidewalk and interpretive sign at the playground
- New flagpole at park entrance in front of gatehouse
- Replaced exterior wall and several oak beams at gatehouse

Bendix Woods County Park

- Replaced defective condensing units
- Interior painting of several buildings
- Installation of new kiosk near playground

Place Trail Marsh

- Completed native seeding on 4 acres

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- Seasonal pumping to enhance water levels

St. Patrick's County Park

- Concrete slab along South side of new maintenance building
- Replace support posts and bracing at the Berta Shelter
- Paint interior of Red Barn rental area
- New grape trellis fencing along with several new plants
- Construction and installation of new trail signage system

Spicer Lake Nature Preserve

- Planning and bids for renovation of Nature Center
- Ongoing repair to trails and related signage
- Miscellaneous interior painting

2005 Program Highlights

New Public Programs

- Adult Weaving class at Penn High School
- Animals Prepare for Winter
- M.I.S.T (Michiana Invasive Species Task Force)
- Monthly programs for resident children at YWCA
- Interpretive Goals & Objectives (goals established for attendance, revenue and partnerships)
- Beginning Juggling
- Dance the Day Away
- Family Fun Weekend at the Beach
- Geocache Stash Hunt
- GoFish-IN Crew Captain Workshop
- Fishing Program for Home Schoolers
- Go Fly a Kite
- Late Great Family Swim Evening
- Making Knotted Mats
- Celebrate Your Autumn
- Meet a Fish
- Which Bear Where?

Program Enhancements

- Signage upgrade at all gatehouses and tube hills and ski trails



- Beach bags - play items for guests to use and return
- Cell phone protection packets – protects cell phone from getting wet in canoes
- Updates on snow conditions posted on web site
- Purchased new cross-country ski poles
- New winter trail map at St. Patrick's Park for hiking and skiing trails
- Program signage at Ferrettie/Baugo Creek translated into Spanish
- Interpretive Program Brochure, updated and on-line
- Interpretive signs for Mutt March at Bendix Woods
- Repaired 10 canoes and purchased two new
- New traditional craft demonstrations at Sugar Camp Days
- Multi-Program Discount Card for schools

2005 Successes

- Total attendance was 284,219 visitors, an increase of almost 3,000 over 2004.
- 12,774 participants joined us for interpretive programs and 27,358 participants joined us for leisure activities.
- Leisure Services revenue: \$81,457
- Interpretive Services revenue: \$17,359
- 1134.7 hours in volunteer time were donated to the Interpretive and Leisure Services Division for program support. That translates to a value of \$18,155.52 (based on The Independent Sector). This is an increase from last year's 919 hours.
- \$8,556 worth of supplies was donated to the Interpretive and Leisure Services Division for program support.
- Revenue from picnic shelters increased 17% over 2004 figures.
- We provided discounted program services for seven local agencies, including Madison Center, local YMCAs and YWCA of St. Joseph County.

2006 Administrative Highlights

- St. Joseph County Parks celebrated its 40th Anniversary in 2006 with several projects and events, including The Best Blast at St. Patrick's Park, free gate entry to all parks on July 1 and a new playground installation at St. Patrick's Park.
- Total attendance for 2006 in the St. Joseph County Parks was 257,223 visitors, a decrease of roughly 26,000 over 2005. The loss of the Firefly Festival and the lack of winter activities because of no snow, were the most likely cause of the overall decrease.
- In April, all county parks became "smoke free" and appropriate signage was installed at the entrances to all parks, and at all picnic shelters.
- The parks adjusted hours to Daylight Savings Time, increasing our public hours, but also increasing ranger expenses. Out-of-county gate fees increased and collection months expanded.

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- In May, we participated in the Governor's Conference on Trails. Deputy Director Steve Slauson served on the State Trails Advisory Board.
- In July, in conjunction with the Parks Foundation, we hosted a park patrons dinner at St. Patrick's County Park during the Best Blast concert event.
- We continued bi-monthly meetings with the administrative teams of South Bend and Mishawaka Parks and Recreation departments to foster communication between the agencies.
- In December, we completed a "bargain sale" purchase agreement to purchase 104.7 acres adjacent to St. Patrick's County Park. In addition to CEDIT funds, we raised \$80,000 in grants for the acquisition. (Community Foundation of St. Joseph County, Florence V. Carroll Charitable Trust, South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society, Indiana Heritage Trust.)
- Open houses held at Bendix Woods and St. Patrick's County Park in fall, highlighted rental options for shelters and the Manion Cabin.
- Supported by donations made by private individuals, schools with financial need received discounted interpretive program fees.
- 25 non-profit groups received discounted shelter or site usage.
- The following institutions of higher learning conducted research projects at our sites: University of Notre Dame, University of Wisconsin, Indiana University of South Bend and Bethel College.
- Herptile surveys were conducted by independent researchers and by the DNR at various park sites.
- We received a grant for \$500 for the playground at St. Patrick's Park and an Indiana Arts Commission grant for \$2,887 for Folk Faire at St. Patrick's County Park.

2006 Project Highlights

Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park

- Repairs related to vandalism
- Cleanup and entrance road grading at Bay Property
- Repainted rooms in various buildings

Bendix Woods County Park

- Removed carpet from Studebaker Shelter and cleaned floor
- Interior painting of several buildings
- Landscape work at flagpole and main entrance

St. Patrick's County Park

- Installed new barn themed playground
- Converted former maintenance shop to new meeting/rental room
- Installed new park sign at intersection of Auten and Laurel Roads
- Graded and hydro-seeded area around Freedom Memorial



Spicer Lake Nature Preserve

- Construction of Nature Center addition
- Construction of elevated walkway/deck at Nature Center
- Construction of elevated observation platform
- Note: all of the above projects were part of a LWCF Grant

Anderson Road Site

- Installed vinyl siding and soffit on storage building.

2006 Program Highlights

New Public Programs

- Women Experience the Outdoors series
- Hands-On programs including, Faux Mosaics and Build a Box Kite
- Senior Lunch Bunch series
- Disc Golf Course Community Clean-up
- Disc Golf Lessons for Schools
- Water Monitoring Class
- Family Canoe Picnic
- Leisure Learning series
- Summer Shakespeare in the Park
- Tail Waggin' Hayride
- Walk On!
- Stroller Walks
- Badge Blitzes (for Scouts)
- Natural Birthday Parties
- Weaving in the Woods
- Variety of School Interpretive Program including: Eat or Be Eaten; Classify that Animal; Who Lives Here & Why; Animals Prepare for Winter; Lewis & Clark Hike; Natural Dyes; Seeds & Leaves

Program Notes

- Private, parochial and home school groups are increasing clientele for interpretive programs, as well as scout troops (Boy and Girl Scouts). Revenue for Interpretive programs increased by 50%.
- Overall, there was a 16% decrease in leisure services program attendance, and program revenue showed a corresponding decrease. The decrease is attributed to the absence of winter sports



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- programming due to the lack of snow. When figures are extracted for winter sports, remaining leisure programs show an 8% increase in attendance.
- Switching to an un-guarded beach format at Ferrettie/Baugo Creek increased our beach participation. Revenue from disc golf jumped 71%.

New Special Events

- Outdoor Expo
- Best Blast
- Folk Faire (WVPE)
- run, jane, run Bike Ride
- Umphrey's McGee concert
- Celebrate with the Stars
- BioBlitz
- On-going programs include, but are not limited to: disc golf, canoe rental, innertubing, cross-country ski trails and rental, snow shoe rental, swimming beach, hayrides, interpretive programs, environmental education programs for schools, and summer nature day camp.

2006 Successes

- Total park visitation was over 250,000
- 15,027 participants joined us for interpretive programs
- 22,974 participants joined us for leisure activities
- Leisure Services income: \$50,907.50
- Interpretive Services income: \$26,051.59
- 1,637.60 hours in volunteer time was donated to Interpretive and Leisure Services programming in our parks. That translates to a value of \$26,201.60 (based on The Independent Sector Group).
- \$2,991.01 worth of materials, cash and in-kind services were donated for program support.
- Over 43,000 people used our picnic rental facilities and revenue from picnic shelters increased \$10.5%.
- BioBlitz at St. Patrick's County logged over 600 plant and animals species found in the park.
- Nearly 70 hunters hunted waterfowl at Place Trail Marsh Natural Area, through a cooperative program with the IDNR.
- We provided discounted programming for several area agencies, including the Center for the Homeless, YWCA and Family and Children's Campus.



2007 Administrative Highlights

- The parks continued to adjust hours to Daylight Savings Time, increasing our public hours, but also increasing ranger expenses by an estimated \$7,000. Out-of-county gate fees increased by \$1.00.
- St. Joseph County Parks received the 2007 Clean Air Partner Award from MACOG. We were recognized for altering mowing and fueling schedules, installing energy saving lights and providing alternative parking on hot days.
- As requested by the County Efficiency Study addendum, we completed a review of job descriptions for all employees. The project was coordinated by consultants hired by the county, to ensure job descriptions contain all legal requirements
- We hired Lehman and Lehman, Inc. to facilitate our Master Plan for 2009-2013.
- An Option to Lease was signed by Crowne Castle International for investigating installation of a cell tower at St. Patrick's County Park. The company has 18 months from the date of signing to pursue plans to install a tower, if feasible.
- Through our Parks as Partners program, we provided discounted programming to the YWCA and camp scholarships to the Family and Children's Center. Supported by donations made by private individuals, schools with financial need also received discounted interpretive program fees.
- 25 non-profit groups received discounted shelter or site usage.
- Revenue from picnic shelters was \$55,720, an increase of 7%.
- Staff from Emergency Management toured each of the active St. Joseph County Parks to assess locations for shelter during storms.
- The Eppley Institute was contracted to gather data on alternative funding sources for parks systems around the country, as well as providing case studies on mergers. Copies of the studies were provided to the County Commissioners.

Grants

- We installed an osprey pole and platform at St. Patrick's County Park with a grant to the Parks Foundation from I&M Electric.
- We completed a stream stabilization project along 300 feet of shoreline at Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park, funded by a Great Lakes Basin Commission grant.
- A portion of Spicer Lake Nature Preserve was fenced with a grant from Indiana Heritage Trust Foundation

Research

- Herptile surveys were conducted by independent researchers at Chamberlain Lake and Place Trail Marsh Natural Area.
- Prof. Steve Silliman from the University of Notre Dame conducted groundwater research at Anderson Road.

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2007 Project Highlights

Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park

- Bank stabilization project completed near Baugo Station.
- Removed and replaced roofing on Orchard Shelter.
- Installed lighting and receptacles in Tube/Canoe storage building.
- Added alarm system to barn section of nature center.

St. Patrick's County Park

- Construction of the Jaffee Shelter at River Terrace playground area.
- Removed bleachers and Timber From playground.
- Installed new shelving in several White Barn storage rooms.
- Rebuilt damaged pump house controls and transformer.

Spicer Lake Nature Preserve

- Planted 9 acres of native hardwoods and 9 acres of prairie in CRP program, with funding support from the Reimenschneider family.
- Perimeter fencing installed around private property.
- Accessible trail construction – component of our Land and Water Conservation grant, funded by the Pfeil Family.
- Completed new elevated observation platform.
- Installed new kiosk near Visitor Center entrance.

Bendix Woods County Park

- Repaired Studebaker Shelter damaged by tree.
- Added crushed limestone around shelters/service road.
- Installed new Arch for evaporator pan in Sugar House.

2007 Program Highlights

- Winter Adventures - day camp
- Women Experience the Outdoors Snowshoe and Spa day; Celebrate the Night, Campfire Cooking
- Making Pipe Flutes
- Adopt-A-River Clean-Up
- Leisure Learning: Fishing for Fun, Yoga & Massage, Renaissance Juggling
- Fantastic Fly Fishing
- Faux Mosaics



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- Hummingbird Banding
- Nature's Super Snoopers
- Ag Days
- Glacier Flats Sunset Hike
- Spider Prowl
- RAD (self defense for women)
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (school program)
- Spring Detectives (school program)

Program Notes

- 14,160 participants joined us for interpretive programs - income: \$25,947.99.
- 34,701 participants joined us for leisure activities - income: \$93,102.80.
- \$11,630.76 worth of materials, cash and in-kind services were donated for program support.
- We received several program support grants/sponsorships this year including \$1,000.00 Take Me Fishing grant and \$26,500.00 festival support for the JPMorgan Chase Festival of Art and Music
- 33 parties of 68 hunters harvested 131 waterfowl from Place Trail Marsh.

On-going Programs

- On-going programs include but are not limited to: disc golf, canoe rental, innertubing, cross-country ski trails and rental, snow shoe rental, swimming beach, hayrides, interpretive programs, environmental education programs for schools, and summer nature day camp.

New Special Events

- Gospelfest
- Canoe with U93 Day
- 9th Annual Walk for Lupus

2007 Successes

- Total attendance was 280,090 visitors, an increase of 22,850 over 2006. This increase was primarily attributed to being open for winter programs because of snow.
- There were 426 paid shelter and building rentals in 2007, a 9% increase.
- We received a 2007 Clean Air Partner Award from MACOG. We were recognized for altering mowing schedules and fueling schedules, installing energy saving lights and providing alternative employee parking on hot days.
- 25 non-profit groups received discounted shelter or site usage in the parks.
- We completed a stream stabilization project at Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park.
- The Dorothy Jaffe Memorial Shelter, funded by the Jaffe family and the Parks Foundation, was installed at St. Patrick's County Park.



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- An accessible wildlife observation platform was installed at Spicer Lake Nature Preserve. Funding was provided by the Stankus family.
- 1,447.2 hours in volunteer time was donated to Interpretive and Leisure Services programming translating to a value of \$27,163.94.

2008 Administrative Highlights

General

- Gate revenues rose by more than 26% system-wide.
- St. Patrick's County Park was featured in Indiana Outdoors magazine as a Heritage Trust project.
- We worked with Lehman and Lehman to facilitate our Master Plan for 2009-2013. A community web survey, a community advisory group, and a public meeting aided efforts to gather input from citizens.
- The Pfeil Pfamily Trail at Spicer Lake Nature Preserve was dedicated in May.
- Our Parks as Partners program, funded by individual donors, sponsored discounted/free programming to several schools and non-profit organizations including the YWCA, Logan's Center and the Family and Children's Center.
- St. Joseph County Parks partnered with St. Joseph County Soil and Water Conservation District, South Bend Parks and Recreation, and Mishawaka Parks and Recreation to declare October 3, 2008 as No Child Left Inside Day in St. Joseph County. The County Commissioners issued a proclamation in September.
- Fischgrund Amphitheater promoter and rental procedures packets, and picnic site reservation forms were developed and uploaded to our website.
- The annual deer management program at St. Patrick's County Park harvested 18 deer; eight were donated to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry.
- Place Trail Marsh continues to be the only public land in St. Joseph County open to hunting. 28 parties of 62 hunters took 108 waterfowl from Place Trail Marsh.
- At Bio-Blitz, 400 species were documented by scientists at St. Patrick's County Park.
- Maria Peacock, Interpretive Services Manager and Brooke Artley, Interpretive Services Manager received IU Certifications in Women's Leadership in Parks and Recreation. Tom DeMonia, Facilities Manager, received Playground Safety Certification from the National Recreation and Parks Association.
- Park Director, Evie Kirkwood, received the Conservation Educator of the Year award from the Soil and Water Conservation District. Amal Farrough received the Sandy McBeath Outstanding Part-Time Interpreter award from the Great Lakes Region of the National Association for Interpretation.



2008 Project Highlights

Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park

- Replaced oak beams on east end of Oak Tree Shelter.
- Rebuilt, and relocated canoe rack and constructed new foot path.
- Installed new disc golf tee pads and markers.
- Installed new playground mulch at Oak Tree Playground.

Spicer Lake Nature Preserve

- Completed accessible trail construction that was part of LWCF grant.
- Added ADA updates to new elevated observation platform.
- Replaced several damaged boards on boardwalk (ongoing).

Bendix Woods County Park

- Installed new fueling station and tanks.
- New Gate House well and related equipment.
- Updated plumbing fixtures at Glenn Bauer Shelter.
- Installed new interpretive signs at Sugar Bush.

St. Patrick's County Park

- Installed new Toshiba phone and voicemail system.
- Installed new accessible fishing pier near Brown Barn.
- Installed new accessible walkway to Brown Barn fishing pier.
- Added additional bracing to Hurwich Shelter.
- Rebuilt bedroom ceiling at Manion Cabin.

2008 Program Highlights

On-going Programs

On-going programs include but are not limited to: disc golf, canoe rental, innertubing, cross-country ski trails and rental, snow shoe rental, hayrides, interpretive programs, environmental education programs for schools, and summer nature day camp.

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A Sampler of New Programs

- Constellations, Cookies & Cocoa
- Women Experience the Outdoors: leaf print tote bags and campfire cooking, canoe trip and water quality, pressed flower plates and dandelion recipes
- Leisure Learning-Disc Golf Lessons
- Recycled Knitting
- Nature Photography
- Pop Can Cooking Stove
- Water Monitoring
- Dog Sledding Lessons
- Spa Day, BXW
- Snowshoe Making,
- Curious Critters, Healthworks Museum
- Peregrine Falcon Naming Contest
- Plant Swap
- Caning Class
- Winter Wonders
- Natural Art Series- Paper Lanterns, Fall Foliage Hang-arounds, Birdseed Wreaths
- Things that Go Bump in the Night

Program Notes

- Purchased new rental kayaks, lifejackets and paddles
- Updated the St. Patrick's County Park winter trail map to include color-coded trails
- Pro Shop selection of discs and bags expanded at Ferrettie-Baugo Creek
- Purchased and assembled new bindings for rental snowshoes
- Taped the 8th season of Outdoor Elements, in partnership with WNIT, and launched an enhanced website

2008 Successes

Total attendance for 2008 in the St. Joseph County Parks was 262,315 visitors.

Environment

- With a grant from the Jimmy New Foundation we planted the entry medians at Bendix Woods County Park with native wildflowers. Funding from NiSource Environmental Challenge Grant also helped us plant four acres of prairie at Bendix Woods. A mowing reduction plan reduced mowing system-wide by 20%.



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Recreation/Health and Wellness

- 31,305 participants hiked, skied, paddled, innertubed, swam and more during our Leisure Services programs.

Education/Family

- 14,948 school children, home schoolers and families joined us for natural and cultural history Interpretive programs including programs on pond studies, pioneer skills, fur trade history and maple syrup.

Sense of Community

- 2,574 hours in volunteer time was donated to Interpretive and Leisure Services programming in our parks. 41 non-profit groups received discounted shelters or programs. Pfeil Pfamily Trail was dedicated in May.



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