

2024 Adaptive Recreation Sponsorship Guide



ABOUT OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

Since it was first established in 1966, Oakland County Parks (OCP) has played an important role in the lives of Oakland County residents. Many have cherished memories of taking family camping trips, walking the trails, attending nature programming, enjoying golf outings or spending hot summer days at a waterpark. The parks system started with 200 acres. Today, it boasts more than 7,000 acres and 80 miles of trails across 15 locations and hosts nearly 2 million visitors from across 62 communities each year. OCP provides a huge variety of recreation, leisure and learning opportunities at two nature centers, three dog parks, five golf courses, a waterpark, a wave pool, an ORV park and the Oakland County Farmers Market.



ABOUT ADAPTIVE RECREATION

Adaptive Recreation ensures that individuals with disabilities can participate in any program or event hosted by Oakland County Parks. Accessibility in parks is so important because it gives individuals of all abilities the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from these outdoor spaces. Accessible parks promote inclusivity by providing facilities, pathways and amenities that cater to people with disabilities, the aging population, families with young children and others. Making parks more accessible allows everyone to connect with nature, engage in recreational activities and socialize, and improves their physical and mental well-being, fostering a more equitable and enjoyable community experience.



MEET SANDY DOREY

Sandy Dorey, CTRS, has been the Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist for Oakland County Parks (OCP) for over 30 years. Sandy has a passion for working with diverse populations, including individuals with physical disabilities, developmental disabilities, at-risk youth and active adults. She loves to create programming that is engaging, promotes social interaction, improves overall health and enhances quality of life through recreational activities that are tailored to specific needs and interests. Her programs foster inclusivity and promote relationship-building, which is an essential life skill for us all.



At OCP, Sandy has developed countless successful programs that are enjoyed by volunteers and participants alike, year after year. She is the driving force behind the popular Disability Dirt Days program at Holly Oaks ORV Park, which pairs experienced ORV drivers with participants with disabilities for thrilling off-road adventures. Sandy heads up DiversAbility Days – which features adaptive outdoor recreation opportunities, sports and games – for OCP, and organizes many seasonal social events for individuals with disabilities and their caretakers.



Sandy has shared her experience and expertise by serving in leadership roles on numerous committees in her field, including as executive board officer for Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame; therapeutic chair and committee chairperson for Michigan Parks and Recreation Association; director of the Michigan Wheelchair Basketball League; and committee chair for Race for the Cure. Sandy has served as a games director and a board member for Michigan Disability Sports Alliance, and as both a committee member and a board member for Northwest Parks and Recreation.

Sandy also has professional experience working with the Michigan Department of Education; the Community Connection Grant with Beaumont Hospital; the Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame – Adaptive Sports Coalition; BlazeSports America and the Paralympics. Sandy graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor of Science in Parks and Recreation with an emphasis on Therapeutic Recreation and a minor in Gerontology.

TESTIMONIALS



“...my daughter attends the...social events regularly. She is a special needs young woman who otherwise has limited social opportunities outside of family outings and events. She looks forward to these monthly events and is genuinely disappointed when one is either cancelled or she can't attend for some reason.

Very few people realize that our special needs children want the same opportunities as non-disabled people. I'm glad you and your department and the county recognize this need. They enjoy the company of friends, the music and dancing and eating out. These events are something for them to look forward to. The varied monthly themes of the parties are fun too and keep things fresh with new ideas.

Our kids, no matter their challenges, are welcomed without judgement. I appreciate that more than my child does because I know I can relax and not have to fear that someone will make her or me feel like she doesn't belong.

Keep up the good work and thanks!”

-Elizabeth B.



“I just wanted to let you know what an amazing memory you provided for my grandson (on spectrum) and I. The opportunity for a ride on an airplane was remarkable. The pilot and other volunteers assisting with the program were so kind and helpful. We felt so welcome. And we were so excited.

Thank you for offering experiences for people with differing abilities and their families. Sometimes it's hard to do activities together. You are making special activities and very special memories for the entire family.

We hope to be part of many more of your activities in the future.”

-Maggie G.



“I...brought my son...to your Halloween Party in October and your Baseball Party last Friday and he LOVES it! I was nervous before the first event, as a kid with autism and Muscular Dystrophy, he usually doesn't like loud crowds, new foods, etc., but he jumped right in, loved the dancing, games and even tried a nacho chip with cheese! As a non-verbal guy, I often write a couple of choices on paper, and he circles what he wants. As you can see from the attached picture I took at the party—he didn't want to leave! These are great programs, and the staff has been wonderful. Thank you so much for letting us be a part of it!”

-Linda J.



PARTNERS

OCP Adaptive Recreation works with a wide range of partners, each with unique expertise, to jointly plan and execute impactful programming. Through close collaboration, Adaptive Recreation and its partners leverage shared resources such as staff, volunteers, adaptive equipment and marketing capabilities. This collaborative approach not only helps us achieve common objectives, but also extends our impact, fostering mutually advantageous opportunities for growth and to better serve our targeted communities.



Major Partners

- Disability Network Eastern Michigan
- Rehab and Mobility Systems
- Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan
- Wheelchairs in Motion

Agency Partners

- Cities of Auburn Hills, Clawson, Novi, Madison Heights, Oak Park, Royal Oak and Southfield
- Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA)
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA)

Other Partners

- DEAF C.A.N.!
- Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- JARC
- Joanne and Ted Lindsay Foundation Autism Outreach Services (OUCares)
- Oakland Community Health Network
- Oakland University
- Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital
- Michigan Amputee Golf Association
- Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA)
- Mt. Brighton Adaptive Sports
- Strive Recreational Therapy

DISABILITY DIRT DAY

Holly Oaks ORV Park in Holly
2024 Series: May 5, Sept. 21 & Oct. 20

The original award-winning event series will be back for its fourth year. Paired safely with a volunteer driver, individuals with disabilities can experience what it's like to zip through the dirt, bounce over rocks and splash in the water during Disability Dirt Day. This free program is open to individuals with any type of disability and their families. Individuals age 10 and older can participate. The event is expected to attract 90 riders, 200 friends and family and 30 volunteers.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Fuel Up | \$25 – \$500

Covers cost of gas gift cards for volunteer drivers

- Logo on sign at event
- Logo on gift card jacket

Dust Dynamo | \$500

- Logo on sign at event
- Mention in post event email marketing message

Mud Master | \$1,750

- Logo on event flyer
- Mention in Facebook post
- Sponsor mention with link to website in email marketing message
- Logo on sign at event
- Banner at event
(banner/ties provided by sponsor)
- Information tent at event
(tent provided by sponsor)
- Mention during volunteer orientation



DIVERSABILITY DAY

Independence Oaks County Park in Clarkston
June 26, 2024

Maybury State Park in Northville
Aug. 22, 2024

DiversAbility Day is a one-day clinic for adaptive recreation opportunities. We have partnered with Disability Network of Southeast Michigan, Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan's Sports Abilities, Department of Natural Resources and other agencies to provide these unique experiences.

The activities vary depending on each park and may include kayaking, archery, hand cycling, fishing, pontoon boat rides, tennis and nature education. The event is an excellent way for attendees to try out adaptive equipment. Lunch is provided.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Nature's Edge | \$500

- Logo on sign at event
- Information tent at event
(tent provided by sponsor)
- Mention during lunch

Outdoor Pursuits | \$1,500

- Logo on event flyer
- Logo on sign at event
- Mention with link to website in email marketing message
- Banner at event
(banner/ties provided by sponsor)
- Information tent at event
(tent provided by sponsor)
- Mention during lunch

DREAMS AND WINGS

Oakland County International Airport in Waterford
July 13, 2024

Dreams and Wings gives a group of very special kids the opportunity to stretch the limits and explore new horizons. With the roar of the engine and whoosh of the wind, they learn that even the sky need not be a limit when we have the courage to dream. On Dreams and Wings Fly Day, we invite 50 children (and up to two family members/friends) to participate in this very special event. With participation of volunteers, friends and family members, the event draws about 250 participants each year.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

[Skybound Dreams](#) | \$500

- Mention with link to website in email marketing message
- Logo on sign at event
- Information table at event



SOCIAL SERIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

10 socials throughout Oakland County
Dates TBD



Adult participants with developmental disabilities enjoy an evening of music, dancing and dinner. This series offers opportunities to celebrate with old friends and make new ones. The events also provide a few hours of free time for parents of these young adults. We have a dedicated group of volunteers that ensure everyone has fun and feels welcome. Attendance is approximately 100 participants per event. Locations vary and include Auburn Hills, Clarkston, Farmington Hills, Novi, Royal Oak, Southfield and Waterford.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Party Favor | \$500

For one social event of sponsor's choice

- Logo on sign at event
- Mention at event

Get Together | \$1,500

For Jingle Bell Ball social

- Logo on sign at event
- Logo on event flyer
- Mention in Facebook post
- Mention with link to website in email marketing message
- Mention at event

Big Bash | \$2,500

For eight socials (April to November)

- Logo on sign at event
- Logo on event flyer
- Mention in Facebook post
- Mention at event
- Mention with link to website in email marketing message
- Information table at event



ADAPTIVE GOLF

We are pleased to bring back our adaptive golf program for anyone who has a physical disability. Participants can learn or relearn the game of golf, improve strength and skills and build self-confidence.

The following programs will be offered:

USAGA Clinic – Aimed at teaching PGA Professionals, physical therapists, adaptive P.E. teachers and experienced golfers how to effectively coach individuals with disabilities utilizing adaptive golf techniques. Continuing education credits are available. One day clinic – classroom and clinic with participants.

Adaptive Golf Clinics – Participants will learn basic skills with adaptations. Clinics will be held at Fernhill Golf Club in Clinton Township and Red Oaks Golf Course in Madison Heights.

Adaptive Golf League – Bi-weekly golf league for individuals with disabilities. Groups will be paired with staff/volunteers that can assist individuals with adapting their game.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Par Excellence | \$500

- Logo on flyers
- Logo on signs
- Logo on resource information guide

Birdie Boost | \$1,000

- Logo on flyers
- Logo on signs
- Logo on resource information guide
- Mention in Facebook post
- Mention with link to website in email marketing message

Tee Time Triumph | \$2,500

- Logo on flyers
- Logo on signs
- Logo on resource information guide
- Mention in Facebook post
- Mention with link to website in email marketing message
- Banner
(banner/ties provided by sponsor)
- Information table

ADAPTIVE RECREATION EQUIPMENT

Adaptive recreation equipment plays a crucial role in promoting inclusivity and accessibility in recreational activities by accommodating individuals with diverse physical abilities. By providing adaptive equipment, we create opportunities for engagement in sports, outdoor adventures and other recreational activities, fostering a sense of empowerment, social integration and overall well-being. The importance of adaptive recreation equipment lies in its ability to break down barriers, enabling people of all abilities to share in the joys of leisure and recreation.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

1) Standard Wheelchair | \$500/wheelchair

Three standard wheelchairs needed

- Logo on wheelchair
- Logo on website

2) Adaptive Fishing Poles | \$1,200

Covers cost of three adaptive fishing poles

- Logo on website
- Logo on sign at fishing events
- Information table at fishing event
(to be approved by OCP)

3) Transfer Equipment | \$1,500

Covers cost of Hoyer lift, gait belts and transfer board

- Logo on sign
- Logo on website

4) Cross-Country Sit Ski | \$4,000

- Logo on handcycle
- Logo on website
- Mention in email marketing message
- Information table at three events
(to be approved by OCP)

5) Handcycle | \$5,000/handcycle

Two handcycles needed

- Logo on handcycle
- Logo on website
- Mention in email marketing message
- Information table at three events
(to be approved by OCP)

6) All-Terrain Wheelchair | \$5,000/wheelchair

Two all-terrain wheelchairs needed

- Logo on wheelchair
- Logo on website
- Mention in Facebook post
- Information table at three events
(to be approved by OCP)



CONTACT US

We hope that you'll consider partnering with us to sponsor adaptive recreation for Oakland County Parks. Please note that sponsorship packages can be tailored to your needs and budget.

For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact:

Sandy Dorey

Oakland County Parks, Recreation Supervisor

Cell: 248-343-6287

Email: doreys@oakgov.com

