



Park Passport

2022



How to Start Your Adventure

This passport will guide you to 18 local parks and natural areas where you can find forests, beaches, dunes, lakes, trails and more in our nature-rich community. Use your curiosity to explore these wonderful West Michigan parks.

1



Visit some parks!

2



Answer the “**Challenge Question**” about each park. Hint: You may have to read signs.

3



Collect your reward! Present your passport by **November 18, 2022** to one of these locations to receive your prize:

- Outdoor Discovery Center Visitors Center
4214 56th St • Holland, MI • 49423
- DeGraaf Nature Center
600 Graafschap Rd • Holland, MI • 49423

Passports with 16 or more parks completed will qualify for one of four prize drawings!

Be sure to read the “Park Passport Prize System” for more details.

Share your adventures with us!

Post pictures, stories, and comments and see how others are enjoying this Passport Challenge using the hashtag **#naturerichwestmi** on Facebook and Instagram!



Park Passport Prize System

**5
Parks
Completed**

Tote Bag & Pencil
Water Bottle
An ODC Network Family Membership
\$10 discount on purchase of \$50 or more at Dick's Sporting Goods

**16+
Parks
Completed**

Tote Bag & Pencil
Water Bottle
An ODC Network Family Membership
\$10 discount on purchase of \$50 or more at Dick's Sporting Goods
Entry in Passport Challenge Raffle

Passport Challenge Raffle

Complete 16 or more parks and turn in your tear-out form to be entered into one of four Passport Challenge Raffles!

Turn in your completed form by 3 pm on or before one of the following dates to be entered into that drawing:

- May 13
- July 15
- September 16
- November 18

There will be two winners on each date! Prizes may include:

- \$100 Dick's Sporting Goods Gift Card
- OR**
- Prize Basket featuring outdoor accessories, games, tumblers, and more! Sponsored by Dick's Sporting Goods

- Participation in one drawing excludes you from entry into any subsequent drawings
- Prizes are available while supplies last
- Limit 1 prize per family

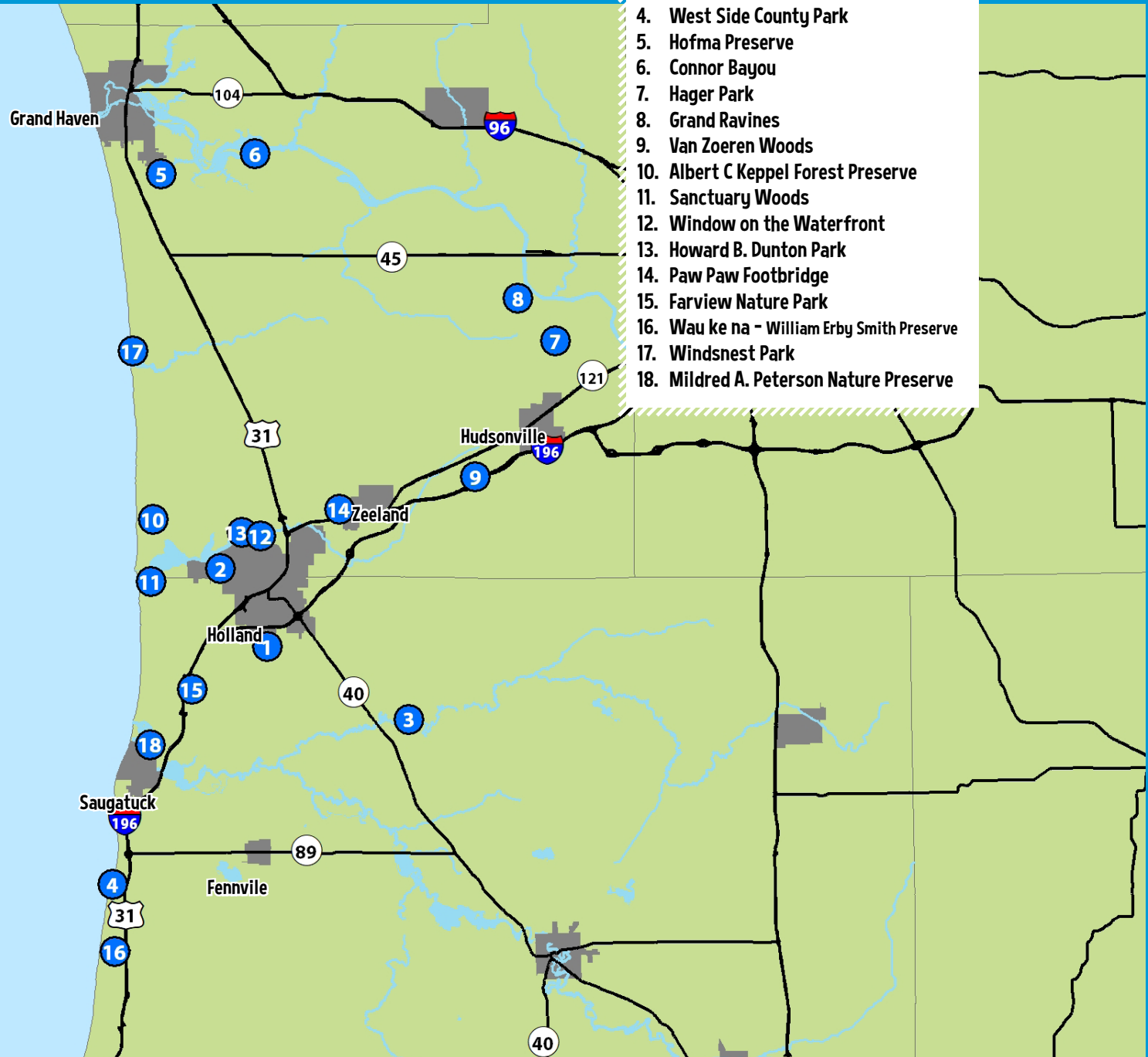
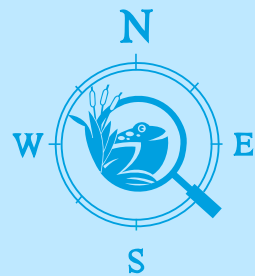
The ODC Network, a 501(c)(3)

education and conservation organization, is a collection of business divisions managing two interpretive centers, two greenways, three nature-based preschools, multiple conservation initiatives, and global travel programs. Our mission is to advance outdoor education and conservation in West Michigan.

Visit our website: outdoordiscovery.org

Parks Map

1. Outdoor Discovery Center
2. DeGraaf Nature Center
3. Rabbit River Preserve
4. West Side County Park
5. Hofma Preserve
6. Connor Bayou
7. Hager Park
8. Grand Ravines
9. Van Zoeren Woods
10. Albert C Keppel Forest Preserve
11. Sanctuary Woods
12. Window on the Waterfront
13. Howard B. Dunton Park
14. Paw Paw Footbridge
15. Farview Nature Park
16. Wau ke na - William Erby Smith Preserve
17. Windsnest Park
18. Mildred A. Peterson Nature Preserve



Outdoor Discovery Center



4214 56th St • Holland, MI • 49423

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Visitors Center
- Live animals and taxidermy exhibits
- Eldean Family Nature Play Park
- De Witt Birds of Prey Center
- Three miles of trails
- Catch-and-release fishing ponds

Trails Open: Sunrise–Sunset, year-round

Visitors Center: Monday–Saturday, 10am–3pm

(Hours may vary, check online)

1



Challenge Question

Spiders can crawl on their webs by only touching the _____ parts. (Hint: Find the Spider Web feature in the Eldean Family Nature Play Park)

Nature Detective

Name a plant, animal, or fungus that you found.

Rabbit River Preserve



4401 135th Ave • Hamilton, MI • 49419

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Riparian wetlands
- Trails and overlooks
- Picnic area
- Views of Rabbit River
- Old growth hemlock trees

Open: Sunrise–Sunset, year-round

Challenge Question

How many picnic tables can you find in the picnic area?

I notice...

Find a natural object and write one thing you notice about it.

3



DeGraaf Nature Center



600 Graafschap Rd • Holland, MI • 49423

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Live animal exhibits
- Bird viewing area
- Nature trails and benches
- Gift shop
- Picnic shelter
- Gem and Mineral Club rock trail

Trails Open: Sunrise–Sunset, year-round

Nature Center: Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–3pm

(Hours may vary, check online)

2



Challenge Question

Go to the bird enclosure found near the trailhead. What is the wingspan of the Eastern Screech Owl that sometimes resides here?

Use Your Senses

List the surrounding sounds, sights, and scents.

West Side County Park



2152 Lakeshore Dr • Fennville, MI • 49408

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- 630 ft. of Lake Michigan beach access
- Picnic area with covered pavilions
- Playground and recreation area
- Gazebo with lake views
- Ramped access to the beach

Open: Sunrise–Sunset, year-round

Challenge Question

Count your steps on the way down the stairs to the beach!

I wonder...

Find a natural object and write one thing you wonder about it.

4



Hofma Preserve



16295 Sleeper St • Grand Haven, MI • 49417

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

Open: Sunrise–Sunset, year-round

- Riparian wetlands
- Trails & overlooks with scenic views
- 885 foot floating bridge
- Picnic area & shelter
- Playground
- Biking paths & mountain bike trails

Challenge Question

How many overlooks did you find on your hike?

Nature Detective

Name a plant, animal, or fungus that you found.



5

Hager Park



8212 28th Ave • Georgetown Twp, MI • 49428

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

Open:

April–October 15th, 7am–10pm

October 16th–March, 7am–8pm

- Age of Discovery playground
- Picnic tables and grills
- Nature trails
- Horseshoe pit
- Reservable rooms and shelters

Challenge Question

Name one of the wildflowers drawn on the 'Natural Area' sign.

Use Your Senses

List the surrounding sounds, sights, and scents.



7

Connor Bayou



12945 N Cedar Dr • Grand Haven, MI • 49417

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

Open:

March–October 15th, 7am–10pm

October 16th–February, 7am–8pm

- Fishing dock
- Picnic tables
- Paved and natural surface trails
- Accessible kayak and canoe launch
- Scenic river overlooks
- Access to Idema Explorers Trail

Challenge Question

This site has a number of special plants including wild _____ in the bayou wetlands and a variety of remnant _____ plants in the upland forest.

(Hint: you can find the answer to this challenge question under the general information sign.)

Word #1:

Word #2:



6

Grand Ravines



3991 Fillmore St • Jenison, MI • 49428

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

Open:

March–October 15th, 7am–10pm

October 16th–February, 7am–8pm

- Enclosed dog park with dog wash station
- Paved paths and benches
- Restored barn windmill
- 275' pedestrian suspension bridge

Challenge Question

"This bridge is dedicated to _____ Statema in recognition of their love of nature and their passion and commitment to the development of Grand Ravines County Park."

(Hint: Find the pedestrian suspension bridge near the South Dog Park Entrance.)



8

Van Zoeren Woods



3540 56th Ave • Hudsonville, MI • 49424

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Off-street parking
- 34 acres of timbered and gullied land
- Wildflowers
- Benches

Open: Sunrise-Sunset, year-round

9



Challenge Question

How many benches did you find?

Nature Detective

Name a plant, animal, or fungus that you found.

Sanctuary Woods Preserve



4750 66th St • Holland, MI • 49423

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Trails and overlooks
- Over 200 stairs
- Picnic tables and benches
- Former Interurban bridge
- Views of Lake Macatawa and Lake Michigan

Open: Sunrise-Sunset, year-round

11



Challenge Question

A watershed is an area of _____ that drains into a certain _____, river or lake.

Word #1:

Word #2:

Color Hunt

List some of the things on your hike that were the color YELLOW.

Albert C. Keppel Forest Preserve



2117 Lakewood Blvd • Holland, MI • 49424

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Picnic tables and benches
- Hiking trails
- Cross country ski trails
- Scenic pathways and natural area

Open: Sunrise to Sunset, year-round

10



Challenge Question

In 1932, Mr. Keppel donated this land to _____ to use as an outdoor classroom to teach local history and care of the environment.

Word #1:

Word #2:

Word #3:

Window on the Waterfront



95 Collage Ave • Holland, MI • 49423

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- 100,000 tulip bulbs
- Boardwalks and viewing decks
- Sally Smoly Nature Playscape
- Riverview Athletic Field
- Paths that overlook the marsh

Open: 6am-11pm, year-round

12



Challenge Question

Find the kiosk at the Sally Smoly Nature Playscape.
What are some of the benefits of nature play?

#1:

#2:

#3:

Howard B. Dunton Park



290 Howard Ave • Holland, MI • 49424

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Picnic area with covered pavilions
- Playground and recreation area
- Boardwalks with lake views
- Boat launch and fishing access

Open: 6am-11pm, year-round

13



Challenge Question

How many blue benches can you find on the boardwalk that extends onto the lake?

It reminds me of...

Find a natural object and write one thing it reminds you of.

Farview Nature Park



6257 138th Ave • Holland, MI • 49423

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- 1.5 miles of scenic trails
- Diverse ecosystems such as wetlands, dunes, woodlands and grasslands
- Horse trails maintained by the Laketown Equestrian Trails Association & the Laketown Parks Commission

Open: Sunrise-Sunset, year-round

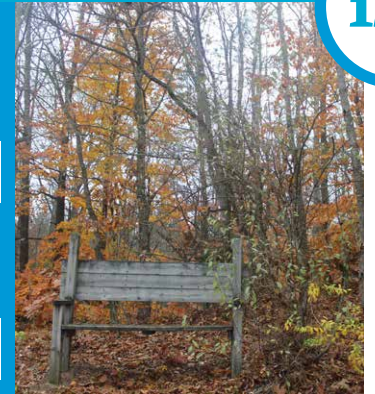
15

Challenge Question

What does the horse trail sign encourage riders to wear every time you ride?

Color Hunt

List some things on your hike that were the color RED.



Paw Paw Foot Bridge



10309 Paw Paw Dr • Zeeland, MI • 49464

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Veneklasen Brick Historical Marker
- Foot and bike path
- Picnic shelter and tables

Open: Sunrise-Sunset, year-round

14



Challenge Question

Finish this quote found on the footbridge: "...But there are others who will pass this way, I build _____."

Wau ke na—William Erby Smith Preserve



1599 Lakeshore Dr • Fennville, MI • 49408

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Hiking trails with scenic views
- Seasonal wildflowers
- Trails for cross-country skiing & snow shoeing

Open: Sunrise to Sunset, year-round

16

Challenge Question

What type of animal is depicted on the welcome sign near either trailhead?

Use Your Senses

List the surrounding sounds, sights, and scents.



Windsnest Park



7700 Margaret Ave • West Olive, MI • 49460

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Scenic views and beach access
- Playground
- Picnic pavilions and grills

Open: Sunrise–Sunset, year-round

17



Challenge Question

Draw or write about the scene that is depicted on the Alice Hilarides Sunset Vista sign.

Mildred A. Peterson Nature Preserve



861 Simonson Dr • Saugatuck, MI • 49453

Features to Discover

Date Visited:

- Nature trails
- Wildlife and bird viewing
- Scenic views and benches

Open: Sunrise–Sunset, year-round

18



Challenge Question

Draw or write about the plants and wildlife you saw at this park.

The ODC Network
Park Passport
is generously supported by:

EVERY SEASON STARTS AT



Thanks for participating in the Park Passport Challenge!

Fill out this form and turn it in at the Outdoor Discovery Center or DeGraaf to claim your prize! (by Nov 18, 2022)

This Passport completed by:

First Name(s)

Last Name(s)

Participants were:

- ☐ Adult(s)
- ☐ Children (list ages):

Did you complete this challenge...

- ☐ ...by yourself
- ☐ ...as a family
- ☐ ...with a friend
- ☐ ...with your dog

Where did you get this passport?

- ☐ ODC
- ☐ DeGraaf
- ☐ In the mail
- ☐ Other:

The section below must be filled out in order to take part in the Passport Challenge Raffles

Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

I completed _____ **Parks!**

Number of parks

What was your favorite part of this challenge?

THIS BOX IS FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIVED ON:

Turned in at:

ODC

DeGraaf

STAFF INITIALS