

SCRPC Annual Dinner



STARK PARKS

StarkParks.com



When

Who

What

Wow

Why

With

Where

When

Established Feb. 17, 1967

First Board of Park Commissioners

Joseph Sommer • William Steffy • Paul Mitchell

Original parks

Faircrest Park • Lock 4 Park

Passed first levy in 1988

Introduced Countywide Trail and Greenway Plan in 1997

Who

Departments:

Administration

Maintenance and Construction

Finance/Retail

Community Engagement

Capital Planning and Projects

Public Safety (Rangers)

Education and Programs

Natural Resources

77 Full Time / Part Time

Professionals

Ambassador Animals

Board of Park Commissioner:

Bill Bryan, Ralph Dublikar, David Regula,
Susan Chaddock, Katie Cerrone





What

Stewards of 6,817 Acres

(Down from over 8,000 Acres)

15 Parks

4 Lakes

126.4 Miles of Hiking,

Biking

& Equestrian Trails

Wildlife Conservation

Center

4 Historic Properties



Where

Major Parks:

Sippo Lake Park (Library WCC)
Quail Hollow Park
Walborn and Deer Creek Parks
Fry Park
Tam O'shanter Park
Petros Lake Park
Magnolia Mill Park
Devonshire Park
Whitacre Equestrian Park

Major Trails:

O&E Tow Path Trail (Ralph Regula)
Sippo Valley Trail
West Branch Trail
Middle Branch Trail
Iron Horse Trail
Nickle Plate Trail
Pioneer Trail
Old Muskingum Trail
Stark Electric Railway Trail
Hoover Trail
Sandy Valley Trail

Park and Trail ownership: We have parks and trails in nearly every City, Village and Township in Stark County and partner with many of our fellow Public agencies to manage and operate property not owned by Stark Parks.

Why

Mission Statement: To preserve, manage, and connect natural areas to serve the community through recreation, conservation, and education.

Activities

Hiking & Biking

Fishing

Boating

Kayaking & Canoeing

Pontoon Rides

Family-friendly Events

Camps & Fishing Derbies

Educational Programming

Crafts & Skill Workshops

Community Events

Wildlife Rehabilitation

Historical Tours

We recognize that as we nurture our environment, our environment in turn nurtures us. We strive to ensure that our Parks are welcoming to all people, to make sure all visitors/staff are treated with dignity and respect, and to have fun doing it.

With

A host of other agencies and organizations

Volunteers

- Portray Feleap the Frog the park mascot
- Wildlife care and rehabilitation
- Patrol the trails and become a Trailblazer
- Become a pontoon boat captain
- Lead tours as a docent
- Litter control, landscaping, plantings

Friends of Stark Parks

Quail Hollow Volunteers Association

Quail Hollow Herb Society



Wow

Engaging the public and stakeholders to set direction

Taking care of what we have

Support Local Park Partners and Communities: Stark County Park and Recreation Forum

Meet people where they are to better serve the entire community

Revamp our Educational Programs

Water Trail development

Elevate employee engagement

Expand Public Confidence

Update Stark Parks Logo





Wow (cont.)

Preserve and improve our environment

Preserve, display, educate about our history

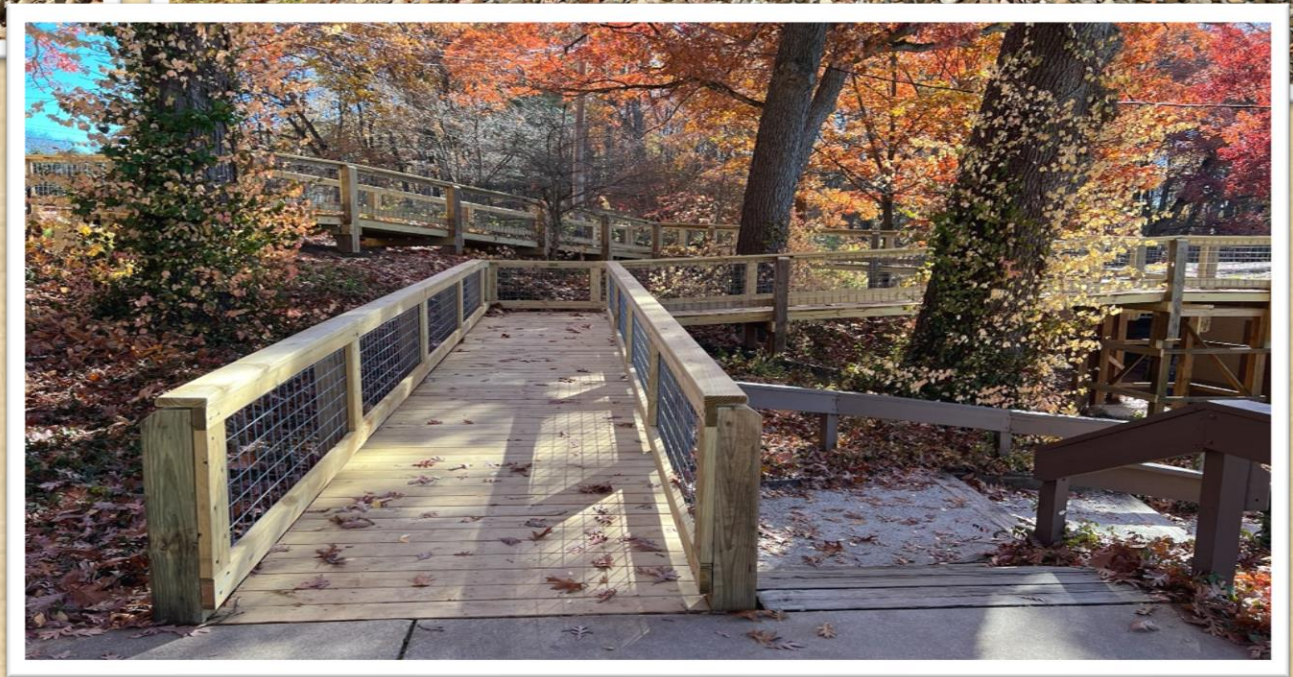
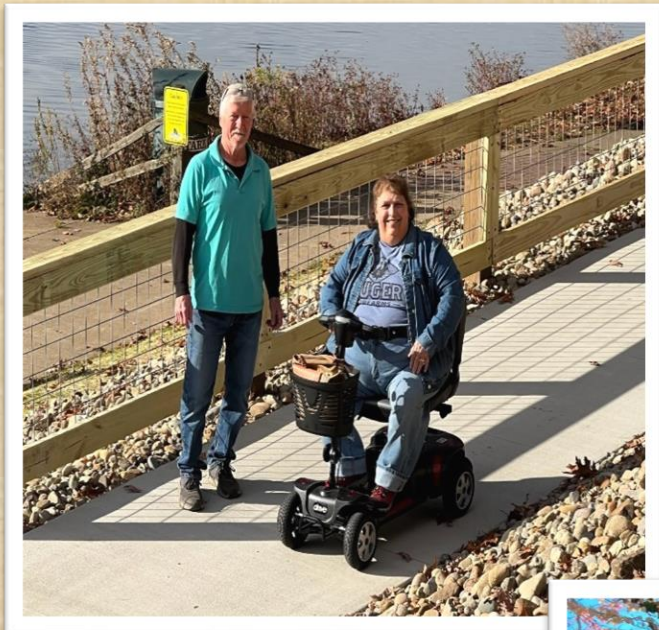
Improve accessibility: pave major trails, adaptive kayak launches, accessible full service bathrooms

Replacing bridges

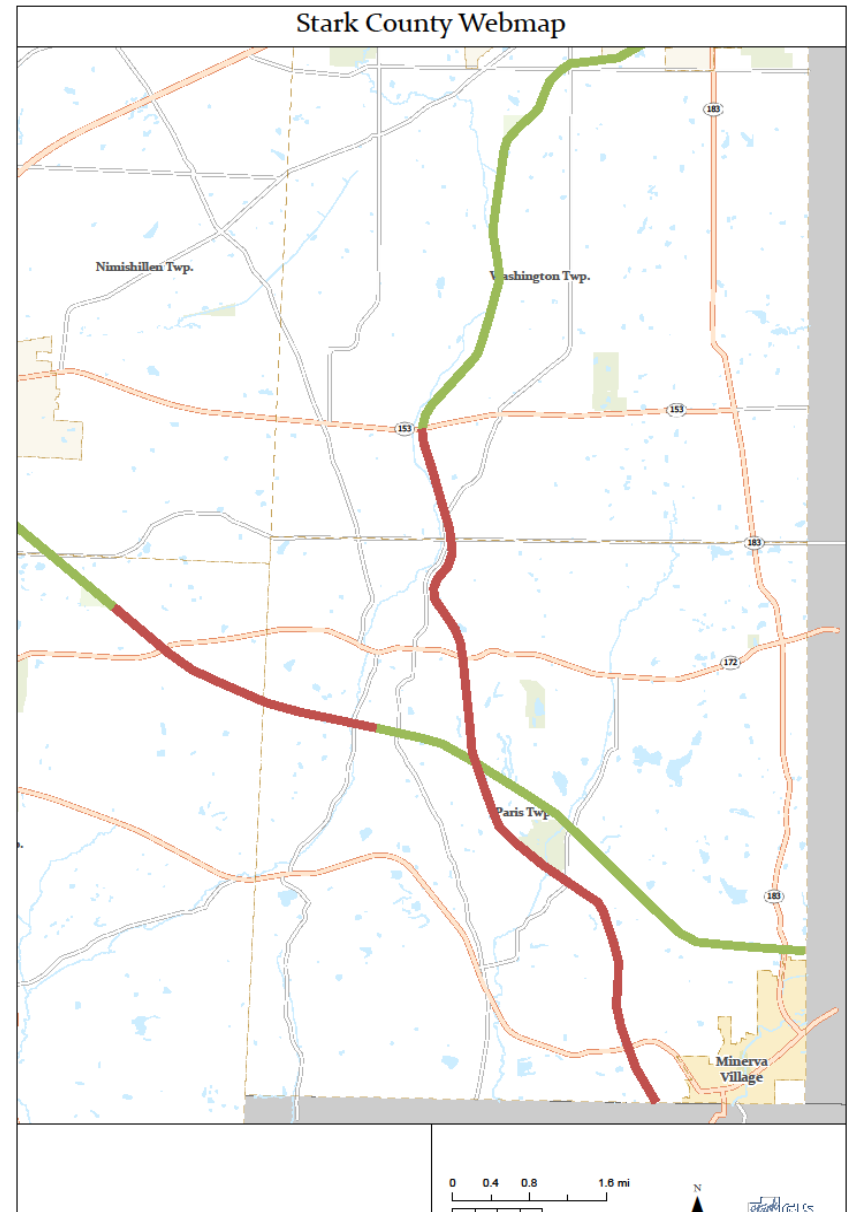
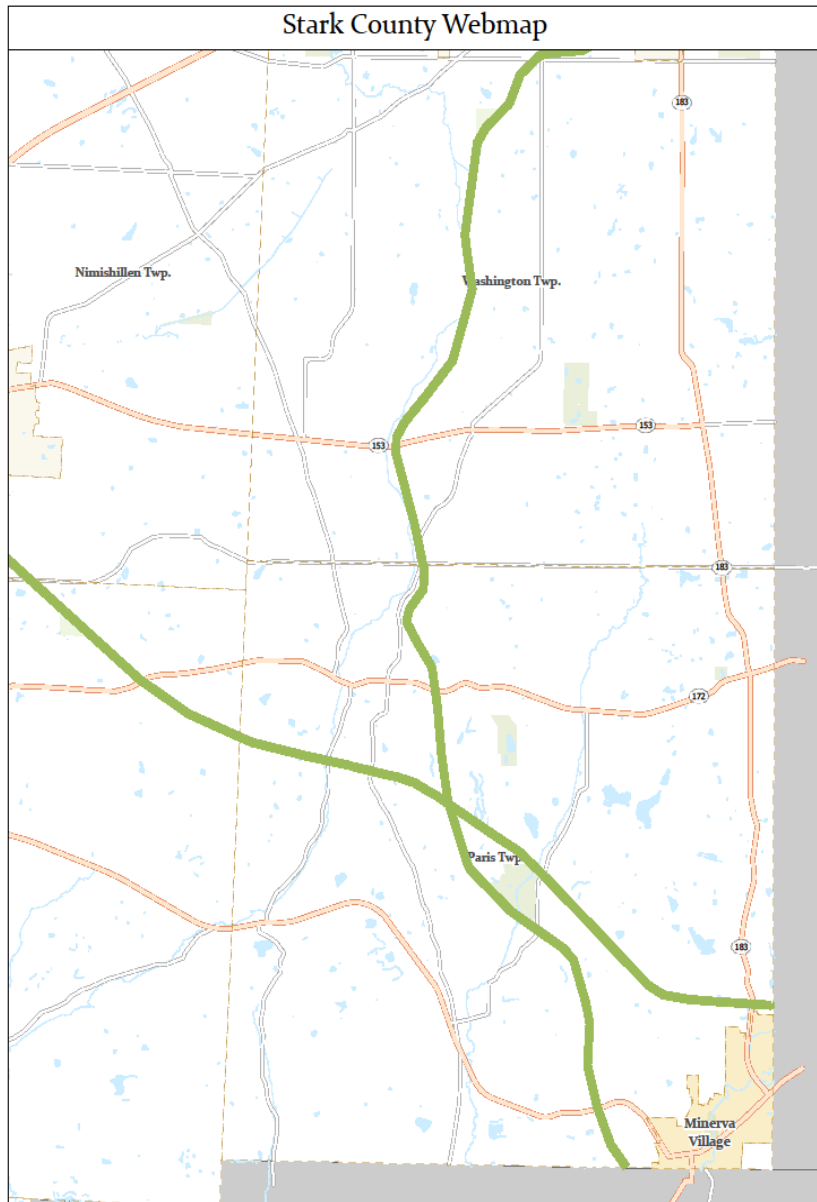
Maximize and upgrade facilities: Fry, Tam O'Shanter, Campus Trail, Petros bathroom

Lease out unused buildings

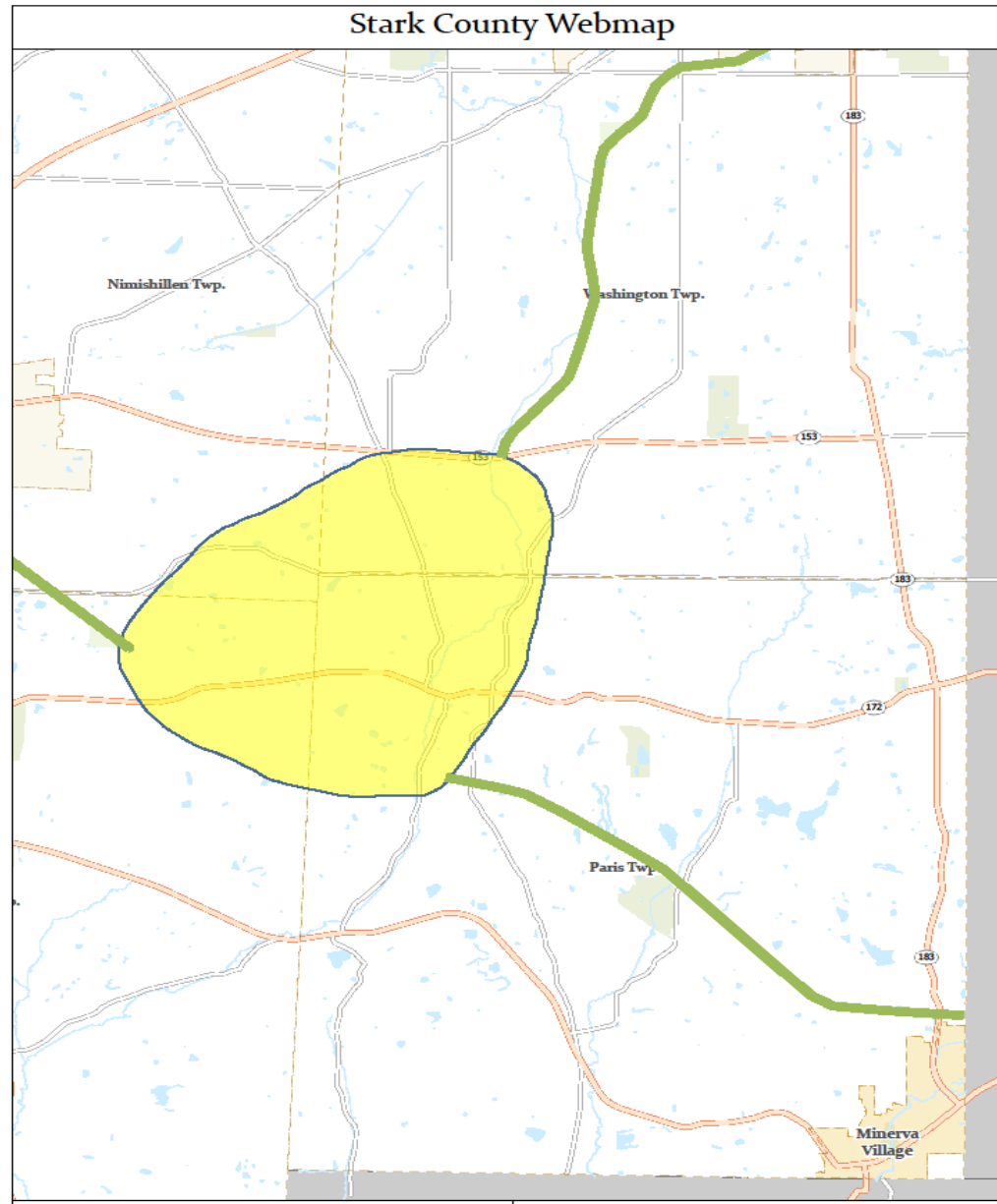
Update terminology from Trails to Active Transportation System



Update Trail Maps example

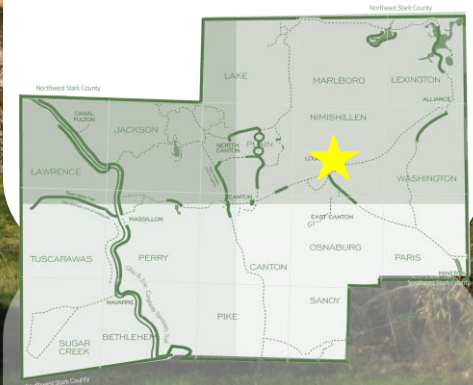


Update Trail Maps example



Molly Stark Park (Nimishillen Twp)

Nimishillen Twp./Louisville
Property purchased from
Stark County
Commissioners for \$1





Sippo Lake Park & Trails [North] and Exploration Gateway (Perry Township)

4.2 mi of various hiking & biking trails

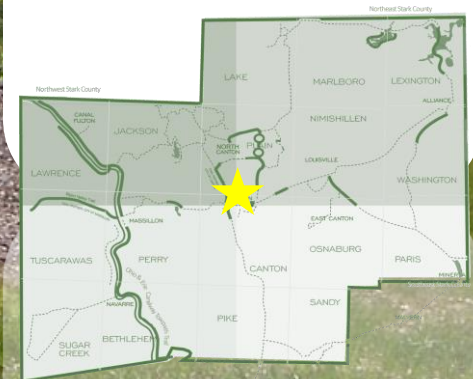
Indoor & outdoor rentals

Indoor bird viewing areas

Perry-Sippo Branch Library

Canalway Center

NEW! Trail Tales



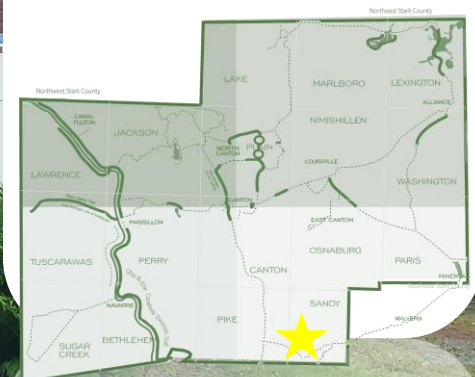


Magnolia Flouring Mills

(Village of Magnolia)

In operation since 1834
along
the Sandy & Beaver
Canal

Public & requested tours
throughout the year



Tam O'Shanter Park & Trails (3.3 mi) (Jackson Township)

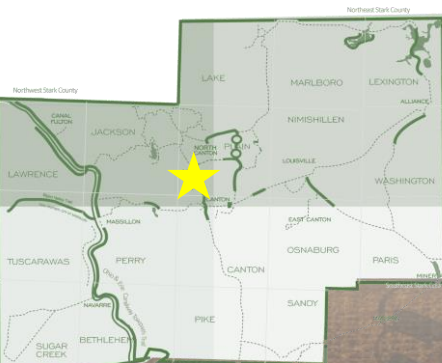
Using Clean Ohio Funds,
the former golf course is
the 15th park in our system.

The Park is open daily for
hiking and nature and
wildlife viewing

Popular events:

Live music performances
(summer)

Family Fall Fest (fall)



Thank you!

**Dan Moeglin, P.E.
Executive Director**

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