

# PRIME MERIDIAN

magazine  
2025



## Creating Community for All

IN THIS ISSUE:

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## Stay Informed by Tuning in to HOMTV!

HOMTV broadcasts meetings of the Meridian Township Board, Planning Commission, and more!



Watch live or view recordings at Comcast Channel 21, [www.homtv.net](http://www.homtv.net), [www.youtube.com/user/21HOMTV](http://www.youtube.com/user/21HOMTV), or [www.meridianmi.swagit.com/live](http://www.meridianmi.swagit.com/live).

## Township Board

*As pictured above (from left to right)*

Trustee Peter Trezise  
Trustee Marna Wilson  
Trustee Nickolas Lentz  
Trustee Kathy Ann Sundland  
Clerk Angela Demas  
Treasurer Phil Deschaine  
Supervisor Scott Hendrickson

## Park Commission

Mary Nardo Farris (Chair)  
Amanda Lick  
Michael McDonald  
Emily Rambo  
Mark Stephens

## Letter From the Township Supervisor

Dear Meridian Township resident,

I am delighted and proud to serve as your Township Supervisor. Meridian Township is an amazing community made up of 44,000 wonderful people. We are home to the best school districts in the state of Michigan, a thriving business environment, and we have world-class parks, trails, activities, and other amenities. In short, we are "A Prime Community."

While it is impossible to capture all the wonderful things we have to offer in one publication, this Prime Meridian Magazine is a guide to what is going on in our area.

This year, I hope you will find time to get out and discover something new about where you live that you haven't experienced before: visit our top-rated farmers' market, walk the trails at the Harris Nature Center, or try a restaurant that just opened around the corner. I think you will be amazed at what we have to offer. See you out there!

*Scott Hendrickson*

Scott Hendrickson

## Prime Meridian Magazine Contributors

### Design & Production

Rachael Stohlin

### Printing & Mailing

Allegra Lansing

### Photography

Samantha Diehl  
Courtland Jenkins  
Danneisha McDole  
Dan Stephens

### Proofreading

Leslie Charles  
Samantha Diehl  
Melissa Massie  
Danneisha McDole

### On the Cover

Okemos High School students celebrate Holi at Newton Park on May 19, 2024. Photo credits: Courtland Jenkins.



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## Meridian Township Leads Michigan in Quality of Life

In 2024, Okemos ranked as the #1 Best Place to Live in Michigan by Niche, a website that compiles data and consumer feedback to rank communities. Niche ranked Haslett in the top 5% of Michigan communities.

## Looking for Something Else?

Check out Meridian Township's website, [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us), to access routinely updated news, calendar events, contact information, and more!

## Using QR Codes

To use the QR codes in this magazine, open your smartphone camera (if available), point your camera at the QR code so the QR code is clear and fully visible on your screen, and tap the link that appears. Try it here!





# Letter From the Township Manager

*Hello!*

It's my pleasure to introduce myself as the new Township Manager. This is a homecoming of sorts, having lived in the area for nearly 20 years. During much of that time, I worked for the City of East Lansing in community and economic development and served as the Deputy City Manager.

My passion for local government is driven by serving the public in meaningful ways, from ensuring public safety to enhancing economic development and everything in between. I'm very excited to work with the Township Board, staff, residents, and other stakeholders to maintain the qualities that make Meridian Township a great place to live and to find new and innovative ways to make it even better.

If you see me in the community, please say hi and introduce yourself, and certainly don't hesitate to contact me if needed. It's my goal in the coming weeks and months to get to know the community, understand its needs, and get to work ensuring Meridian Township remains "A Prime Community!"



*Tim Dempsey*  
Tim Dempsey

## Haven't Heard From Us Recently?

Let's stay in touch!



Scan the QR code to visit [www.meridian.mi.us/GetConnected](http://www.meridian.mi.us/GetConnected).

At that page, you can learn about and subscribe to our emergency alerts, eNewsletters, social media updates, and more!



# Special Events



## Celebrate Meridian Festival

June 26 to June 28, 2025

Kick off summer with your friends and family at our biggest celebration of the year! Stay tuned for updates.



## Meridian Pride

May 31, 2025

Celebrate Pride Month at our third annual sponsor-funded event that unites local residents, allies, and organizations.



# Other Events and Programs\*

## Spring

Meridian Senior Center Shamrock Social  
Spring Recycling Event  
Farmers' Market  
Meridian Garden Club Plant Sale  
Harris Nature Center Wildflower Walk  
Harris Nature Center Native Plant Sale  
Memorial Day Ceremony

## Summer

Summer Concert Series  
Harris Nature Center Summer Day Camp  
Farmers' Market  
Mom to Mom Sale  
Juneteenth Celebration  
Cops and Bobbers Fishing Derby  
Children's Concert Series

## Autumn

Fall Electronics Recycling Event  
Halloween Spooktacular  
Farmers' Market  
Heritage Festival  
Harris Nature Center Wine in the Woods  
Harris Nature Center Native Plant Sale

## Winter

Ice Skating Party  
Farmers' Market  
Here Comes Santa Paws  
Drive-Thru Santa  
Harris Nature Center Critter Holiday  
Meridian Senior Center Cupid's Bingo

\*The list of events above is not exhaustive. Events may be added, modified, or removed as planning continues. For an active listing of Township events, visit our website at [www.meridian.mi.us/Calendar](http://www.meridian.mi.us/Calendar).





# Top Stories of 2024

## Find the Latest Township News

Visit our website at the QR code to learn more about these stories and other local news.



You can also find news about Meridian Township at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us) in the "News" section.



## Meridian Township Finds Its Next Manager

With the former Township Manager's departure in April, the Township Board sought to find a full-time replacement. 57 highly qualified candidates applied for the position, and following three interviews, the Board selected Tim Dempsey as our next Township Manager. Dempsey has extensive experience, having served as East Lansing's Deputy City Manager, Public Sector Consultants's Vice President, and Saginaw Future Incorporated's Senior Vice President.

## Senior/Community Center Task Force

With the pending demolition of Chippewa Middle School, the current site of our senior center will soon be torn down. We are seeking a solution so our seniors will always have a dedicated space in our community. A task force was formed to identify locations, select amenities, and craft a proposal to present to the Board and residents in the coming months. The Township is also considering whether there is need and desire for a community center as well. Residents can attend the task force's meetings in-person or watch these televised meetings on HOMTV.

## Putting Public Safety First

When the Township Board held listening sessions in 2023, the most common concern from residents was a desire for more traffic patrol. Police staffing was to blame, as officers were leaving the Township for nearby communities that offered better compensation. A similar issue also affected the Township's fire department. The Board renegotiated to offer higher pay to our first responders, and the Township is on its way to being fully staffed again. As a result, you may notice more police patrolling our roads. [Read more on pages 12 and 13.](#)

## Emergency Warning Sirens

Nearly a decade ago, the Township Board embarked on a program to ensure total coverage of the Township with warning sirens. After the 2023 tornado in Williamston, the Township Board accelerated the program, and it was officially completed in 2024. Residents can rest easier knowing they will hear a warning siren when a storm is near!



# Taxes, Utility Bills & Payments

Winter Taxes Due February 14, 2025 | Summer Taxes Due September 15, 2025

Scan the QR Code or visit [bit.ly/MeridianBill](https://bit.ly/MeridianBill) to sign up for quick online payments.

You can pay your tax or utility bill online with no fees using EFT draws from your bank account at our website. From the Bill Payments page, log in to an existing account, create a new account, or make a one-time payment. Tax accounts can be linked to utility billing accounts using the "Manage My Accounts" link from your home screen after logging in.



The Treasurer's Office is open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. You can drop off payments 24/7 in the white drop box in front of Meridian Township's Municipal Building. To reach us, please call 517.853.4140.

## Understanding Your Bills

Pick up one of our informational handouts on your next visit to our office or find them on our website, [www.meridian.mi.us/TreasurersOffice](http://www.meridian.mi.us/TreasurersOffice).



## Assessing

Property owners receive Assessment Change Notices in February. These notices show the assessed value of a property along with the taxable value used to calculate property taxes.

Our Assessor's Review, an informal chance to discuss your assessment and ask questions, will be held on a walk-in basis on February 25 and 26. Our formal March Board of Review process will be held March 10, 11, and 12.

## Clerk's Office

Meridian Township Clerk Angela Demas and the Clerk's Office thank the election inspectors for helping make sure our 2024 elections remained free, safe, and fair.

The office continues to welcome applications for election inspectors for future elections.

Meridian Township's Clerk's Office handles:

- Election Administration
- FOIA Requests
- Record Retention
- Free Notary Services

Learn more by visiting their website at [www.meridian.mi.us/ClerksOffice](http://www.meridian.mi.us/ClerksOffice) or by calling the office at 517.853.4300.





# Developments

## Our Plan for Meridian Township

Meridian Township has been an active Redevelopment Ready Community through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation since 2017. As the Township transitions its development strategy, we remain committed to supporting the redevelopment of existing land. Our updated 2023 Master Plan guides our vision for development over the next 5 to 20 years.



## Chief Building Official Retires

John Heckaman, Meridian Township's Chief Building Official, is retiring after serving Meridian Township for nearly 26 years.

Upon graduation from Michigan State University, John joined the Township in April 1997. In his career, John reviewed, inspected, and granted occupancy permits for many businesses, houses, and commercial projects in the Township. As a key member of the Building Division, John is known for skilled and fair code compliance while always keeping the Township's best interests at his core.

With the average annual investment in Meridian Township at about 70 million dollars, John has managed the construction review and processing of over one billion dollars in local investments, helping create the community we experience today.



## Projects in Motion

In 2025, residents may notice developments at the following properties in Meridian Township:

### 1655 Haslett Road

(Mixed-use redevelopment)

### 2731 E. Grand River Avenue

(Proposed Starbucks)

### 4990 Marsh Road

(Proposed Panda Express)

### 4100 Okemos Road

(Delta Dental interior renovation)

### 1982 W. Grand River Avenue

(Schuler Books relocation)

For the current status of ongoing development projects, check out our website: [www.meridian.mi.us/DevelopmentProjects](http://www.meridian.mi.us/DevelopmentProjects).



## Are You a Local Business Owner?

Meridian Area Business Association (MABA) is the professional small business association of our region. For questions, contact Amber Clark at [clark@meridian.mi.us](mailto:clark@meridian.mi.us).



# Township Projects

## MSU to Lake Lansing Trail Construction Continues

Phase II opened to the public on Saturday, September 14, 2024. Phase II begins at the Grand River Avenue and Campus Hill Drive intersection and concludes just south of the Okemos Road and Gaylord C. Smith Court intersection. The scenic portion of the trail that takes users along the Okemos Road Preserve was constructed using recycled asphalt millings from the Township's Local Roads Program. Scan our QR code to find a video of the construction and completion of Phase II.



The Township is currently working to acquire the land for Phase III and complete its design. Phase III will provide a trail route from Marsh Road, just south of Haslett Road, to Lake Lansing Park North. The anticipated opening of Phase III will be announced once all land has been acquired and the project is ready to proceed with construction.

Once all three phases are complete, the MSU to Lake Lansing Trail will provide residents with approximately 6.75 miles of trail system, enhancing the region's trail system by connecting to the MSU and Lansing River Trails. To learn more, scan the QR code or visit [www.meridian.mi.us/TownshipProjects](http://www.meridian.mi.us/TownshipProjects).



## Local Roads Program

Meridian Township proposed a 10-year road millage bond on the August 2019 ballot to establish a revenue source for maintaining its 153-mile network of local roads.

Over the 10 years (2020-2029), the millage bond will invest \$35.25 million in the Township's Local Roads Program. In addition to the bond, the Township and the Ingham County Road Department collectively invest \$615,000 annually in these local roads.

In 2024, Meridian Township completed all of the road work that was scheduled for 2024, as well as some maintenance that was planned for 2025:

- **6.93 miles of road reconstruction**
- **13.04 miles of asphalt rejuvenator**





# Farmers' Market

Are you missing our outdoor farmers' market? We reopen at Marketplace on the Green on Saturday, May 3! See you soon!

## We Accept Food Assistance Programs!

We want our market to be accessible to everyone, regardless of financial need. Residents using the following food assistance programs can shop with us for eligible products:

- SNAP
- Double Up Food Bucks
- WIC Project Fresh
- Senior Project FRESH (also referred to as Market FRESH)

When visiting the farmers' market, visit the Market Manager's booth to learn more.

## Shop Market Gifts

Help yourself or a loved one start 2025 off right with a Meridian Township Farmers' Market gift certificate (\$25 each) or tote bag (\$15 each)!

See more information about merchandise and gifts on our market's website.



## 2025 Farmers' Market Schedule

### Saturday Indoor Market

1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturdays January through April and every Saturday from Thanksgiving to Christmas  
10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Meridian Mall JCPenney Wing

### Saturday Outdoor Market

Every Saturday from May until Thanksgiving  
8:00 am\* to 2:00 pm (10:00 am\* in November)  
Marketplace on the Green

### Wednesday Outdoor Market

Every Wednesday from June through October  
3:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
Marketplace on the Green



# MERIDIAN Cares Making a Difference

Meridian Cares provides Meridian Township residents facing emergency financial need with assistance from a human services specialist. The Emergency Needs Fund is also available to support residents at risk of losing their shelter or facing a utility shutoff.

## How Does Meridian Cares Work?

Meridian Township residents facing emergency financial need (relating to shelter or utilities) contact the Human Services Specialist.

Resident's need is determined in a confidential intake assessment.

Federal, state, and local resources are considered for financial aid. When no aid or not enough aid is available, Meridian Cares may use its donation-based Emergency Needs Fund to financially assist the resident.

Financial assistance recommendations are made by the Human Services Specialist to the Township's Community Resource Commission for approval.

Approved financial assistance is given directly to the utility company or landlord seeking payment.

Resident stays in their home with working utilities.

"From the bottom of my heart, thank you so so much for saving my boys and I from a very difficult, stressful situation right before Christmas."

- Recipient of Meridian Cares Services

## 2024 Numbers

123 - Families supported  
\$51,088.69 - Donation-based funds distributed

## Your Donation Makes a Direct Difference!

Your donation of any size sustains our 100% donor funded Emergency Needs Fund. These funds will be distributed to neighbors in danger of losing their shelter or having utilities shut off.

## To Donate:

Scan the QR code to give to the Meridian Cares Emergency Needs Fund via PayPal. Thank you!



## Need Help?

Call Meridian Township's Human Services Specialist, Katie Love, at 517.853.4204 for a confidential call and intake assessment to determine options for your situation.

If you need assistance outside of our business hours, contact Michigan 211 by calling or texting 2-1-1.



# Public Safety

## Prioritizing Our First Responder Staffing

One of the biggest challenges in public safety is hiring qualified candidates that meet the standards set by their community. We maintain high expectations of our first responders, and these standards stay at the forefront of our hiring practices.

At the end of 2023, staffing levels in our police and fire departments were down. While the police department is authorized to staff 42 sworn officers, the active number of officers dropped to 30, and the pool of applicants dried up. The fire department faced a similar staffing shortage.

To address this concern, Police Chief Grillo and Fire Chief Hamel proposed the Meridian Township Public Safety Recruiting and Retention Program to the Township Board. This program proposed a 10% raise for all police officers and firefighters and an opportunity for a bonus for staff who were responsible for recruiting an officer or firefighter that was hired and retained. The Township Board approved the program in December 2023.

Since the program began in January 2024, the police and fire departments have welcomed former employees back, sponsored recruits or new employee trainings, and hired personnel from other agencies.

Meridian Township is making significant progress in filling its departments when many agencies struggle to do so. The fire and police departments are eternally grateful to the Township Board for supporting public safety in the Township.

## Receive Alerts During Local Emergencies!

Your safety is our priority.

We've partnered with Ingham County to use Smart911 alerts. By signing up for these alerts, you can receive timely texts and emails about emergencies in our Township and neighboring communities.

Scan the QR code to sign up for Smart911 alerts related to Meridian Township and Greater Lansing.



## Proactive Policing

As our population has grown, so have the number of calls for service our police officers respond to:

**2009: 13,000 calls**

**2023: 20,000 calls**

As staffing levels dwindled and calls for service went up, the ability for our department to engage in proactive policing, such as traffic enforcement and property checks, declined.

Due to increases in staffing in 2024, the department improved its level of proactive policing. Within the last year, traffic stops and citations increased by nearly three times. In 2025, we will continue to address our residents' number one concern, traffic safety.

If you have a specific concern related to traffic, please visit our Traffic Concern Form. 



## Training for Our Community's Safety

Our fire department has enhanced the level of training our firefighter/paramedics receive. Each day, our personnel develop new skills in emergency medical services, the use of fire equipment, confined space rescue, extrication (pictured), and more.

Over the past year, the department has provided specialized trainings, including week-long courses for Fire Officer I and Fire Instructor I certifications.



## Infrastructure Improvements

By the end of 2025, the fire department will replace two fire trucks that have been in service for 17 and 25 years. These engines will enter duty alongside a new ambulance. This will mark the department's last vehicle purchases through 2036. In addition, the fire department plans to add private dormitories at Central Fire Station to support its increase in female firefighter/paramedics.

In 2024, Meridian Township made several updates to the police department's Public Safety Building. Few improvements have been made to the facility since its construction in 1992. Upgrades included new flooring, paint, countertops, signage, workstations, and technology in key areas.





Capital Area  
District Libraries  
cadl.org

# LEARN. IMAGINE. CONNECT.

**Come visit us at CADL  
Meridian Libraries**

CADL Okemos  
4321 Okemos Road  
517.347.2021

CADL Haslett  
1590 Franklin Street  
517.339.2324



**JUNE 26 - JUNE 28**

- Farmers' Market
- Children's Games, Inflatables, and Rides
- Live Entertainment
- Beer & Wine Garden
- Food Trucks & Vendors
- Historical Village Tours
- Nokomis Cultural Heritage Center Activities
- Teen Night
- Cultural Art Performances

Stay tuned at [www.meridian.mi.us/CelebrateMeridian!](http://www.meridian.mi.us/CelebrateMeridian!)



# Find Your Community!

Meridian Township's residents are involved and active. Many residents give back to the community by volunteering their time to a cause that matters to them.

With a variety of volunteering options, there is a space where every resident can be heard, share their passion, find new friends, and make positive change.

Three volunteering options are listed below. If you cannot volunteer in the Township, please consider supporting Meridian Cares, described on page 11.

## Build Lasting Friendships in an Organization

In Meridian Township, there is a local volunteer group suited just for you! Make friends as a member of a historical organization, gardening and beautification group, land stewardship corps, general service organization, and more!

You can find links to local groups that are looking for new members at our website.



## Provide a Day of Service at a Local Event

Residents and businesses can support community events!

Our large events, like Celebrate Meridian Festival and Meridian Pride, are made possible with the help of many volunteers.

Contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at 517.853.4600 or parks@meridian.mi.us to learn about event volunteering opportunities.



## Serve on a Board or Commission

Create positive change in the Township as a board or commission member! Scan the QR code to apply.



In 2025, Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Alexia Mansour and Environmental Commission Chair Bill McConnell received the Township's Volunteer of the Year award (pictured).



# Meridian Conservation Corps

In all four seasons, the Meridian Conservation Corps (MCC) is out in our community caring for our parks and preserves.

Corps volunteers, most of whom are Meridian Township residents, remove invasive species, pick up litter, collect and sow native seeds, and transplant native species back into parks and preserves. The Corps also leads educational programs on local flora, fauna, and conservation.

Need reasons to volunteer in the field?

Corps members have told us that their time out in the parks and preserves provides:

- **Much-needed breaks from screen fatigue**
- **New friendships with people in their neighborhood**
- **Immediate, natural mental health benefits**
- **Built-in physical activity**

## 2024 in Review

**68** - Meridian Conservation Corps sign-ups

**346** - Volunteers preserving local land

**632.5** - Hours of volunteer stewardship

**44** - Volunteer workdays completing trash cleanup, invasive species removal, vernal pool monitoring, native seed collection and processing, and native seed sowing and transplanting

## Sign Up Today!

We are always welcoming new volunteers.



Find our sign up form and learn more about us at [www.meridian.mi.us/mcc](http://www.meridian.mi.us/mcc).





# Green Meridian

## Small Habits for a Greener 2025

- Be sure to clear the storm drains in your roadways in the spring and fall. If clogged, water can flood and catch pollutants, which then enter our waterways.
- Recycle! We host two recycling events each year to collect many household items before they enter the landfill. Meridian Township also offers a recycling center (operated by Reclaimed by Design) at 5976 E. Lake Drive in Haslett.
- Shop local! Choosing locally grown foods ([see Farmers' Market on page 10](#)) promotes sustainable farming and reduces emissions.

## 2025 Green Events

- **Green Ideas** - March 15
- **Spring Recycling Day** - April 26
- **Grow Green** - May 17
- **Green Fair** - June 21
- **Green Commuting & Eco-Tourism** - July 19
- **Fall Electronics Recycling Day** - September 20



Visit [www.meridian.mi.us/Calendar](http://www.meridian.mi.us/Calendar) for details.

## Glean and Grow!

The Meridian Township Farmers' Market's Home Garden Program will soon be open to all interested gardeners.

Prevent food waste and support neighbors in need by donating extra garden produce.

More details will be available in May.

## Green Grants

We are accepting proposals for our 2025 Green Grant program!

These grants support schools, businesses, congregations, and organizations in developing green infrastructure or education in our community.



Learn more at:  
[meridian.mi.us/GreenMeridian](http://meridian.mi.us/GreenMeridian).

## Mud Lake by Sam Lovall

Partially funded by Green Grants, this book shares tales about Haslett in the 1960s with reflections on its woodlands, wetlands, circular energy, and climate change.

Available through ELI Press, Amazon, and local libraries.





# Parks and Recreation

## Save the Date for Our Popular Events

- **May 31** - Meridian Pride
- **June 4** - Summer Concert Series Begins
- **June 26 - 28** - Celebrate Meridian Festival

## Why Local Families Choose Our Leagues

With many options for youth sports, local families have many reasons to sprint to our leagues:

- Lower registration fees
- No travel required
- Fundamental skill-building ahead of travel leagues
- Local sites, less time commitment
- Flexibility to participate in more than one sport

We offer leagues in soccer, softball, t-ball, baseball, basketball, flag football, and Sporties for Shorties throughout the year!

Find more information about our youth sports programs at our website or call us at 517.853.4600.



Learn more about our programs at our website, or call our office at 517.853.4600.



## Looking to Sponsor Local Events?

Flip to the back cover for information on our 2025 event sponsorship opportunities.



## Facility Rentals

Gatherings in the parks make for great memories. We offer rentals at eight pavilions at a rate of \$100 for residents and \$200 for non-residents (excludes Marketplace on the Green, which has higher rates). Rental time blocks include 8:00 am to 3:00 pm or 4:00 pm to 9:30 pm (dusk). Scan the QR code to find our selection of pavilions, usage fees, and park amenities.



## Join a Dog Park Community

Our centrally located, off-leash small (30 pounds and under) and large (30 pounds and over) dog parks mean your pups have a perfect hangout spot!

**Membership fees:** (first dog/additional dogs)

- Residents - \$20/\$15
- Non-Residents - \$35/\$20

**Dog park membership, which requires a valid dog license and proof of rabies vaccine, is required for park access.**

To register and learn more, visit our website at [www.meridian.mi.us/DogParks](http://www.meridian.mi.us/DogParks).



## Towner Road Pickleball

Learn to play pickleball this summer!

Sally Hudgins (IPTPA, L1, L2, CR5) and Sandy Sweckard (IPTPA, L1) coordinate pickleball classes and open play at Towner Park, at 2055 Towner Road in Haslett.

Class registrations and open play will be posted by April 1, 2025. All fees will be collected at class. For updates, follow Towner Road Pickleball on Facebook.

To contact Hudgins and Sweckard, email [townerpickleball@gmail.com](mailto:townerpickleball@gmail.com), or call 517.230.0388 (Hudgins) or 517.420.7048 (Sweckard).



## Don't Miss a Single Moment!

Make sure you hear about our registration deadlines and program offerings each month with a subscription to our eNewsletter, The Playbook!

Subscribe at the provided QR code or [bit.ly/SignUpMTwpNewsletters](https://bit.ly/SignUpMTwpNewsletters) to learn about our events, programs, and more!





## Need Native Plants?

Enhance your gardens by shopping at our native plant sales on May 3 and October 4!

## Sensory-Friendly Nights

HNC invites families with members who have sensory processing needs to a free, special after-hours evening. Participants are encouraged to explore the HNC social story and virtual tours of the building and grounds before arriving.



# Harris Nature Center

Surrounded by 200 acres of forest and meadows and nestled against the beautiful Red Cedar River, the Harris Nature Center (3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos) provides wonderful opportunities for all ages to explore trails, discover wildlife, and enjoy the wondrous colors of nature each season.

To find and register for our programs, visit our website at [www.meridian.mi.us/HNC](http://www.meridian.mi.us/HNC)!



## Adventure Awaits in 2025

### Dogs and Coffee

Enjoy a guided morning walk in the woods with your two best friends, dogs and coffee!

### Nature for Toddlers

Enjoy fun and engaging nature experiences at HNC with your toddler in this 4-week class.

### Bees and Beyond

Join the Center of Michigan Beekeepers (COMB) to learn more about bees and other pollinators that help our earth flourish.

### Wine in the Woods

Bring your favorite beverage and friends for a walk in the woods and an evening campfire.

### Spring and Fall Gardening with Native Plants

Make gardening easier with native plants! Learn how at one of our classes.

Visit our website to find dates, times, and pricing for these and other events.

[www.meridian.mi.us/HNC](http://www.meridian.mi.us/HNC) | 517.349.3866

# Nokomis Cultural Heritage Center

5153 Marsh Road, Okemos

One of mid-Michigan's hidden gems, Nokomis Cultural Heritage Center preserves and presents the culture of the Three Fires, or Anishinaabe, peoples - the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi nations.

Spend time in the center's gallery room, classroom, library, gift shop, or the new Three Sisters Garden, immersed in the culture of our region's native peoples. The center frequently holds engaging programs, classes, and special events for the public.

Nokomis Cultural Heritage Center is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Learn more at [www.nokomis.org](http://www.nokomis.org) or call 517.349.5777.



# Meridian Senior Center

4000 North Okemos Road, Okemos

This welcoming community for Meridian Township residents age 55 and over provides enrichment programs and activities! With a variety of programs and class opportunities, you can form special friendships, build new skills, and make many memories.

To learn more about upcoming events and current programs, scan the QR code, visit [meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com](http://meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com), or call the senior center at 517.706.5045.

To learn about the ongoing Senior/Community Center project, [see page 6](#).



# Meridian Historical Village

5151 Marsh Road, Okemos

This picturesque village fosters an appreciation of local history with a speaker series, summer day camp, and special events each year.

The village also hosts field trips and rentals, including wedding ceremonies, throughout the year.

To learn more or to contact the Friends of Historic Meridian, the village's volunteer-driven organization, visit [www.meridianhistoricalvillage.org](http://www.meridianhistoricalvillage.org) or call 517.347.7300.

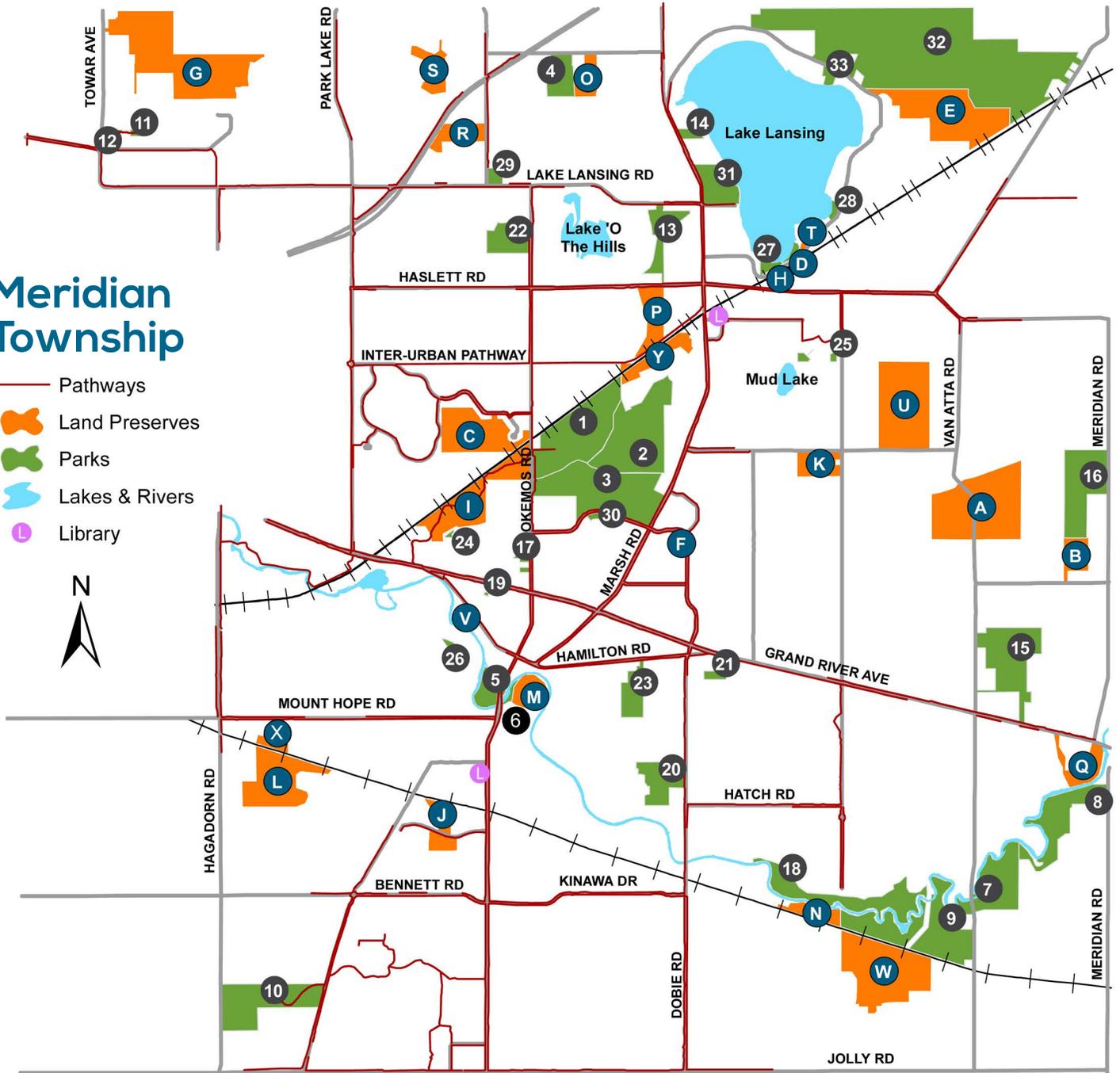


# Discover New Places

At One of Our 50 Parks and Land Preserves

## Meridian Township

-  Pathways
-  Land Preserves
-  Parks
-  Lakes & Rivers
-  Library



### Meridian Township Land Preserves (see parks on next page)

- |                                      |  |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Davis/Foster Preserve       | <b>J</b> Sower Woods Preserve          | <b>S</b> Glacial Ridge Preserve |
| <b>B</b> Foster-Crouse Preserve      | <b>K</b> Cornell Wetland Preserve      | <b>T</b> Tank Wetland           |
| <b>C</b> Hubbel Preserve             | <b>L</b> Heron Creek Preserve          | <b>U</b> Tihart Preserve        |
| <b>D</b> Kuzma Preserve              | <b>M</b> Sumbal Preserve               | <b>V</b> Mandenberg Woods       |
| <b>E</b> Lake Lansing North Preserve | <b>N</b> Red Cedar Glen Preserve       | <b>W</b> Ponderosa Preserve     |
| <b>F</b> Newman Equities Preserve    | <b>O</b> Towner Wetland Preserve       | <b>X</b> Serafine Preserve      |
| <b>G</b> Towar Woods Preserve        | <b>P</b> Inter-Urban Wetland Preserve  | <b>Y</b> Nemoke Preserve        |
| <b>H</b> Pike Crossing Preserve      | <b>Q</b> Red Cedar River East Preserve |                                 |
| <b>I</b> Okemos Road Preserve        | <b>R</b> Forest Grove Preserve         |                                 |

# Park Amenities Table

|    |  | Acreage | MDNR ADA Rating | Parking | Trails (N-natural   P-paved) | Natural Area with No Amenities | Lake   Pond   River   Drain   Wetland | Restrooms | Pavilion   Building(s) with set hours | Drinking Fountain | Electricity | Grill(s) | Picnic Area(s) | Fishing Access | Fishing Dock | Canoe   Kayak Launch | Boat Launch | River   Pond   Wetland Overlook Deck | Play Equipment | Nature Exploration Area | Story Book Trail | Soccer   Football   LaCrosse Fields | Baseball   Softball Diamonds | Basketball Court | Pickleball Court   Tennis Court | Sand Volleyball Court | Sledding Hill   Pump Track | Horseshoe Pits   Gaga Ball | Fitness Equipment   Dog Park | Open Space for Activities |   |  |  |
|----|--|---------|-----------------|---------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1  | Nancy Moore Park 1960 Gaylord C. Smith Ct<br>Parks & Recreation Office   | 40      | 3               | X       | N/P                          |                                | D                                     | X         | P                                     | X                 | X           | X        | X              | X              |              |                      |             |                                      | X              | X                       |                  | X                                   | X                            | X                |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 2  | Central Park 5151 Marsh Rd<br>Meridian Bldg/Public Safety Bldg<br>Meridian Historical Village<br>Nokomis Learning Center | 197     | 3               | X       | N/P                          |                                | P                                     | X         | P                                     | X                 | X           | X        | X              | X              |              |                      |             | X                                    | X              |                         |                  | X                                   | X                            | X                |                                 |                       |                            | HP                         |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 3  | Central Park South 1990 Central Park Dr  | 15      | 3               | X       | N/P                          |                                | P                                     |           |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              | X              |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            | DP                           |                           |   |  |  |
| 4  | Towner Road Park 2055 Towner Rd  | 23.6    | 1               | X       | P                            |                                |                                       | X         | P                                     |                   | X           | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  | X                                   | X                            |                  | P                               |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 5  | Worch Park 4555 Okemos Rd  | 15      | 3               | X       | P                            |                                | R                                     | X         | P                                     | X                 | X           | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              | FE                        | X |  |  |
| 6  | Ferguson Park 4540 Okemos Rd   | 5.7     | 2               | X       |                              |                                | R                                     | X         |                                       | X                 | X           | X        | X              | X              |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 7  | Harris Nature Center 3998 Van Atta Rd  | 48.4    | 4               | X       | N/P                          |                                | R                                     | X         | B                                     | X                 | X           | X        | X              | X              |              |                      |             | X                                    |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 8  | Eastgate Park 4203 S. Meridian Rd  | 53.1    | 3               | X       | N                            |                                | R                                     |           |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              | X              |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            | PT                           |                           |   |  |  |
| 9  | Legg Park 3891 Van Atta Rd   | 103     | 3               | X       | N                            |                                | R                                     |           | P                                     |                   |             | X        |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 10 | Hartwick Park 3685 Hulett Rd   | 60.7    | 2               | X       | N/P                          |                                | P                                     | X         | P                                     | X                 | X           | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             | X                                    | X              |                         |                  | X                                   | X                            |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 11 | Tower Park 6166 Pollard Ave  | 4       | 2               | X       |                              |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             | X        |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     | X                            |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 12 | Snell-Towner Recreation Center 6146 Porter Ave   | 25.4    | 3               | X       | N                            |                                | D                                     |           |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  | X                                   | X                            | P/T              |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 13 | Hillbrook Park 1747 Lake Lansing Rd  | 5       | 4               | X       |                              |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 14 | Marshall Park 6105 Marsh Rd  | 74      | 2               | X       | N                            |                                | W                                     |           |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      | X           |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 15 | Ted Black Woods 540 Grand River Ave   4714 Van Atta Rd   | 60      | 3               | X       | N                            |                                |                                       | X         |                                       | X                 | X           | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             | X                                    |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 16 | North Meridian Road Park 5191 N. Meridian Rd   | 3       | 2               |         |                              |                                | D                                     |           |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 17 | Ottawa Hills Park 4980 Hillcrest Ave   | 56      | 1               |         |                              |                                | R                                     |           |                                       |                   |             | X        |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     | X                            |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 18 | Red Cedar Natural Area 1455 Oscoda Rd  | 0.33    | 4               |         |                              |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  | X                                   |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 19 | Cedar Bend Hights Nghbrhd Pk 2280 Kenmore Dr   | 34      | 1               |         | N                            |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 20 | Sander Farm Preserved Natural Area 4344 Dobbie Rd  | 4       | 1               |         | N                            |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 21 | Forest Hills Park 4625 Northview Dr  | 22.1    | 2               | X       | N                            |                                | W                                     |           |                                       |                   |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 22 | Brattin Woods 5851 Okemos Rd   | 22      | 1               |         | N                            |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             | X                                    |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 23 | Tacoma Hills Park 1815 Hamilton Rd   | 1       | 1               |         |                              |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 24 | Schriener Park 5039 Algonquin Way  | 1.3     | 4               |         |                              |                                |                                       |           |                                       | X                 |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 25 | Orlando Park 1275 Orlando Dr   | 3       | 1               |         |                              |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 26 | Indian Hills Park 4730 Nakoma Dr   | 46      | 1               |         |                              |                                | L                                     |           |                                       |                   |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 27 | Lake Lansing Marsh 1430 Lake Dr  | 3.3     | 1               |         |                              |                                | L                                     |           |                                       |                   |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 28 | Spengler Marsh 5929 Lake Dr  | 5       | 2               | X       |                              |                                |                                       |           |                                       |                   |             |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 29 | Newton Road Park 6024 Newton Rd, East Lansing  | 2.43    | 4               | X       |                              |                                |                                       |           | P                                     | X                 | X           |          |                |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 30 | Marketplace on the Green 1995 Central Park Dr  | 30      | X               | X       |                              |                                | L                                     | X         | X                                     |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 31 | Lake Lansing Park South (Ingham County Park)   | 530     | X               | N       |                              |                                | L                                     | X         | X                                     |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 32 | Lake Lansing Park North (Ingham County Park)   |         |                 |         |                              |                                | L                                     | X         | X                                     |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |
| 33 | Lake Lansing Park Boat Launch (Ingham County)  |         |                 |         |                              |                                | L                                     | X         |                                       |                   |             | X        | X              |                |              |                      |             |                                      |                |                         |                  |                                     |                              |                  |                                 |                       |                            |                            |                              |                           |   |  |  |

Find our Park Amenities Table PDF at [bit.ly/MTwpParkAmenities](http://bit.ly/MTwpParkAmenities)





5151 Marsh Road  
Okemos, MI 48864

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**DEADLINE TO APPLY IS APRIL 1, 2025**

