

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NATURE-BASED  
MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
AT PERKINS, PACKARD, BULLHEAD AND BURBANK PARKS



City of Warren, Ohio

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Conservancy   
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## INTRODUCTION

In an effort to embrace its natural resources as part of a holistic approach to community revitalization, the city of Warren, Ohio has contracted with The Nature Conservancy to conduct non-native invasive species control efforts and develop nature-based management recommendations for Packard, Perkins, Bullhead and Burbank Parks (Parks). The project has four priorities:

- 1) identify and control non-native invasive species
- 2) provide recommendations on opportunities to re-naturalize selected areas within each of the parks
- 3) identify opportunities to better capitalize on Packard and Perkins Parks' existing Rustic Park Architecture, and
- 4) provide recommendations for potential linkages among the four parks

Priority one has been addressed in the "Non-native Invasive Plant Management Plan" already supplied to the City. This report focuses on the three remaining priorities.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RE-NATURLIZING SELECTED AREAS WITHIN THE PARKS

Perkins, Packard, Bullhead and Burbank Parks all occur along the Mahoning River, with the majority of the acreage lying within the river's floodplain. Although they appear flat, natural floodplains often have some variation in topography. Slightly dryer, low ridges called levies run parallel to the riverbank. Adjacent to them are broad flat areas that contain depressional wetlands called "oxbows" and overflow channels.

The terrain within the Parks today is the result of some modifications over the years. Lower areas have likely been filled to raise elevations or excavated to construct ponds, such as within Packard and Burbank Parks. Historically, the dominant native vegetation would have been deciduous forest, with some upland tree species such as northern red oak, white oak, American beech, sassafras and black cherry growing along the natural levy, and lowland species like silver maple, pin oak, cottonwood and sycamore occupying lower wetland swales and riverbanks. Bullhead Park still retains a fairly representative example of the original vegetation and terrain. Small patches of the original native vegetation also occur in a narrow margin along the riverbanks within the other three parks. Packard and Burbank Parks retain impressively large examples of native trees such as northern red oak, cottonwood and American beech.



**Perkins Park**  
Native sycamore and cottonwood trees along the Mahoning River.



**Burbank Park**  
Existing trail within a native forest of northern red oak and other species along the floodplain levy of Mahoning River.



**Burbank Park**  
Native forest with American beech trees along the floodplain levy of the Mahoning River.



**Bullhead Park**  
Native silver maple and pin oak trees on the edge of a natural wetland swale/overflow channel of the Mahoning River.

Much of the park acreage is currently maintained as mowed turf grass and ball fields. Although useful for sporting activities and playfields, mowed turf does little for water quality, provides almost no habitat for wildlife and limits opportunities for the public to experience Ohio's rich natural heritage.

It is our recommendation that selected turf grass areas be renaturalized and managed as "meadow." Meadow is a fairly generic term that describes a field with wildflowers, grasses and other grass-like plants. Although the Parks would historically and naturally been forested, proper forest reestablishment is generally more labor intensive and costly than meadow management.

To maintain areas as meadow, the regular turf grass mowing regime should cease. The site/s then would only be mowed (bush hogged with tractor) once every two to three years, preferably in the early spring, but late fall through winter would suffice. Care should be taken not to bush hog between June and August when ground nesting birds are active. This approach will allow for the growth, flowering and seed production of the native plants, protection of nesting birds and accommodate the life cycle of most pollinator insect species, while helping to minimize non-native and native woody plants colonization of the site. If desired, the renaturalized areas could ultimately be allowed to grow into forest by not mowing at all. The control of non-native invasive tree and shrubs would require regular control, however, and therefore increase maintenance costs.

Renaturalized areas also offer opportunities for park visitors to interact with and enjoy the natural environment. Within Packard Park, the serenity and beauty of the pond is compromised by the road and parking lot on the east and north sides. We recommended closing and removing those as shown on the Renaturalization Plan Map. Similarly, we recommend closing the section of the north spur road in Perkins park in order to maximize the benefits of renaturalization in that area. Mowed trails through the renaturalized areas will increase visitor appreciation. Meadow environments and their locations are identified on the illustrations and renaturalization maps on the following pages.

Renaturalizing, defined here as allowing areas to naturally revert back to native vegetation, would:

- create wildlife and pollinator habitat
- provide new opportunities for trails and experiences in nature such as bird watching and photography
- help slow water runoff, allowing sediments and pollutants to filter out that would otherwise be transported to the river
- decrease annual mowing needs and associated maintenance costs

Renaturalizing can be as simple as stopping mowing and allowing the mowed grass to be colonized by native old field/meadow vegetation or as involved as replanting the entire site with native vegetation.

Our initial recommendation to transforming these areas is the most cost effective and simple:

- stop mowing and allow for native species to colonize the area naturally over several years
- identify areas with highest visibility and augment them with plantings of colorful native wildflowers (see list on page 14) to speed up the process and add visual and wildlife interest
- mow (bush hog with a tractor) the renaturalized area once every two to three years, preferably in the early spring, but late fall through winter would suffice
- improve selected areas by planting native trees to create vegetative screens and add interest to the landscape (see list on page 14) for an abbreviated list of recommended tree species for planting
- mow a walking path within Packard and Bullhead Parks as depicted in the Renaturalization Plan Maps
- close and remove the section of road and parking lot on the east and north side of Packard Pond
- close the easternmost ballfield, west of Packard Park Pond
- close and remove the spur road at the north end of Perkins Park
- close the ball fields north of the park road in Perkins Park, regrade if possible and replant with native species if necessary

A more ambitious approach would be costlier and require further planning:

- prepare site by applying herbicide to the turf and reseeding the renaturalized areas with a native seed mix to produce a greater variety of grasses and wildflowers



**Packard Park**  
Current  
Condition.



**Packard Park**  
Rendering of  
a mowed trail  
through  
renaturalized  
areas  
maintained as  
meadow.



**Burbank Park**  
Current  
condition.



**Burbank Park**  
Rendering of  
a mowed trail  
through  
renaturalized  
areas  
maintained as  
meadow.

## RENATURALIZATION PLAN MAPS

Within Perkins, Packard and Bullhead Parks exist numerous areas that are potentially well-suited for renaturalization. The areas identified in the maps below offer the best initial opportunity to:

- expand upon existing naturalized areas
- maximize visitor use opportunities
- interface well with Rustic Park Architecture
- provide practical reduction of lawn maintenance
- reduce nuisance Canada geese populations that prefer manicured turf to natural vegetation

There are other areas that would benefit from renaturalization, such as the extensive area of asphalt along the Mahoning River on the west side of Packard Park. Decreasing this amount of pavement or “impervious surface,” so close to the riverbank would be of significant conservation value and benefit to water quality. Additional areas could be added to the proposed renaturalization plan, based upon a cost/benefit analysis that the City might consider.

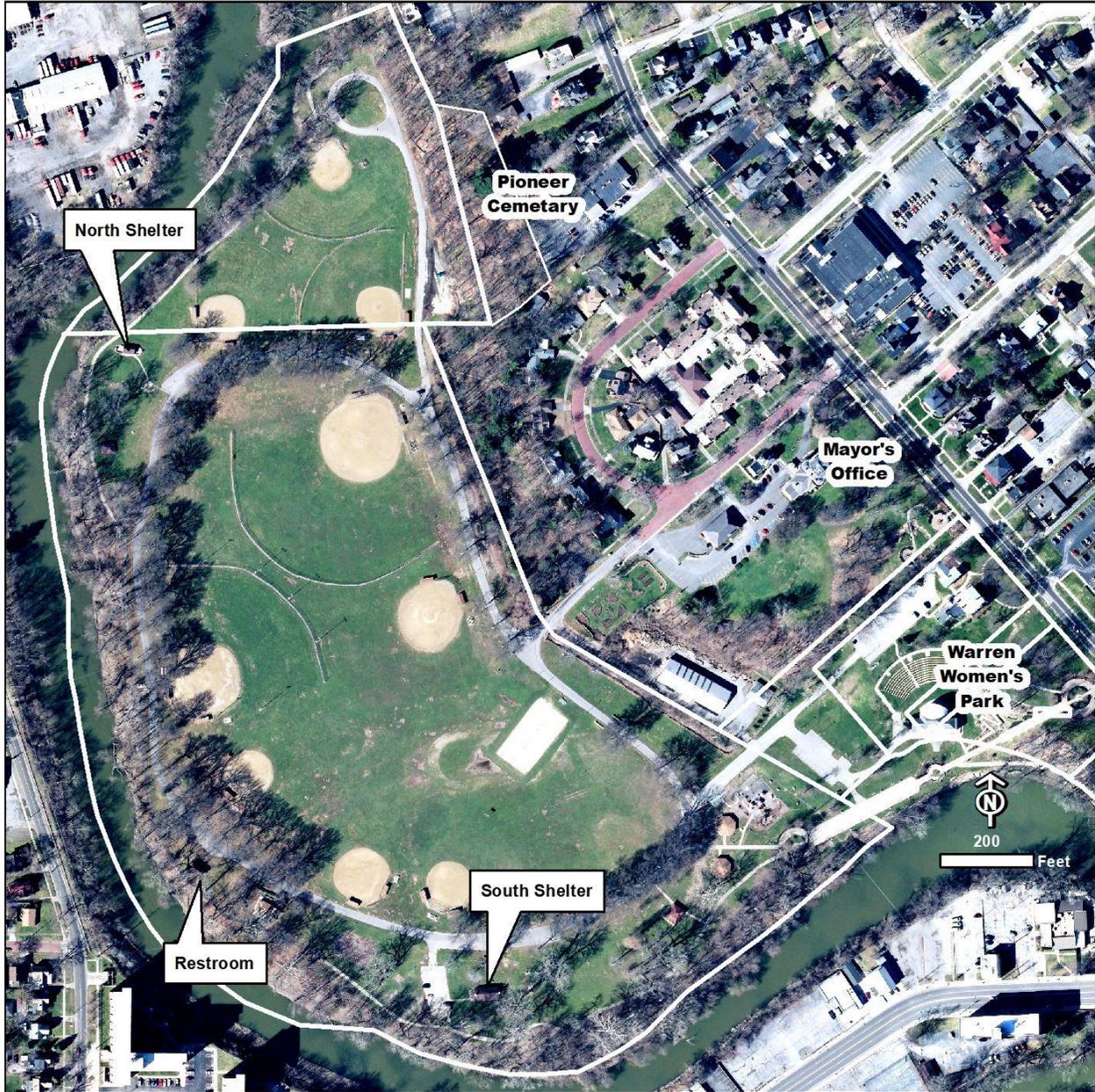
Existing forested natural areas, most especially nearly all of Bullhead Park and the riparian forests of Burbank, Packard and Perkins Parks already have high conservation value and should be maintained and enhanced through proper management techniques as identified in the “Non-native Invasive Plant Management Plan.”

Within the renaturalization area at the southern end of Perkins Park, we recommend incorporating an existing downed tree into the creation of a Nature Play area. Nature Play is in essence a children’s playground, but constructed of natural elements such as logs, rocks and other materials. This creates an opportunity for children to interact with the natural world and ties into the surrounding renaturalized landscape.

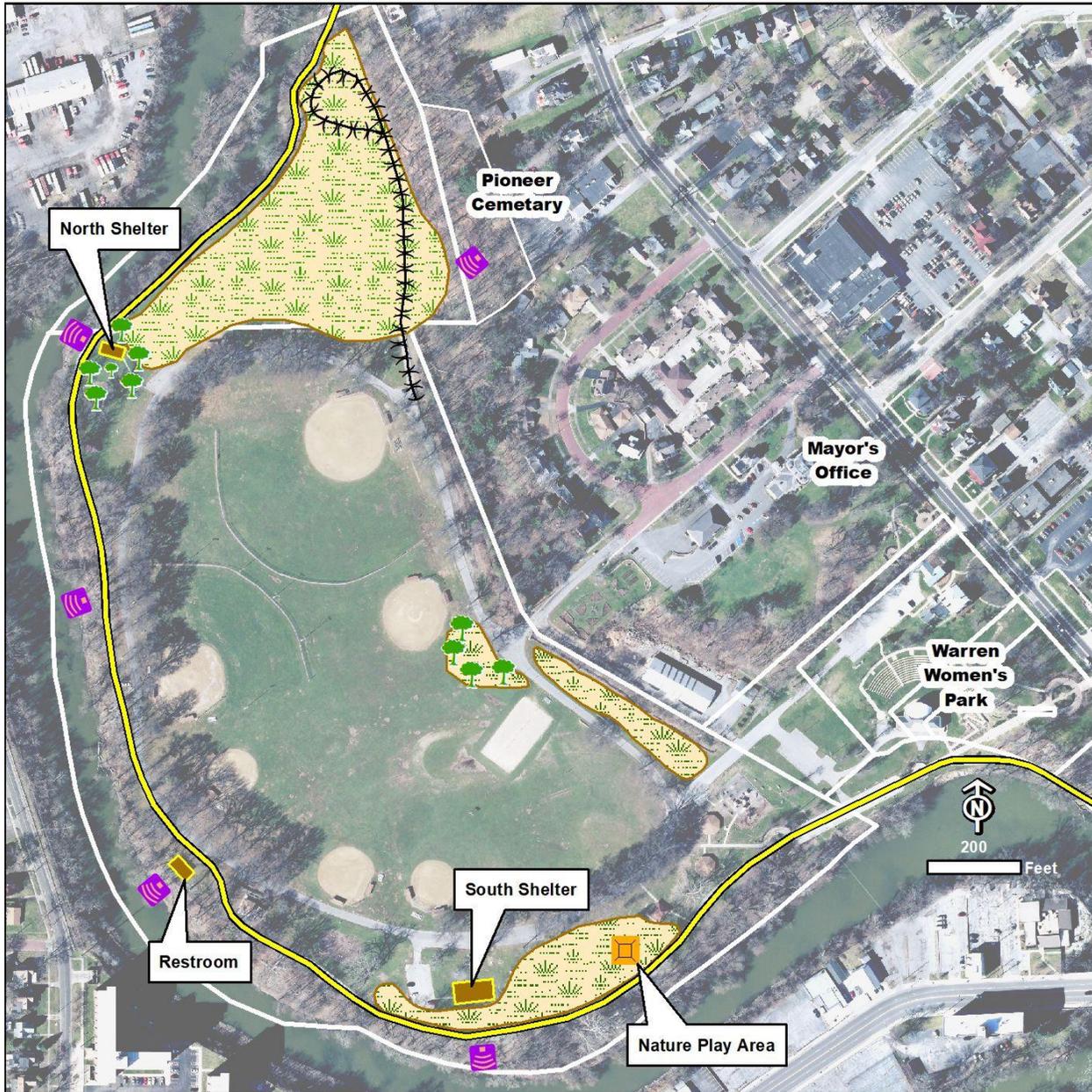


Children enjoying a Nature Play area.

# Perkins Park- Current Condition



# Perkins Park- Proposed Renaturalization Plan

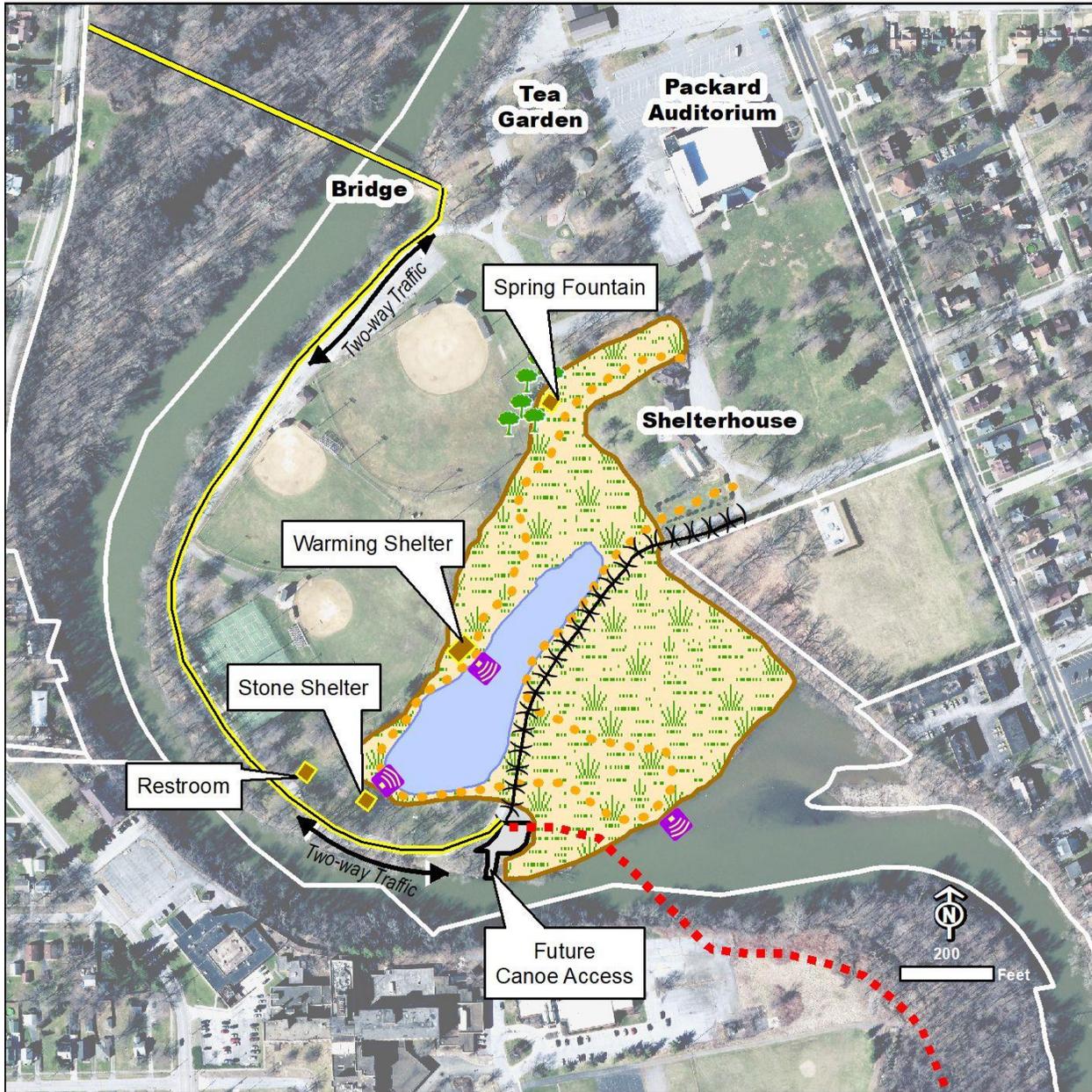


- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|  Renaturalized Area         |  Nature Play Area    |  Rustic Park Architecture Structure (Existing) |
|  Road Removal               |  Viewing opportunity |  Tree Screening                                |
|  Multi-Use Trail (Existing) |   |   |

# Packard Park- Current Condition



# Packard Park- Proposed Renaturalization Plan



- |   |  |   |                                      |   |   |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
|  | Renaturalized Area                               |  | Viewing opportunity                  |  | Rustic Park Architecture Structure (Existing) |
|  | Road Removal                                     |  | Tree Screening                       |  | Mowed Grass Trail (Proposed)                  |
|  | Multi-Use Trail (Existing)                       |  | Multi-Use Trail Extension (Proposed) |   |   |
|  | Multi-Use Trail on Existing Park Road (Proposed) |   |                                      |   |   |

# Burbank Park- Current Condition





## ABBREVIATED LIST OF PLANTS RECOMMENDED FOR PLANTING IN RENATURALIZATION AREAS

### **Native herbaceous (non-woody) flowering:**

Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)  
Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)  
Butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)  
New England Aster (*Symphotrichum Novae-angliae*)  
Common sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*)  
Cow parsnip (*Heracleum maximum*)  
Jerusalem artichoke sunflower (*Helianthus tuberosa*)  
Joe-Pye weed (*Eutrochium fistulosum*)  
Smooth ox-eye (*Heliopsis helianthoides*)  
Green headed Coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*)

### **Native shade trees:**

Red oak (*Quercus rubra*)  
White oak (*Quercus alba*)  
Swamp white Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)  
Pin oak (*Quercus palustris*)  
American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)  
Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)  
Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)  
Black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)

### **Native flowering smaller trees:**

Downy serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*)  
Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*)  
Choke cherry (*Prunus virginiana*)  
Staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*)

## **RUSTIC AND HISTORIC PARK ARCHITECTURE - PACKARD AND PERKINS PARKS**

Packard and Perkins Parks enjoy a rich architectural history that a newly created park could never duplicate. With some structures over 100 years old, these parks have a sense of place and community connection that is unique to the City of Warren. It is these buildings, along with the Mahoning River, that distinguish the Packard and Perkins Parks from an average “cookie cutter” park commonly found in many communities though the U.S. This history is something to be cherished, celebrated and preserved. These structures provide an opportunity for visitors to directly experience, not only Warren’s historic past, but also the history of our nation.

The Tea Garden Pagoda, Shelterhouse and Caretaker’s House at Packard are the earliest (1912) surviving park structures, and they appear to be well-recognized by the community as historical assets. The Japanese-influenced pagoda is highly unusual in Ohio, in part because it is a feature within the first Japanese Tea Garden east of San Francisco. The arts and crafts influenced Shelterhouse is an outstanding historical asset that is well-used and generally well-maintained. The adjacent Caretaker’s House is in disrepair, although there are tentative plans for restoration and reuse.

It is the less recognized and somewhat underappreciated structures that are the focus of this part of this report. There are six rustic park structures (and associated support structures) that were built in Packard and Perkins Parks during the Great Depression. Constructed of solid sandstone blocks and heavy timbers, these materials and the labor involved in their construction would be cost prohibitive to reproduce today.

Designed in the Rustic Park Architecture (RPA) or “Parkitecture” style, the buildings share a common heritage with some of our nation’s most cherished park buildings, such as the Old Faithful Inn in Yellowstone National Park and the Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite National Park. Hallmarks of Parkitecture include the use of locally derived natural materials that harmonize with the surrounding landscape, hand-built construction techniques and careful placement of the structures to blend-in with the natural surroundings. Parkitecture originated within the National Parks in the early 1900s, and by the 1930 and 40s, the National Park Service had spread the style to parks throughout the nation.

Working with Great Depression era New Deal agencies such as the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), Works Progress (later changed to “Projects”) Administration (WPA) and the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Park Service drove the design and planning process, while the respective agencies constructed the buildings. WPA workers were typically skilled, experienced tradesman 18 years and older, while the NYA was comprised of less experienced youth aged 16-25. Many state and local parks in Ohio benefited from these New Deal agencies, and northeast Ohio has numerous fine examples. A few of the best include the Octagon and Ledges Shelters in Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the Cleveland Metroparks’ Look About Lodge, Brecksville Nature Center and Oak Grove Shelter.

Within the Parks, only two of the buildings, the Warming Shelter and the Restroom are identified as having been built by the NYA in 1941 and 1940. A historical account supplied by the Packard Park Museum says, “by 1940 WPA and NYA workers had built five acres of new picnic areas and new shelterhouses and restrooms...” Given the proximity and similar design, it is very likely that the NYA or WPA also built the third Packard rustic structure, the stone shelter at the south end of the pond.

Likewise, judging from the similarity in design and materials and the quality of construction, it is possible the NYA or WPA also constructed some or all of the three structures (North Shelter, South Shelter and Restroom) in Perkins Park. Confusing the matter, however, is the date of 1931 on the park entrance columns. This is when the park opened and it predates any of the New Deal agencies such as the WPA, NYA or CCC by two years. The columns might have been built separately, or if the shelters were built at the same time as the columns, they could have been built by private contractors. Although outside the scope of this report, it is worthy to note that Warren's Quinby Park Shelter is dated as having been built in 1931. It too is Rustic Park Architecture, and due to the date likely would also have been built by private contractors. That approach was uncommon during the depression, but not unheard of.

Whoever was responsible for building them, each of these Parkitecture structures were designed to blend into the park landscape using relatively unimproved, naturally derived materials employed in a rustic manner. Below is a description of each of the Parkitecture structures within each park.

## PERKINS PARK



### South Shelter

The largest and most rustic of all the Warren RPA structures, this medium-sized shelter is set within view of the Mahoning River among a grove of impressively large trees. The center of the shelter is open with a gable roof supported by ten massive wood posts. The gable ends feature a sandstone chimney stack with an outward facing cooking grill covered by a porch roof. The grill grates are missing and in disrepair and the grills appear to be used currently as fireplaces. The roof is asphalt shingle, a replacement of what was likely originally wood shake.



## PERKINS PARK CONTINUED



### North Shelter

A small rectangular shelter with a gable roof, robust sandstone columns on each corner and a low privacy wall on all sides. Each gable end is flanked by an uncovered patio featuring a low curved stone retaining wall with built in benches, punctuated with an outdoor fireplace, or likely what was originally intended as a grill. The roof is asphalt shingle, a replacement of what was likely originally wood shake. Sandstone steps and pathway lead from the park road to the shelter.



## PERKINS PARK CONTINUED



### Restroom

This restroom (referred to historically as a Comfort Station) is the most unusual rustic park structure in either of the two parks. With its faux chimney, decorative half-timbered gable façade, open timber-framed porch gables and window vent shutters, this structure is quite elaborate. The half-timber façade (commonly called Tudor Revival) is unusual in Ohio Parkitecture. The building still retains portions of its original light fixtures, while what was likely originally a wood shake roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles. Portions of the original shutters are missing. The interior of the building is in some disrepair.



Stonework detail.



Original light fixture.



Vent shutters.

## PERKINS PARK CONTINUED



### Entrance Columns

Two stone columns that demark the Perkins Drive entrance to Perkins Park. They are dated 1931 and therefore built prior to work completed by the WPA or NYA.



### Stone Bridge Railings

Stone railings appear to have been built upon the base of an older stone bridge on Perkins Drive at the entrance to the park.



### Stone Retaining Walls

Small stone retaining walls along a road culvert crossing on the eastern side of the park, just south of the Perkins Drive park entrance.

## PACKARD PARK



### Warming Shelter

This is one of only two structures in either of the two parks that both the builder (NYA) and the construction date (1941) is identified. This small shelter is sited on the west side of the park pond and appears to have been designed to serve as a warming hut for ice skating. With one open side and an asymmetrical gable roof, the building is in the form of the classic Adirondack Mountain Hiking Shelter, a relatively uncommon design for shelters in Ohio. There is a central fireplace, built-in bench and walls all constructed of sandstone blocks. The roof and upper two sides, which were likely originally wood shake, have been replaced with corrugated metal.



Block identifying the date of construction and builder.



Pond side of the warming shelter illustrating the built-in stone bench.

## PACKARD PARK CONTINUED

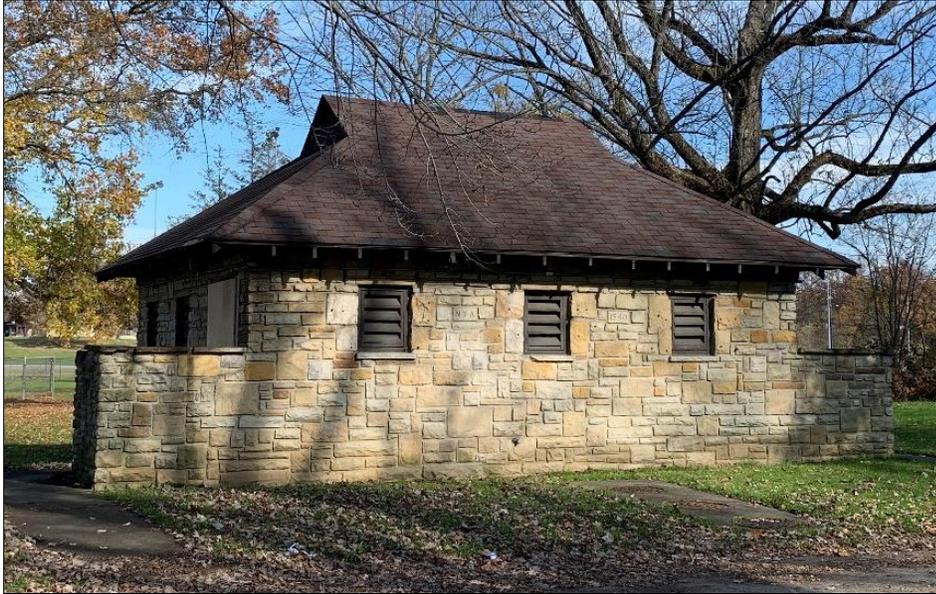


### Stone Shelter

An elegantly designed small sandstone shelter with a Dutch gable roof. The open, covered center structure is wrapped with low walls and the two ends are flanked by an offset, low-walled patio featuring built-in stone benches and a fireplace. The shelter has been carefully sited at the south end of the park pond to maximize views of the water. The fireplaces and grills have been filled and closed and what was likely an original wood shake roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles.



## PACKARD PARK CONTINUED



### Restroom

Featuring the same Dutch gable roof as the adjacent stone shelter, this restroom, or Comfort Station, is the only other building within both parks that is dated (1940) and the builder (NYA) is identified via stones set on the south wall. Although a simpler design than the restroom in Perkins Park, this structure shares similar decorative portholes on the privacy wall screens.



Stonework detail.



Construction date detail.

## PACKARD PARK CONTINUED



### **Spring Fountain**

A square, sunken plaza constructed of sandstone blocks that appears to have been built as a spring-fed fountain. Indicated on circa 1944 park site plan as "spring." Water still seeps within the base of the structure. Structure could be re-utilized as a sitting area with water feature and connected to the proposed mowed grass trail via a small bridge over the adjacent stone channel discussed below.



### **Drainage Channel**

Located just north of the Caretaker's House, this tributary stream has been channelized with rocks laid vertically in a u-shaped trough. Water flows into the channel from a box culvert with stone railing at the upper end of the channel.



## PACKARD PARK CONTINUED



### Garden Steps

Three sets of sandstone steps that lead to what was a formalized garden south of the Greenhouse.



### Steps to Tea Garden

An elaborate set of stone steps that provide access to the Tea Garden from the lower ballfields.



**PACKARD PARK CONTINUED**



**River Bluff Retaining Wall**  
Retaining wall at the top of a bluff above the Mahoning River on the western side of the Tea Garden. The Tea Garden was built prior to the wall, which was constructed in 1937 presumably by WPA or NYA.



Construction date detail.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE RUSTIC PARK ARCHITECTURE AND GENERAL PARK INFRASTRUCTURE



### Daily/Weekly Maintenance

Improve the basic maintenance of the structures by providing consistent trash pickup. Volunteers can be recruited to assist.



### Exterior and Wood Maintenance

Promptly remove or paint over graffiti to reduce its occurrence. Continue to paint wood portions with a consistent "Park Brown" paint to protect wood and prevent rot.



The chimney flue on the Warming Shelter appears to potentially be cracked, with charring evident on the roof trusses. The chimney flue should be inspected and repaired before fires are permitted. Wood rot was also observed on the roof trusses. These log beams are part of the fabric and history of the building. They should be repaired whenever possible and not replaced with new wood. It is critical for all structures that adequate roofing be maintained and exposed wood be regularly painted to prevent water damage.

## RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED



### Character, Consistency, Restoration and Function

Haphazardly placed trash receptacles are unsightly and prone to tipping. Improve receptacles so they are more



aesthetically pleasing, stable and secure. Do not locate them directly adjacent to the shelters, but in nearby locations that strategically minimize their visual impact, while remaining easily accessible to visitors.



The interior of the two Parkitecture restrooms need maintenance, are outdated and may not be functional. Regular maintenance is critical for visitor safety and satisfaction. By modernizing, they will be functional while retaining historical character.



Emphasize the historical significance and visual beauty of the Parkitecture shelters by de-emphasizing the visual impact of the more modern, less architecturally inspired structures. This can be accomplished by painting them the same Park Brown color used on the historical structures. This tends to make the modern buildings less visible and provides a consistent color theme for the entire park.

## RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED



Assess the feasibility, safety and viability of rebuilding grills and fireplaces in Perkins' South and North Shelters and Packard's Stone Shelter. Whenever possible, rebuild and restore for historic character, as well as functionality.



Via renaturalization, connect the shelters, tree plantings and trails to natural areas of the park. This rendering shows a more aesthetic backdrop compared to mowed turf and encourages the connection between the natural areas and the visitors who utilize the structures. Maintain a limited mowed area around each structure for aesthetic and practical reasons.

## RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

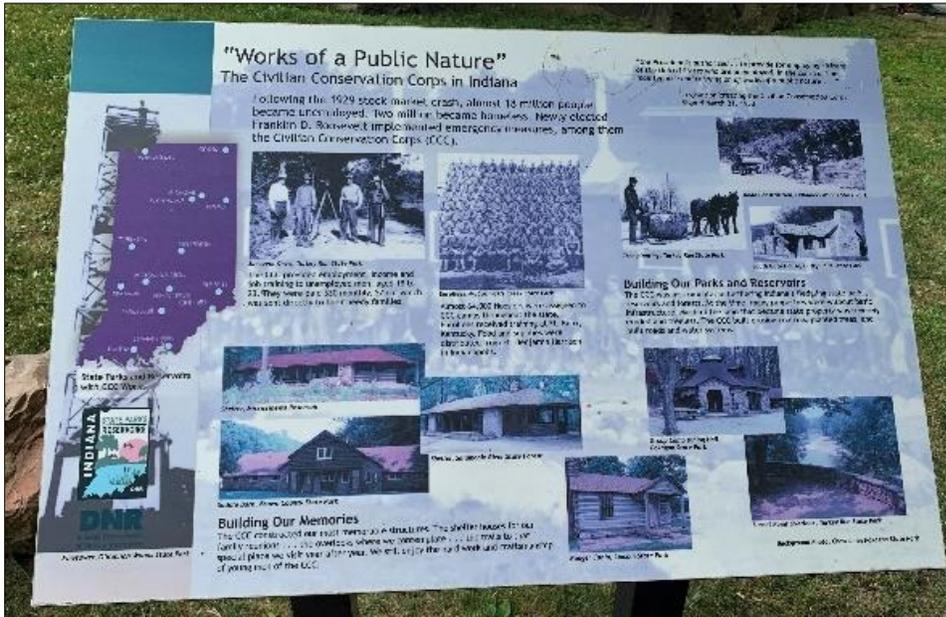


First impressions are lasting impressions. The appearance and design of a park's entrance is important for setting the tone of what is to come and what the visitors' expectations will be. The top picture is the current condition of the entrance to Perkins Park. The second picture is a rendering of how the entrance could be landscaped and de-cluttered to enhance the aesthetic appeal.

**RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**



**Brand Each Shelter**  
 Designate names based on nature and/or history and use the name near or on the structure. Use a format that is compatible with existing park signage. Names help to personalize the structure, emphasize historical/natural value and create atmosphere for the user.



**Interpret the Unique**  
 Develop interpretive signage to be placed at or within each shelter to explain the historical significance and encourage visitor appreciation and education.



## **RUSTIC PARK ARCHITECTURE AND GENERAL PARK RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARIZED**

The preceding five pages outline a suite of actions that range from those easily incorporated into daily tasks lists to needing further planning and resources. They can be summarized as follows:

- prompt removal of trash and debris
- prompt removal of graffiti and related vandalism
- regular painting to protect wood, prevent rot and maintain historical character
- strategic placement of trash receptacles to minimize their negative visual impact
- repairs to and modernization of restrooms and related infrastructure currently in use
- use of Park Brown paint color to modern buildings and maintain continuity among structures
- assessment of fireplaces and grills for opportunities to restore character and functionality
- visual and physical connections of buildings and amenities through renaturalization
- beautification of entrances and other places of visual importance through decluttering
- branding of each shelter
- interpretation of unique aspects of the parks

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POTENTIAL LINKAGES BETWEEN THE PARKS**

The Mahoning River is the common thread that ties together Perkins, Packard, Bullhead, Burbank and Mahoningside Parks. Although Packard and Bullhead Parks are connected by a pedestrian bridge, the other parks are disconnected and function largely as individual parks. Isolated parks have limited recreational, ecological or community-wide benefits. Connecting the parks provides expanded opportunities for public use, community-wide bike and pedestrian access and increased citizen appreciation for their value by creating one large area of connected greenspace. In essence, it creates a “Central Park” or “Emerald Necklace” unique to Warren.

Opportunities exist to link these parks together using existing right of ways, potential fee simple acquisition and/or the acquisition of access easements. The map below identifies this approach. Obtaining access through three privately-owned parcels north of Mahoningside park, and the creation of an additional pedestrian bridge over the river would connect Perkins, Mahoningside and Packard Parks. On-street and/or road right-of-way construction of a multiuse path along Tod Street from Bullhead to Burbank Parks would complete the connection. Additional potential connections eastward to the Warren Bikeway should be explored via the abandoned railroad trestle and/or Dunstan Street Bridge. Implementing a more comprehensive system of multiuse trails throughout the City encourages a healthy active lifestyle, provides alternative sources of transportation and is beneficial for the environment.



## POTENTIAL PUBLIC FUNDING SOURCES FOR PARK EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENTS

\*Maximum funding varies per program. See websites for more detail.

**Clean Ohio Conservation Fund:** Provides up to 75% of the cost for acquisition of greenspace and parkland.

<https://www.pwc.ohio.gov/Programs/Clean-Ohio-Application#59196-how-to-apply-for-clean-ohio-funding>

**Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program:** Provides up to 100% of the purchase price for the protection of high-quality streams and wetlands or the restoration of streams (i.e., dam removal) and wetlands.

<https://www.epa.ohio.gov/defa/wrrsp>

**Clean Ohio Trail Fund:** Provides up to 75% of the cost to construct multiuse trails that connect multiple parks and /or regional multiuse trails.

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/apply-for-grants/grants/clean-ohio-trails-fund>

**Recreational Trail Program:** Provides up to 80% for urban trail linkages, trail head and trailside facilities; maintenance of existing trails; restoration of trail areas damaged by usage; improving access for people with disabilities; acquisition of easements and property; etc.

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/apply-for-grants/grants/recreational-trails-program>

**Nature Works:** Provides up to 75% for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of recreational areas.

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/apply-for-grants/grants/natureworks>

**Land and Water Conservation Fund:** Provides up to 50% of the acquisition, development and rehabilitation of recreational areas.

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/apply-for-grants/grants/land-water-conservation-fund>