WELCOME!

DUCK CREEK NATURAL AREA
PUBLIC INPUT MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2023

PRESENTATION WILL BEGIN @ 6:05 PM

ALL DOCUMENTS INCLUDING PRESENTATION ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE @ WWW.FRUITLANDMI.GOV/DCNA RESOURCES

Fruitland Township, MI

FRUITLAND TRAILS

AGENDA

- Welcome
  - Supervisor Jeff Marcinkowski
- Duck Creek Natural Area Presentation
  - Dave Rice
- Public Comment & Questions

MICHIGAN SCORP

STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

Exhibit 1. Top Outdoor Recreation Activities, by Percent Participation

Activity	Total Participant Days	Participation Rate
Relaxing outdoors	436,642,901	75%
Walking outdoors, including dog walking	576,132,624	74%
Visiting parks or playgrounds	150,420,905	67%
Sightseeing and/or driving for pleasure	200,974,504	64%
Visiting nature centers or historic sites	36,465,987	56%
Swimming outdoors	99,130,632	54%
Picnicking	58,330,039	53%
Fishing	77,266,345	41%
Team or individual sports outdoors	84,751,341	37%
Wildlife viewing and/or photography (including birding)	108,373,278	36%
Hiking/backpacking	48,025,953	34%
Jogging/running	137,149,463	34%
Canoeing, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, or wind surfing	26,960,187	32%
Road biking	68,469,091	31%
Motor boating	49,747,531	31%

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Relaxing outdoors	436,642,901	75%
Walking outdoors, including dog walking	576,132,624	74%
Visiting parks or playgrounds	150,420,905	67%

*Denotes an activity in which multiple response categories were combined into a single figure.

Source: Public Sector Consultants conducted a statewide recreation telephone survey of Michigan residents on behalf of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, April–May 2017.

Vision

A multi-use, four season accessible trail system in Fruitland Township will provide safe, naturally beautiful, low-cost opportunities for non-motorized transportation, exercise and recreation for all.

Mission

501c3

The "*Friends of Fruitland Township Trails*" (FFTT) is a non-profit group of volunteers aiming to build a trail network connecting natural resources, parks and public properties, historic sites, cultural landmarks and other trails that already exist to develop a comprehensive trail system throughout the Fruitland Township.

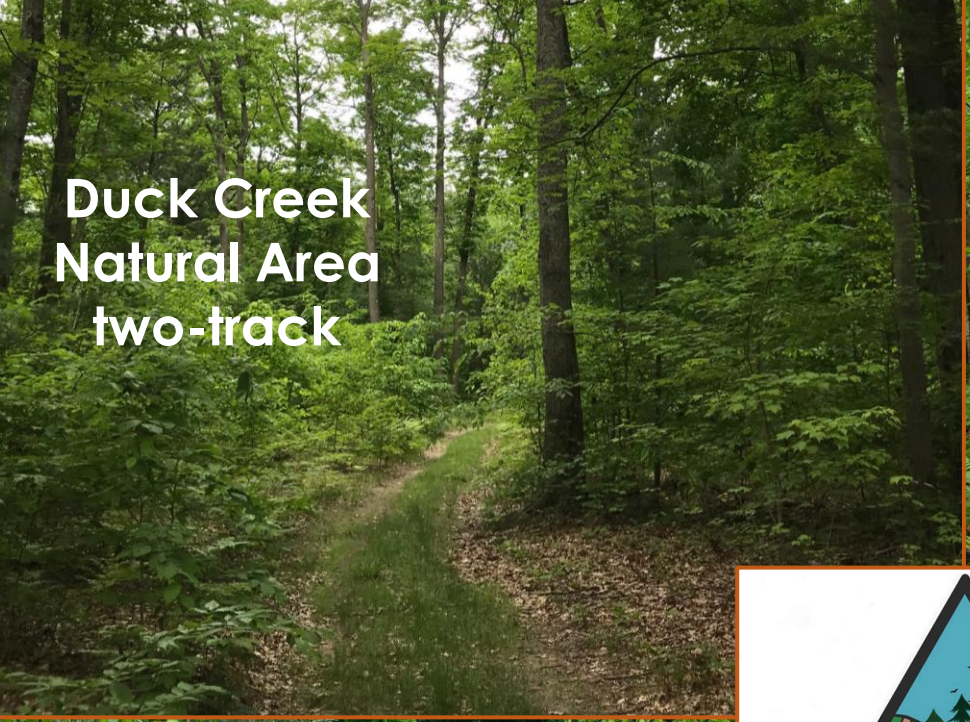
Goal

Create a trail network that goes from Lake Michigan to the Berry Junction Trail

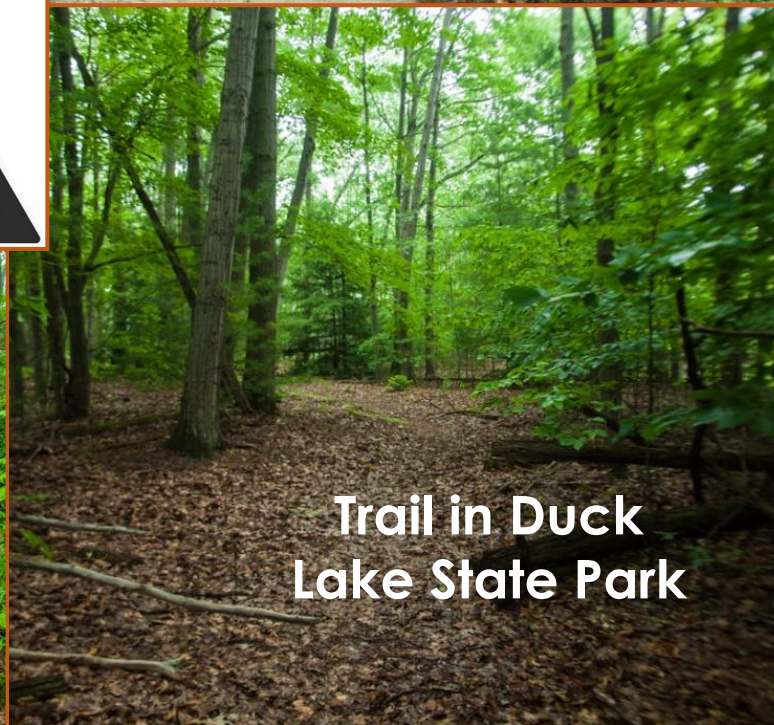
For more information or to volunteer

- **Fruitlandtrails@gmail.com**

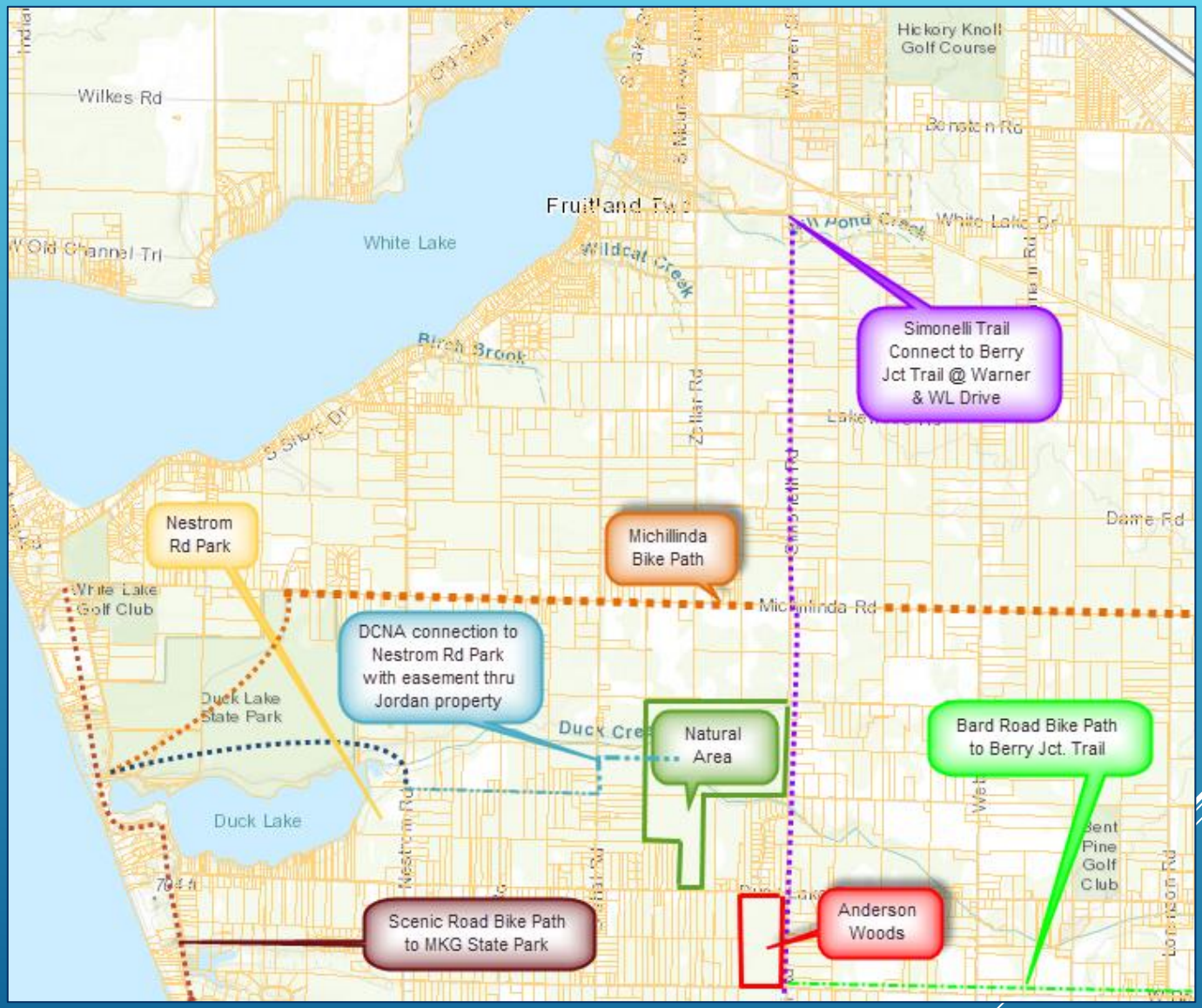
Fruitlandtrails



FRUITLAND TRAILS



Potential Trails

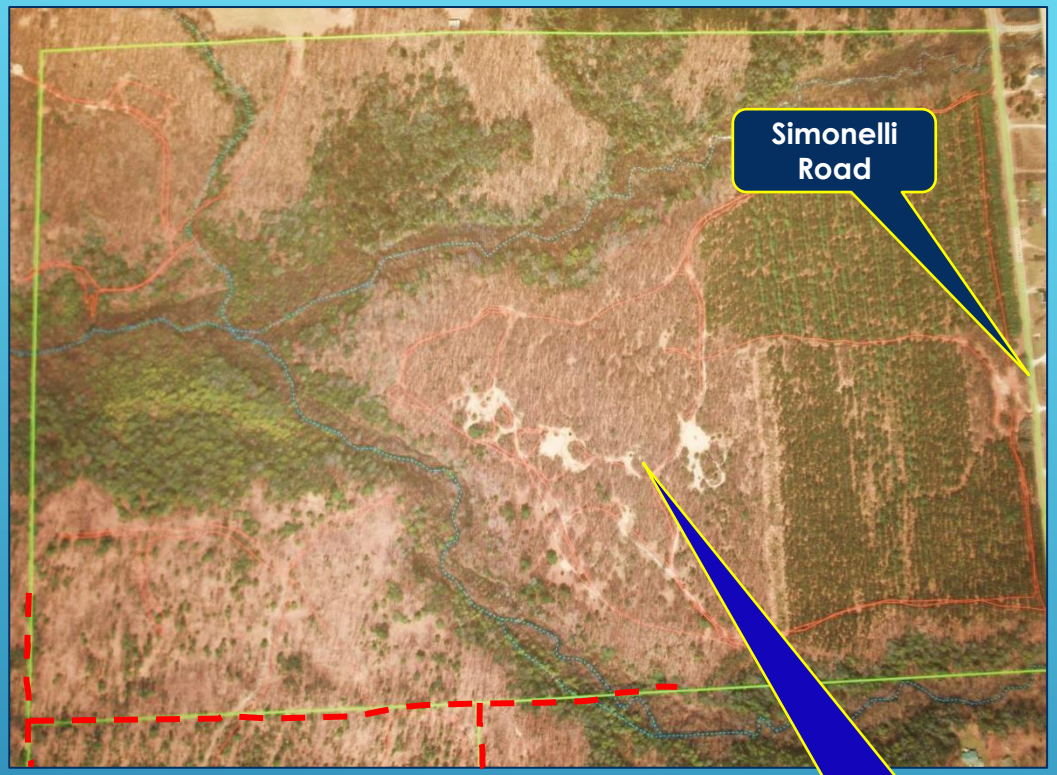


Fruitland Township, MI

FRUITLAND TRAILS

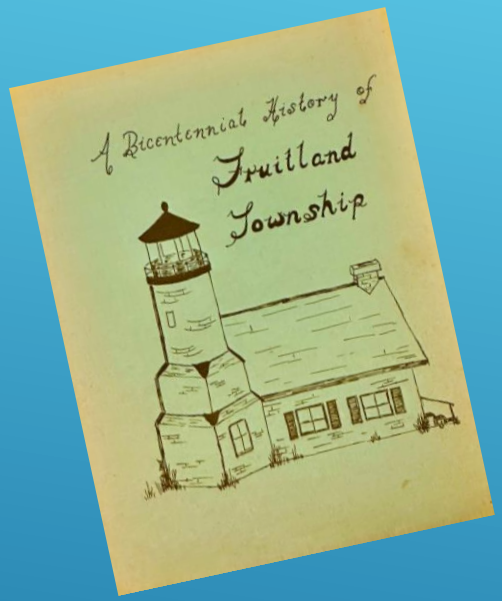
- **Duck Creek Natural Area**

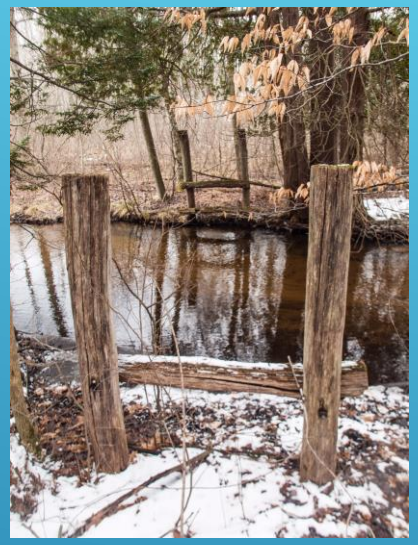
South Section Duck Lake Road access

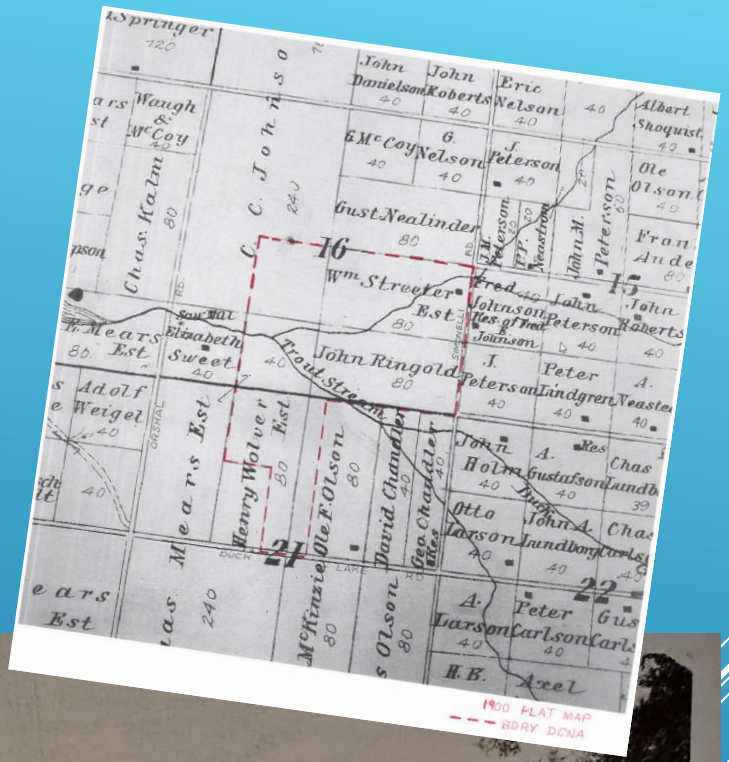


Northeast Section Simonelli Road access

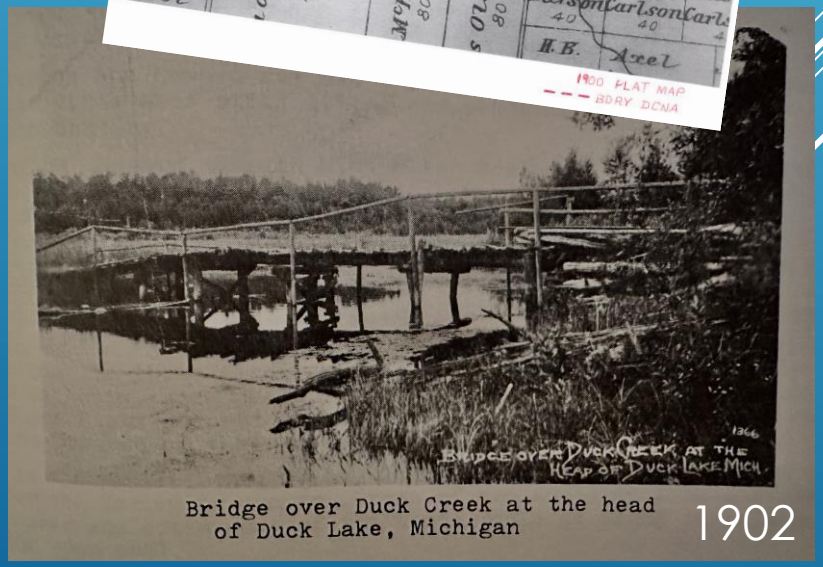
DUCK CREEK NATURAL AREA - HISTORY







- Logging of DCNA began in late 1840's with a sawmill built @ mouth of Duck Lake by Charles Mears
- During 1920's Red Pines were planted in many areas of the Township as a source of revenue
  - 45 acres in DCNA off Simonelli
- No other development

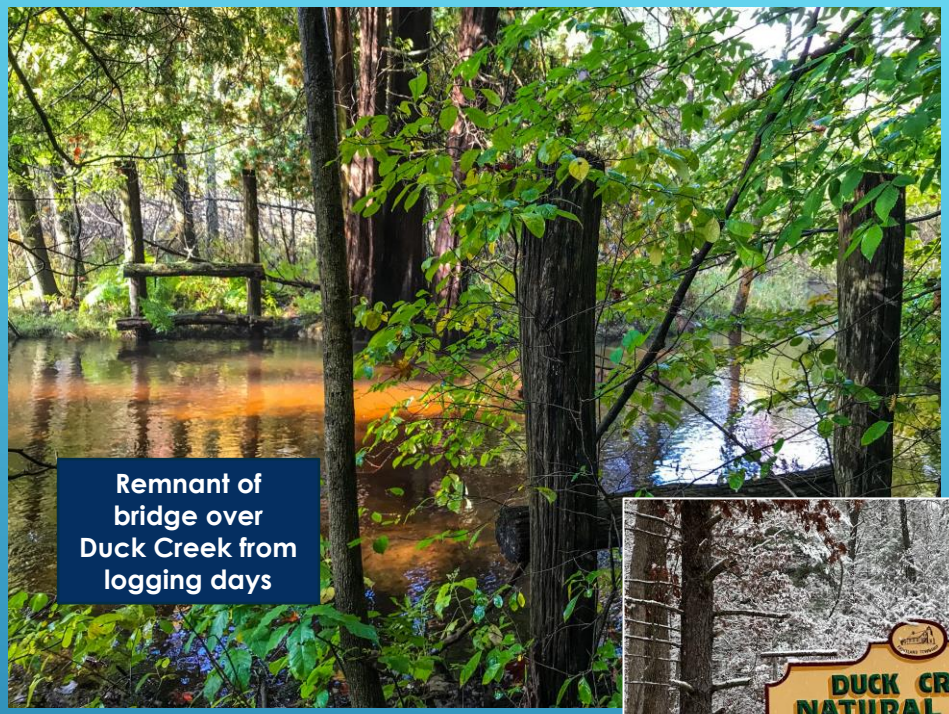


Bridge over Duck Creek at the head of Duck Lake, Michigan

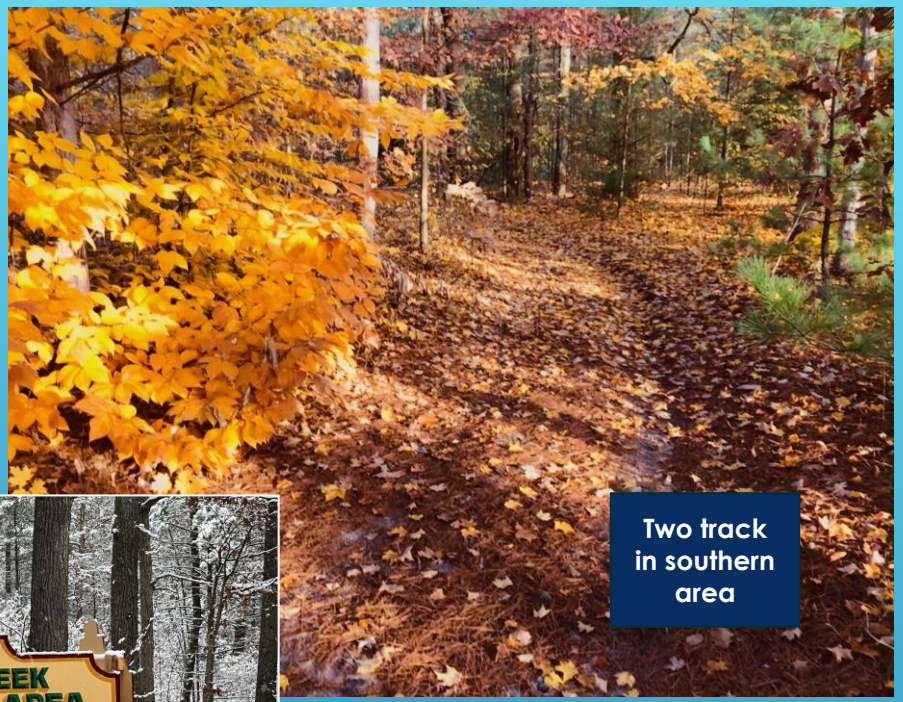
1902

DUCK CREEK NATURAL AREA - HISTORY

- **1992** - Township Supervisor Richard Hain orchestrated a purchase of the property to preserve 310 acres in the middle of the township from residential development
- **2010 – R8** - Twp Property Ordinance covered DCNA as well as other Twp properties regarding hunting, etc.
- **2019 – R63** - Natural Area Conservation District Ordinance regarding approved activities with in the DCNA



Remnant of bridge over Duck Creek from logging days



Two track in southern area

Two track in north-east area

Natural surface trail

Duck Creek Natural Area

Fruitland Township

ADA Compliant Trails

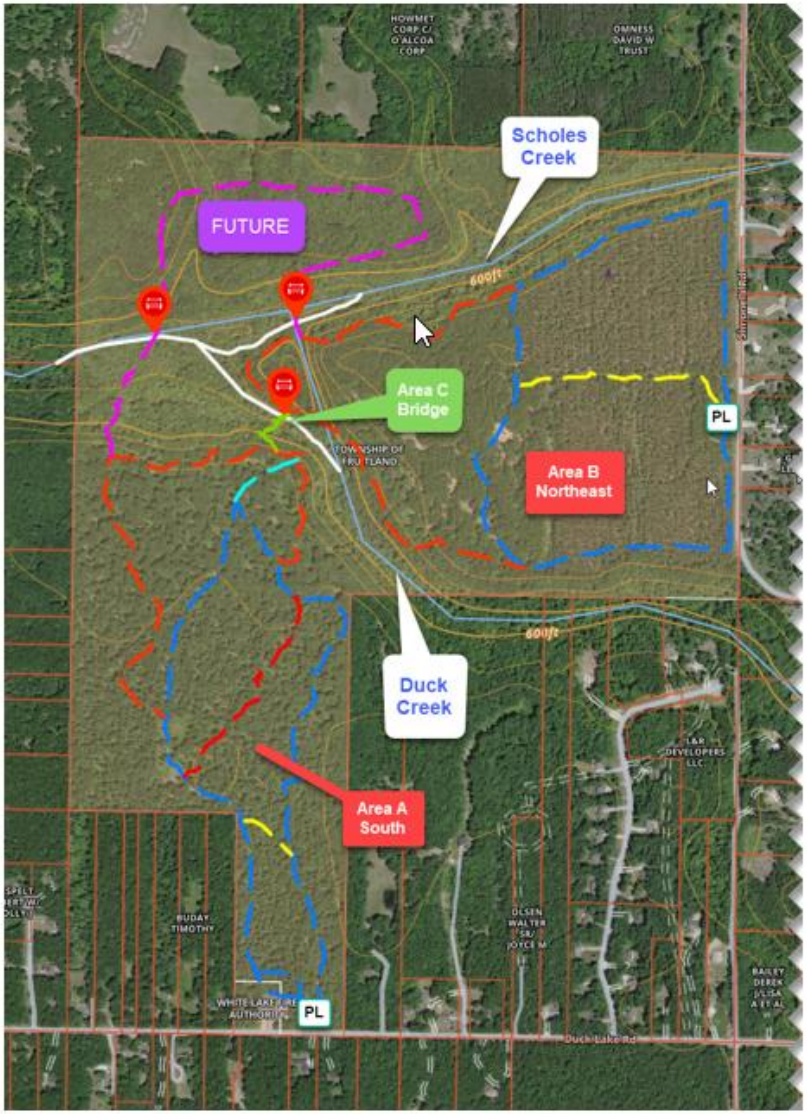
- South – Area A
  - Blue – 1.4 Miles
  - Red – 507 yards
  - Yellow – 118 yards
  - Teal – 153 yards
- Northeast – Area B
  - Blue – 1.3 miles
  - Yellow – 445 yards

Non-Compliant – Natural Surface Trails

- South – Area A
  - Orange Ridge Trail – 0.8 miles
- Northeast – Area B
  - Orange Outer Loop Trail – 0.9 mi.

Bridge/ Boardwalk Trail – Area C

- Trail - 175 yards
- Boardwalks
  - South side – 40 feet
  - North side – 90 feet
- Bridge – 26 feet
- EGLE Permit in process



POSTERS for REVIEW

HARVESTING THE RED PINES OFF SIMONELLI ROAD

- ±45 Acres planted in 1920's
  - Revenue for Township
  - Harvested before in mid 90's
- Township Trustees approved dedicating the funds to DCNA as part of the grant match
- Estimate - $25,000

Michigan's Natural Resources Trust Fund

MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND
2023 APPLICATION SCHEDULE

January 2023	Application period starts in MiGrants
February 1, 2023	Recreation plans, and plan amendments must be submitted by this date in MiGrants: www.migrants.intelligrants.com
April 1, 2023	Application due date. Application period closes in MiGrants.
April 2023	Applicants may receive requests for additional information based on an administrative completeness review.
May - July 2023	Grants Management staff conducts review of all applications and may conduct site visits.
August - September 2023	Preliminary scores are made available to applicants and supplemental information is requested.
September - October 2023	Grants Management staff review supplemental materials and complete final score evaluation.
Early December 2023	MNRTF Board makes final recommendations for funding.
December 2023 - January 2024	A bill is prepared and submitted to the Legislature for approval and appropriation of funds for the MNRTF Board final recommendations.
Early to Mid-2024	Grants Management distributes Project Agreements to grantees, usually by June, but actual date dependent on Legislature approval.
Mid to Late 2024	Projects may be started after the Project Agreement has been executed.

** All time periods given are best estimates at the time of publication and are subject to change.*

Program Objective:

- The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) projects provide for natural resource protection and outdoor recreation.
- By law, no less than 25 percent of the Trust Fund amount available for annual appropriation can be used for acquisition of public land and no less than 25 percent of the Trust Fund can be used for development of public recreation facilities.
- Final grant recommendations are made by the MNRTF Board to the state legislature for final approval.

Funds Source:

- Oil, Gas & Mineral Leases on State Lands

Grant Requests:

- Minimum $15,000
- Maximum $300,000
- 25% Local match required

Applying for $300,000 25% Match Sources	$75,000 +
FFTT - Grant from Muskegon Community Foundation	$11,800
Friends of Fruitland Township Trails Donation Funds	$1,000
FT – Revenue from harvesting DCNA red pines (Approx)	$25,000
Letters pledging commitment of funds	$0
Cash Donations	$200
Commitments in hand	$38,000
Needed for 25% Match	$37,000+

Fruitland Township, MI

FRUITLAND TRAILS

Fruitland Township is seeking a Michigan DNR Trust Fund grant for trails within the

Duck Creek Natural Area

The DCNA is approximately 310 acres of Township property bordered on the south by Duck Lake Road and Simonelli Road on the east side and is in the center of the Township. Duck Creek flows through the center of this beautiful and undeveloped tract of land.

Friends of Fruitland Township Trails has endorsed this effort and are actively working with the Township to make this project a reality. This grant is being sought for three areas of interest.

1. On the south side of Duck Creek, a system of two tracks has been marked and is currently being used by trail walkers both residents and non-residents. The grant is being sought to convert the two tracks into accessible trails that meet ADA requirements.
2. On the east side, off Simonelli Road, the Township is requesting funds to make existing two tracks accessible trails that meet ADA requirements.
3. To connect these two trails a natural path along with a boardwalk and a bridge over Duck Creek is to be constructed.

To obtain this $200,000+ grant from the Michigan DNR, we are asking for two things.

First, a letter of support noting your favorable view that this will enhance the Township and those wishing to enjoy the great outdoors. If you are willing, please forward a written letter of support for the DCNA to the Fruitland Township @ 4545 Nestrom Road, Whitehall, MI 49461.

Second, this grant requires a match of 25% from local sources. Please consider donating to this worthy cause by including a commitment of a specific amount of funds with your letter of support.

Thank you in advance

Friends of Fruitland Township Trails

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

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Friends of Fruitland Township Trails has endorsed this effort and are actively working with the Township to make this project a reality. A public input meeting is being held to enable you to learn about this effort at:

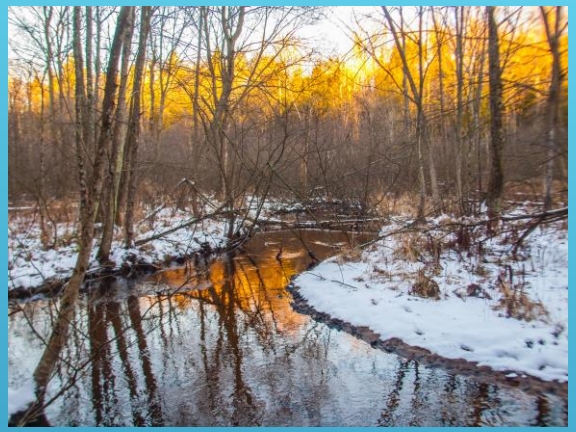
Fruitland Township Hall

Thursday - February 9th @ 6:00PM

We thank you in advance for attending

Friends of Fruitland Township Trails

Fruitland Township, MI



QUESTIONS ??

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COMMENTS !!

FRUITLAND TRAILS

Fruitland Township, MI