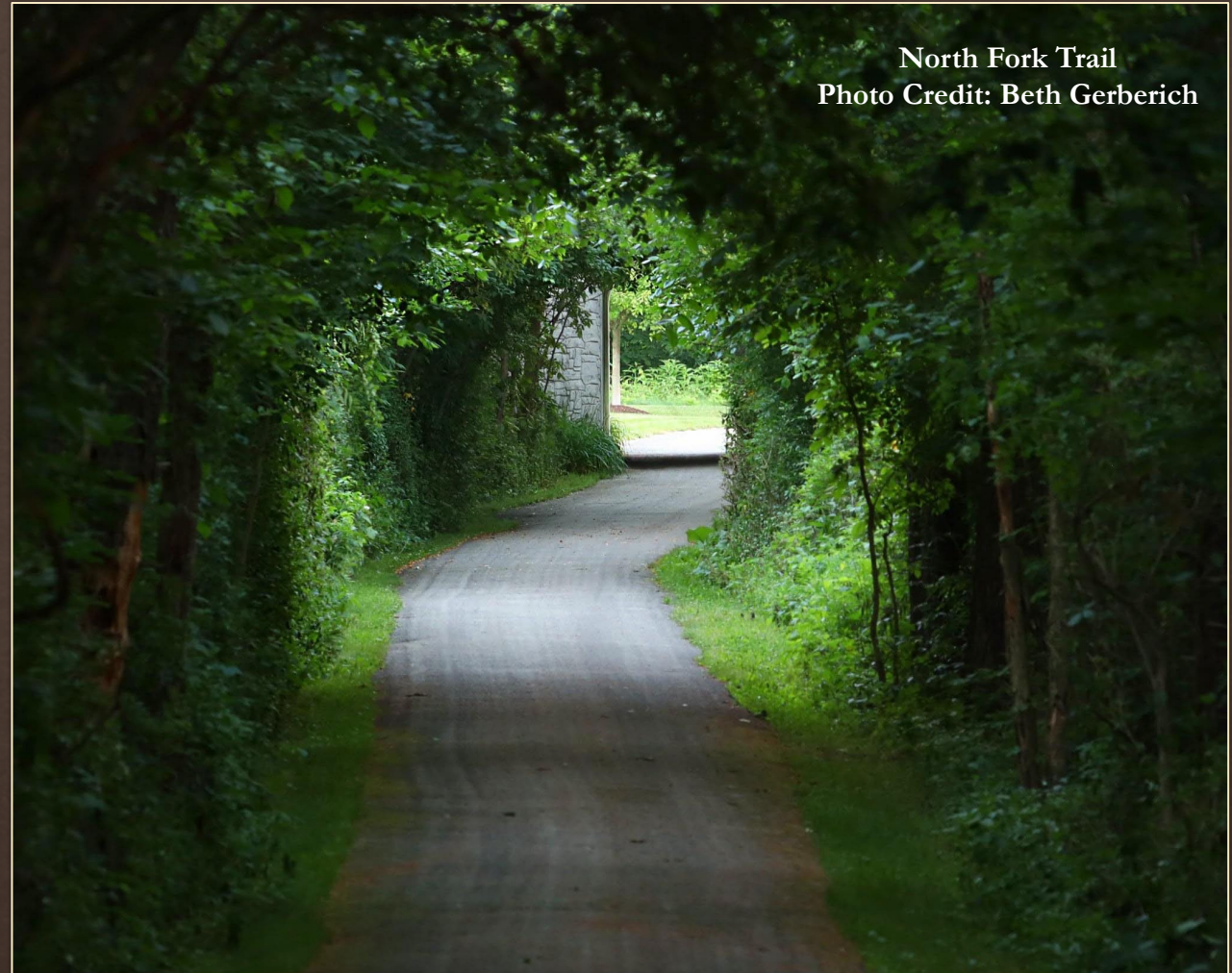




Bath Township Parks 2022 Annual Report



BATH TOWNSHIP PARKS
Since 1968

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BATH TOWNSHIP'S MISSION STATEMENT

Bath Township is dedicated to excellence in providing prompt, appropriate public services to its citizens by encouraging honest, responsive, sensitive and professional services to the community and by recognizing the community's history of independence, self reliance and tradition since 1818.

Park Director's Annual Report

Bath Township Parks continues to be a popular destination for residents and visitors of the community. Park personnel were busy assisting with the coordination of activities that included 212 shelter reservations at the Bath Baseball Park, Bath Community Park, and the Bath Nature Preserve. With 1,628 scheduled field reservations, Bath Parks estimates it had over 100,000 visitors for the scheduled sporting events at Bath Baseball Park, Bath Community Park, and Bath Hill Park. These events included summer tennis and soccer clinics and the Regal Beagle Ultra marathon in the fall. In addition to the shelter reservations and sporting events, park personnel assisted the Bath Park Board with their annual events throughout the year, such as the 10th annual Chillin' on the Hill, Spring into Nature with STEM, the State of the Parks, the 2nd annual Run to the Sun 5k, and the 14th annual Fall into Nature. Postponed from the originally scheduled date of June 12th due to inclement weather, the 6th annual Bath Art Festival was held in July with the largest turnout to date. 57 vendors, outdoor yoga, a DJ, Summit County Humane Society Mobile Adoption, and several food vendors participated in the event which received a lot of positive feedback.

As our parks increase in usage, amenities, and size, it became necessary to evaluate our staffing needs in 2022 to ensure that park visitors continue to receive the standard of quality they deserve. With the addition of shelters, restrooms, and trails, the time employees spend maintaining these has also increased so the need for an additional staff member was essential. In April, the Park Division hired a full-time park laborer to help maintain that service. The park division staff currently consists of 3.5 full-time and several seasonal employees who work to provide park visitors with an educational, safe, and enjoyable experience in Bath Township Parks. Park personnel specialize not just in public service, but customer service to the township's residents and all park visitors. Because of this, Bath Township Parks have been recognized both locally and statewide.

In 2022, Bath Parks saw the completion of several projects, highlighted by the ongoing improvements at our newest park, the North Fork Preserve of Bath, which is not yet open to the public. Projects at the North Fork Preserve of Bath included the installation of a 10-car gravel parking lot, constructed new drive access, installed a native flower bed at the entrance, and installed the entrance sign, which was partially funded by Ohio and Erie Canalway Coalition from a 2021 Summit County Community grant. At Bath Community Park, the parking lots were chip and sealed. In the Bath Nature Preserve, park personnel installed a primitive style board walk on Bath Pond Path, south of Bath Pond. Bath Hill Park received a parking lot chip and seal, as well as the addition of a pickle ball court. With a generous donation from the Bath Park Board, one of the existing tennis courts was able to be double lined with pickle ball court striping and nets were added.

As we venture into 2023, it is shaping up to be another exciting and busy year in the parks. Residents and visitors can look forward to the completion of many projects, which include trail improvements at the North Fork Preserve of Bath, rehab the Regal Beagle Shelter and Bath Baseball Park shelter/concession stand, upgrade the football/lacrosse score board at the Bath Community Park, and update all the park and trail maps. With so many activities, events, and trails, there are many reasons to visit Bath Parks. I hope to see everyone out enjoying the Parks in 2023.

Sincerely,

Alan Garner
Park Director/Assistant Service Director

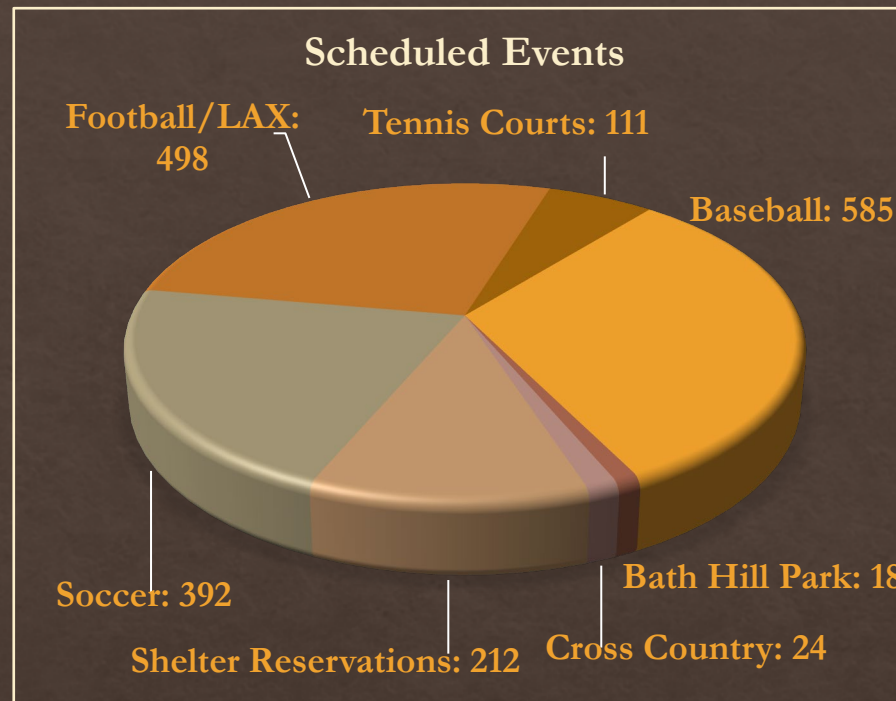
Park Division Personnel

- ❖ A staff of 3.5 full-time and several seasonal employees work to provide park visitors with an educational, safe, and enjoyable experience within Bath Township Parks. Park personnel specialize not just in public service, but customer service to the township's residents and all park visitors. Because of this, Bath Township Parks have been recognized both locally and statewide.
- ❖ Park personnel continue their annual training to develop their skills. This year's training included:
 - ❖ APWA CDL Updates
 - ❖ BWC Trenching Safety Days: Competent Person
 - ❖ Commercial Drivers License Training
 - ❖ CPR/First Aid/Stop the Bleed Training-Bath Fire Department
 - ❖ Ohio APWA Public Works Expo
 - ❖ Ohio 811 Excavator Seminar
 - ❖ Ohio Pesticide Commercial Applicator Recertification
 - ❖ Ohio Public Service Institute
 - ❖ Ohio Safety Congress & Expo
 - ❖ Ohio Stormwater Conference
 - ❖ OSUE Pesticide Safety Education Program & Exam
 - ❖ Snow & Ice Training
 - ❖ Sports Turf Field Day with Rubber Ducks
 - ❖ Summit County Safety Council Meetings
- ❖ Bath Township is very proud of the dedication and skill this team of employees brings to Bath Parks.



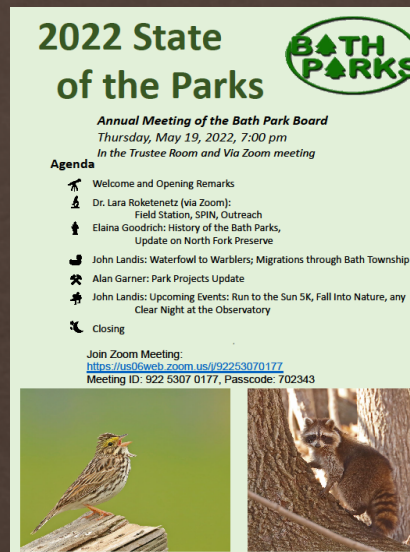
Employees

- ❖ Park Director/ Assistant Service Director
 - ❖ Alan Garner (employee since July 16, 2005)
- ❖ Park Foreman
 - ❖ Thomas Hughes (employee since August 20, 2019)
- ❖ Park Laborers
 - ❖ Nicholas Barker (employee since July 17, 2022)
 - ❖ Colin Tuttle (employee since April 17, 2022)
 - ❖ Franklin Garretson (August 9, 2021-May 5, 2022)
- ❖ Seasonal Park Employees
 - ❖ Sam Fisher (year 1)
 - ❖ Jeremy Golub (year 3)
 - ❖ Jackson Holland (year 1)
 - ❖ Davis Pickett (year 1)
 - ❖ Micah Rose (year 2)
 - ❖ Aaron Sommers (year 1)



Community Events

- ❖ Chill'in on the Hill
- ❖ Spring into Nature with STEM
- ❖ State of the Parks
- ❖ Bath Art Fest
- ❖ Fall into Nature
- ❖ Run to the Sun 5k
- ❖ Regal Beagle Ultra



Volunteer Services

Several volunteer organizations and committees throughout the course of a year assist the township. The volunteers play an important role in determining the usage of the parks as well as promoting the five parks as a whole.

- ❖ Bath Township Community Development Corporation Inc. (Park Board): An advisory board to the Bath Township Board of Trustees to plan and run the many activities held in Bath Parks. Currently consists of 16 members.
- ❖ Friends of the Regal Beagle: A committee sanctioned by the Board of Trustees to ensure the preservation of the Regal Beagle pavilion and the wood-fired oven in the Bath Nature Preserve. Currently consists of 4 members.

In 2022, several organizations volunteered to improve the aesthetics and overall exposure of the parks. We thank them for their continued efforts.

Park Board Members at Fall into Nature (2022)



Kiwanis Aktion Club (2022)

Eagle Scout Project -Thomas Angle

- ❖ Designed and installed a kiosk at the North Fork Preserve of Bath.



Improvements and Renovations 2022

North Fork Preserve of Bath

- ❖ Installed 10 car parking lot.
- ❖ Installed park entry sign and native flower bed at entrance.
- ❖ Installed new drive access and replaced culvert pipe.



Improvements and Renovations 2022

Bath Baseball Park

- ❖ Installed new foul poles on field 8.
- ❖ Had the parking lot spaces striped.
- ❖ Installed new shelter reservation signs for all shelters.



Improvements and Renovations 2022

Bath Hill Park

- ❖ The Park Board funded the striping and nets for the new pickleball courts.



Improvements and Renovations 2022

Bath Nature Preserve

- ❖ Installed primitive style boardwalk for Bath Pond Path.



Maintenance and Operations

Maintenance is the most important job performed by park personnel.

The following maintenance procedures are performed throughout the year:

- ❖ Grounds/field maintenance, which includes mowing, trimming, planting, edging, weeding, mulching, tree/brush/leaf removal, remove trash, and maintain all sports related playing areas.
- ❖ Trail maintenance, which includes mowing, trimming, tree/brush/leaf removal, sign repair and replacement, drainage corrections, maintain trail surface, and monthly inspections.
- ❖ Building/structure maintenance, which includes painting, minor electrical repair, pressure washing shelter floors and restrooms, maintain/repair exterior of buildings, and set up for shelter reservations.
- ❖ Playground maintenance, which includes monthly inspections, painting, cleaning, minor repairs to play equipment, maintain playing surface, and trash removal.
- ❖ Vehicle and equipment maintenance.
- ❖ Snow and ice control of walkways, trails, parking lots, and driveways.



Maintenance and Operations

Bath Baseball Park

- ❖ Painted all the players benches.
- ❖ Park personnel spent approximately 625 hours preparing the fields over a seven month period. The fields were at a 86% playability with 84 days of rain through the baseball season.



Bath Community Park

- ❖ Painted all the players benches.
- ❖ Parking lot base repairs.
- ❖ Chip and seal of parking lot.
- ❖ Drainage improvements around football concession stand.



Maintenance and Operations

Bath Hill Park

- ❖ Continued improvements to the Revere Woods Trail.
- ❖ Chip and Seal of parking lot.



Bath Nature Preserve

- ❖ Park personnel spent approximately 140 hours mowing the trails, open fields, and overflow parking areas and spent approximately 250 hours trimming the trails.
- ❖ Invasive species control of Garden Bowl, Moore's Chapel, and Bath Creek wetlands.
- ❖ Repaired several windows at the Regal Beagle shelter.
- ❖ Repaired several sections of the Regal Beagle stairs.



Maintenance and Operations

North Fork Preserve of Bath

- ❖ Mowed the open fields around the barn.
- ❖ Improving Triple Loop Trail.



New Equipment Purchased in 2022

- ❖ Daihatsu Mini Truck (Partially funded by a Bath Community Fund Grant)
- ❖ SH DB400 Dump Body for Truck 1292
- ❖ Virnig Snowblower for Skid Steer (Joint purchase with Service Department)
- ❖ Alamo Side and Rear Flail Mowers for Tractor (Joint purchase with Service Department)



Goals and Objectives 2023

Bath Park System

- ❖ Continue the landscape installation throughout all the parks. This plan was approved and started in 2001.
- ❖ Continue to make improvements to the trail system.
- ❖ Use GPS unit, drone, and other software to update the Park's trail maps.
- ❖ Continue to work with community groups on park improvements.

Bath Baseball Park

- ❖ Rehab and paint the concession stand.

Bath Community Park

- ❖ Upgrade the football score board.

Bath Hill Park

- ❖ Continue to work on Revere Woods Trail.

Bath Nature Preserve

- ❖ Crack seal the North Fork Trail.
- ❖ Rehab and paint the Regal Beagle.
- ❖ Work with the University of Akron on future restoration projects.
- ❖ Follow the Preservation and Use Plan.

North Fork Preserve of Bath

- ❖ Restore/renovate the main house and barn.
- ❖ Grand opening for public use.
- ❖ Continue working on the Triple Loop Trail.
- ❖ Work with all the committees on future projects.
- ❖ Follow the Preservation and Use Plan.



Bath Township Parks

