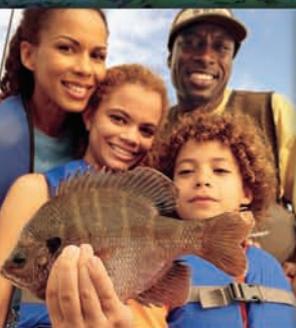




# PORTAGE

*A Natural Place to Move*

PARKS AND RECREATION  
2015 SUMMER PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



[www.portagemi.gov](http://www.portagemi.gov)  
(269) 329-4522

# RECREATION

## RAMONA PARK BEACH

8600 South Sprinkle Road, ½ mile south of Centre Avenue



Ramona Park Beach offers a sandy swim area with lifeguards, picnic areas, fishing dock, beach volleyball, concessions, playground, changing rooms and much more!

Vehicle permits for entry into Ramona Park can be purchased on site near the park entrance during regular beach hours.

### Beach Hours:

Monday – Thursday 12 noon – 7 p.m.  
 Friday – Sunday & Holidays 10:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

City Resident Daily Permit .....\$5  
 Non-Resident Daily Permit..... \$10  
 City Resident Annual Permit ..... \$25  
 Non-Resident Annual Permit..... \$45  
 Group Bus Daily Permit ..... \$50



**BEACH OPEN DAILY:**  
 MAY 22 – 25  
 MAY 30 – 31  
 JUNE 5 – SEPTEMBER 7



## PADDLE LESSONS AND DEMOS AT RAMONA PARK

presented by Lee's Adventure Sports

### Canoe/Kayak/Standup

May 9 & 23 12 noon – 4 p.m. **FREE**, drop-in

### Standup Only

June 13 12 noon – 4 p.m. **FREE**, drop-in

### Saturday Lessons

June 27, July 18 & August 15 10 a.m. – 12 noon \$45, sign up at Lee's

### Thursday Evening Demo

June 25, July 2, 16 & 30 5 – 7 p.m. **FREE**, sign up at Lee's



Sign up at Lee's Adventure Sports  
 311 West Kilgore Road • 381-7700



# RECREATION

## 2015 SAFE KIDS BICYCLE CAMP ADVENTURE

Saturday, May 30

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Haverhill Park

FREE



Kids will receive a free bicycle helmet and helmet fitting. Learn about bike safety on the bike obstacle course and have the opportunity to ride a segment of the Northwest Portage Bikeway with Portage

Police bike officers! Get a picture with princesses, superheroes and mascots and get “hands on” with a fire truck and police car. Local bike mechanics will be available to “tune up” your ride.



## WORKOUTS IN THE PARK

presented by Just Move Fitness & More

**Family Fit Trek** at Celery Flats ..... Thursday, July 9 ..... 6 – 7 p.m. **FREE**

Get the whole family moving! Meet at the playground structure at Celery Flats for a fun fitness experience using the trails and other features of the park. All experience levels and ages are welcome!

**Dance Fitness Party** at Central Park ..... Wednesday, July 22 ..... 6 – 7 p.m. **FREE**

Let the music move you! Zumba®, WERQ® Pop, Rock & Hip, OLD SKOOL Dance Cardio, Cheerobix, Hula Hoop Fun - join *Just Move Fitness & More* for dance fitness from around the world and through the decades! No experience necessary.

**Beach Bootcamp** at Ramona Park ..... Saturday, August 1 ..... 9 – 10 a.m. **FREE**

We'll use the beach and playground at Ramona Park to provide an intense and efficient cardio and strength-training workout! All experience levels are welcome – variations of training will be offered so that everyone can experience the benefits of high intensity interval training (H.I.I.T.). Pack a picnic lunch and your swimsuit so you can enjoy some relaxation on the sand after the workout!

For additional information visit [www.justmovefit.com](http://www.justmovefit.com)

# RECREATION

## KIDS TRIATHLON CLINIC

Sunday, June 7

2 – 3:30 p.m. at Ramona Park

The Kids Triathlon Clinic is designed to provide first time or relatively new triathletes an idea of what to expect. This includes equipment; transition set up and the swim, bike and run event. There is no charge for the clinic; however, a vehicle parking permit is required for park entry (\$5 Portage resident • \$10 non-resident). For more information visit [www.spiritracing.us](http://www.spiritracing.us)



**Saturday, August 8 at Ramona Park – 8600 South Sprinkle Road**

### **YOUTH TRIATHLON** at 8:30 a.m.

Presented by Spirit Racing, LLC

Check in begins at 7 a.m.

Young triathletes will be timed and awards will be presented for top finishers in each age group (6-9 years and 10-13 years) but participation is the primary goal. Race courses are within Ramona Park and closed to vehicle traffic for the race duration, ensuring a very safe and controlled environment. Download complete course maps from the event web site and practice the courses in advance of the event. All athletes must be pre-registered online at [www.kidsgetactive.us](http://www.kidsgetactive.us)

### **RAMONA PARK HEALTH FAIR** at 9 a.m.

Presented by Spirit Racing, LLC

Now is the time to learn how to live a healthier lifestyle. Participate in activities provided by local health and wellness vendors.

Try out a kayak or stand up paddle board, courtesy of Lee's Adventure Sports, or try out an outdoor workout with expert instruction from *Just Move Fitness & More!*



# RECREATION

## PORTAGE PARK DISCOVERY PROGRAMS presented by the Kalamazoo Nature Center

### LUNCH & LEARN DISCOVERY PROGRAMS

#### **NATURE'S SUPER HEROES** at Celery Flats **FREE**

Thursday, June 11  
11 a.m. – 12 noon

Reporting live from Celery Flats! Our ace reporter brings you the latest scoop from those amazing animals in your backyard. We'll investigate their super powers (adaptations) through stories, hands-on participation and lots of fun.

#### **LIVE BIRDS OF PREY** at Central Park **FREE**

Thursday, July 9  
11 a.m. – 12 noon

Explore the adaptations of some live birds of prey and how they survive in the wild.



### OUT IN THE PARK DISCOVERY PROGRAMS

- |   |                  |               |             |
|---|------------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Wetland Wonders</b> at Bishop's Bog<br>Take a stroll with a naturalist through Bishop's Bog and discover the many treasures of this fascinating wetland.                               | Monday, June 22  | 7 – 8:30 p.m. | <b>FREE</b> |
| <b>Amazing Animal Homes</b> at Lakeview Park<br>Join a Kalamazoo Nature Center naturalist at Lakeview Park and investigate the amazing animal homes found in the woods and water.         | Monday, July 13  | 7 – 8:30 p.m. | <b>FREE</b> |
| <b>Incredible Insects</b> at Westlake Nature Preserve<br>Bring a net and your favorite insect book (or use ours) and explore the many insects that can be found at this awesome location. | Monday, August 3 | 7 – 8:30 p.m. | <b>FREE</b> |

### PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY

The City of Portage encourages all individuals to become involved in these leisure activities. Reasonable accommodations will be made to allow individuals with special needs the opportunity to participate in Parks and Recreation activities. Please call the Parks & Recreation Division at 329-4522 for more information.

# YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS



## YOUTH RECREATION SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AVAILABLE! Call 323-1942 to apply.

Portage youth, ages 18 and under, living in a household meeting the established income guidelines may be eligible for financial assistance through the Youth Recreation Scholarship Program established by a partnership between the Portage Community Center and City of Portage. Eligible youth may receive financial assistance with the following recreation programs:



All Youth Sport Camps



School of FISH Day Camps



Ramona Park Beach Annual Pass (Page 1)

### SCHOOL OF FISH DAY CAMP at Ramona Park on Long Lake

Day campers will experience all the joys associated with fishing and environmental conservation. During this unique adventure, youth will have the opportunity to explore the outdoors and learn skills necessary to start their own fishing memories. Professional instruction and guidance is provided as youth participate in many hands-on activities, and of course...GO FISHING! Space is limited.

#### Little Lunkers

**Ages 7-12**      \$85\*  
**July 13-16**      M-Th  
**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Beginner anglers will learn:

-  Fish Identification & Habitat
-  Knot Tying & Rod Rigging
-  Casting Skills & Safety
-  Tackle Crafting
-  Aquatic Conservation
-  Catching and Rigging Live Bait
-  Shoreline Fishing
-  Much More!



#### Advanced Anglers

**Ages 9-14**      \$85\*  
**August 10-13**      M-Th  
**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Intermediate and experienced young anglers will learn:

-  Jigging
-  Advanced Knots
-  Artificial Lures
-  Intro to Fly Fishing
-  Boater Safety
-  Fishing from a Canoe
-  Lure Making
-  Wilderness Survival

\* Registration fees include a fishing rod. Registration deadline is 2 weeks prior to camp start date.

Register at Portage Parks & Recreation • 7719 South Westnedge Avenue • 329-4522 • [www.portagemi.gov](http://www.portagemi.gov)

### KINGDOM SKATEBOARDING CAMPS at South Westnedge Skate Park

Jon Zomer, with over 10 years skateboarding experience, will instruct these fun and educational camps.

<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Age 7-14</b>	<b>June 22-25</b>	<b>M-Th</b>	<b>9 - 11 a.m.</b>	<b>\$99</b>
<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Age 7-14</b>	<b>July 27-30</b>	<b>M-Th</b>	<b>9 - 11 a.m.</b>	<b>\$99</b>

Register at Kingdom Indoor Center • 226-2000 • [www.kicsports.net](http://www.kicsports.net)

### YMCA YOUTH TENNIS CAMPS at Oakland Drive Park

Participants will acquire basic knowledge of all strokes with an emphasis on playing points on a scaled-down court utilizing developmental equipment. Match situations will be introduced.

<b>Age 5-12</b>	<b>June 8-11</b>	<b>M-Th</b>	<b>9 - 11 a.m.</b>	<b>\$62*</b>
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\*Includes camp gift. Please note: Friday is make up day in case of inclement weather.

Register at Portage YMCA • 324-9622 • [www.kzooyymca.org](http://www.kzooyymca.org)

# YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS



## BJ SPORTS LACROSSE CLINIC

Through great coaching, players will be introduced to stick-handling, hand-eye coordination exercises, cradling, passing, catching, dodging and shooting drills. The clinic will include a variety of fun and creative contests and drills to keep the energy level high and the attention span focused.

**Age 5-14 July 13-16 M-Th 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Ramona Park \$50**

Register at [www.bjsports.com](http://www.bjsports.com) • 342-2415

## CHALLENGER SPORTS BRITISH SOCCER CAMPS

Challenger Sports' British Soccer Camp is the most popular soccer camp in the country. Hundreds of Challenger coaches have helped develop one of the most innovative approaches to coaching youth soccer in the U.S. by studying the game at all levels and identifying key techniques and skills that players need to reach their true potential. Each day includes individual foot skills, technical drills, tactical practices, small-side games, coached scrimmages and a daily World Cup tournament.

**First Kicks Age 3-4 August 3-7 M-F 9 - 10 a.m. Ramona Park \$92**

Players are introduced to game basics through fundamental activities, games and fun soccer challenges.

**Mini Soccer Age 4-6 August 3-7 M-F 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon Ramona Park \$108**

Fun games, competitions and skill-building activities are designed to enlighten and develop players.

**Half Day Camp Age 6-9 August 3-7 M-F 9 a.m. - 12 noon Ramona Park \$148**

**Age 10-16 August 3-7 M-F 1 - 4 p.m. Ramona Park \$148**

Emphasis is placed upon skill development and mastery of core techniques through individual, small group practices and coached games.

Registration and additional information available at [www.challengersports.com](http://www.challengersports.com)

## KALAMAZOO KIDS ON STAGE DRAMA CAMPS at 12<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School

Directed by David Ortega and experienced staff, camps are designed for youngsters interested in musical theater and drama. Learn skills such as voice projection, theater makeup, stage movement, pantomime and improvisation. Registration deadline is June 17.



### Disney's Sleeping Beauty Kids

**Full day Grades K-2 July 6-24 M-F 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$430**

**Half day Grades K-2 July 6-24 M-F 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. \$215**



### Seussical Junior

**Full day Grades 2-5 July 6-24 M-F 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. \$430**



### Into the Woods Junior

**Full day Grades 5-9 July 6-24 M-F 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$430**

Register at Portage Public Schools Community Enrichment • 323-6700 • [www.ppscomm.org](http://www.ppscomm.org)

# YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS



## PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPORTS CAMPS

### BASKETBALL CAMP

Huskies Co-Ed	Grades 1–8	June 15–18	M–Th	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.	NHS Gym	\$100
Stangs Boys	Grades K–4	June 15–18	M–Th	9 – 11 a.m.	CHS Stable	\$65
Stangs Boys	Grades 5–8	June 15–18	M–Th	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	CHS Stable	\$65
Mustang Girls	Grades 3–5	June 15–19	M–F	9 – 10:30 a.m.	CHS Gym	\$60
Mustang Girls	Grades 6–8	June 15–19	M–F	10:30 a.m. – 12 noon	CHS Gym	\$60

### FOOTBALL CAMP

CHS Camp	Grades 7–12	June 27–30	M–Th	8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	CHS Field	\$70
NHS Camp	Grades 7–9	June 15–17, July 27–29	M–W	8 – 10:30 a.m.	NHS Field	\$50
NHS Camp	Grades 10–12	June 15–17, July 27–29	M–W	10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	NHS Field	\$50

### VOLLEYBALL CAMP

CHS Camp	Grades 3–6	June 22–25	M–Th	9 – 10:30 a.m.	CHS Stable	\$45
CHS Camp	Grades 7–8	June 22–25	M–Th	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	CHS Stable	\$60
CHS Camp	Freshman	July 13–17	M–F	9 – 11 a.m.	CHS Stable	\$75
CHS Camp	Grades 9–12	July 20–23, 27–30	M–Th	9 – 11:30 a.m.	CHS Stable	\$115
NHS Camp	Grades 3–5	June 15–18	M–Th	9 – 11 a.m.	NHS Dog House	\$60
NHS Camp	Grades 6–8	June 15–18	M–Th	9 a.m. – 12 noon	NHS Dog House	\$90
NHS Camp	Grades 9–12	July 13–16, 20–23	M–Th	9 a.m. – 12 noon	NHS Dog House	\$135

### LACROSSE CAMP

Lacrosse	Grades 3–5	June 15–18	M–Th	10 – 11:30 a.m.	12 <sup>th</sup> Street Field	\$30
Lacrosse	Grades 6–8	June 15–18	M–Th	11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	12 <sup>th</sup> Street Field	\$30

For camp descriptions and registration visit [www.ppscommmed.org](http://www.ppscommmed.org)  
 Portage Public Schools Community Enrichment • 323-6700  
 Refer to page 5 for Youth Recreation Scholarship information

## FAMILY FISHING FAIR

**Saturday, May 16**

**10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Ramona Park, 8600 South Sprinkle Road**

**FREE**

150 kids receive a free fishing rod courtesy of United Water!  
Grand Prize kayak giveaway courtesy of Lee's Adventure Sports!

Bring the entire family to celebrate the onset of summer on this exciting day at the shoreline. Families of all ages and abilities can experience the numerous benefits associated with fishing, boating and aquatic conservation. Enjoy engaging activities such as lure making, knot tying and fly casting. Try out a kayak or SUP and much more. Local fishing guides and professional organizations will share their expertise to help your family start a lifetime of fishing memories. Fishing equipment will be on hand for those hoping to reel in their first (or next) catch of the day!



## RECYCLED ART IN THE PARK

**May 16–23 at Celery Flats Historical Area, 7366 Garden Lane**

**FREE**

To promote recycling in the City of Portage, the Park Board kicks off the third annual recycled sculpture event at 12 noon on Saturday, May 16, with musical entertainment and exhibit openings. Art sculptures will be open for public viewing through May 23. The venue will host area artists' expression of creativity through recyclable materials. Prizes will be awarded in various categories including a *Popular Choice* award, voted on by the public. [www.friendsoftheparksportage.com](http://www.friendsoftheparksportage.com)



## FAMILY FIT FESTIVAL

**Thursday, June 25**

**1 – 7 p.m. at Mayors Riverfront Park, 251 Mills Street, Kalamazoo**

**FREE**

The City of Portage, City of Kalamazoo, YMCA of Greater Kalamazoo and Champions for Healthy Kids coalition have aligned in an effort to raise awareness and participation in active living. Bring the entire family to explore new activities and wellness opportunities offered in the community.

[www.healthykalamazoo.com](http://www.healthykalamazoo.com)



## CELERY FLATS MUSIC FESTIVAL

**Sunday, July 12**

**12 noon – 4:30 p.m. at Celery Flats Historical Area, 7366 Garden Lane**

Admission: Donation to the Friends of the Parks

Enjoy an afternoon of Bluegrass and Americana music in a natural setting. Sponsored by the Portage Park Board and the K'zoo Folklife Organization, the event will benefit the Portage Friends of the Parks. Well known local and regional groups and performers will entertain the crowd in an outdoor concert setting – bring a chair or blanket. Food concessions will be available.

[www.friendsoftheparksportage.com](http://www.friendsoftheparksportage.com)



*For more information on these community events, contact the Portage Parks & Recreation Division  
7719 South Westnedge Avenue • 329-4522 • [www.portagemi.gov](http://www.portagemi.gov)*

# EVENTS

## TASTE OF PORTAGE

**Saturday, July 18**

**12 noon – 10 p.m. at Overlander Bandshell, 7800 Shaver Road**

**FREE** from 12 noon – 4 p.m. • \$5 admission after 4 p.m.

A variety of great food, beverages (including beer & wine) and entertainment will be showcased. Entertainment at this family friendly event includes the popular Kids Zone during the day, followed by a variety of dance and musical performances such as the featured act, the Spazmatics. Parking is available at City Hall and the Portage Public Library.

## HIKE TO A CONCERT WITH BLAKE WHYTE MUSIC

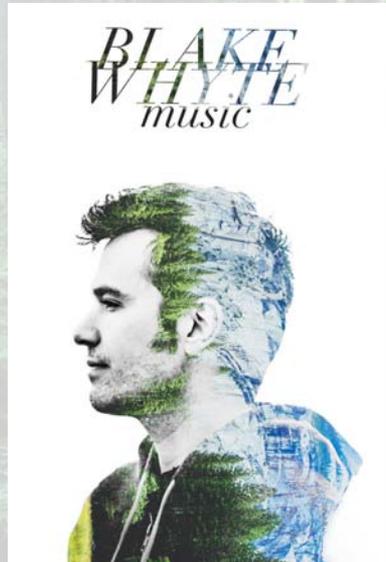
**Saturday, July 25 at Eliason Nature Reserve**

**Time to be announced at [www.portagemi.gov](http://www.portagemi.gov)**

**FREE**

Don't miss this unique nature and live music experience! Take your pick from a short hike (15-20 minutes) or a longer hike (30-40 minutes) into the Eliason Nature Reserve – the newest addition to the Portage Park system. Enjoy the sights and sounds from Mother Nature as you journey into the depth of the reserve. Arrive to the passionate and heartfelt sounds of this FREE concert by *Blake Whyte Music*. The music of this Portage native connects mind, body and spirit in a natural setting within the woods.

Check out the newest single, *Let Me Fly*, at  
[www.blakewhyte.com](http://www.blakewhyte.com)



## The United States Army Field Band

**Tuesday, July 7**

**7 p.m. at Overlander Bandshell, 7800 Shaver Road**

**FREE**

*In Concert!* A rare opportunity to experience the music of this 65-member concert band and 29-member soldiers' chorus which perform regularly in some of the most famous concert halls in the world. The joining of these two ensembles offers unparalleled versatility of programming, ranging from orchestral masterworks and operatic arias to Sousa marches, jazz classics and Broadway musicals.



**The United States  
Army Field Band**

*The Musical Ambassadors of the Army Washington, DC*