



Special Report



Shelby Township makes Heritage Lake & Garden more accessible, enjoyable

Shelby Township Board, Parks & Rec improve resident, visitor experience at Heritage Lake & Garden without tax increase.



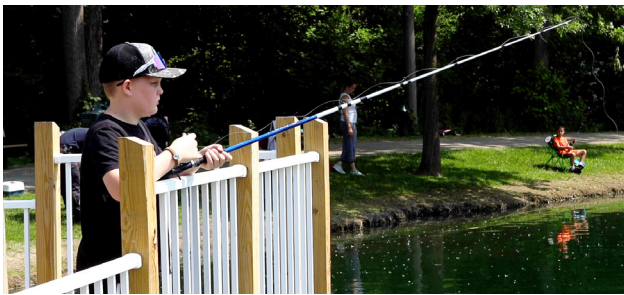
Macomb County's
Lowest-cost, full-service
Community

**BACKED BY MORE THAN \$1.8M IN FEDERAL DOLLARS, SHELBY TOWNSHIP ENHANCES COMMUNITY'S PRIZED LAKE & GARDEN.
PAID IN CASH - NO DEBT- NO BONDING - NO TAX INCREASE**



Charter Township of Shelby
**PARKS, RECREATION
 AND MAINTENANCE**
 586-731-0300
 shelbyprm@shelbytwp.org

**Using federal American Recovery
 Plan Act funds, Shelby Township
 invested \$1,800,000 to improve
 Heritage Lake and Heritage
 Garden—paid in cash with no debt,
 no bonding & no increase in taxes.**



THE TOWNSHIP COMPLETED HERITAGE LAKE & GARDEN IMPROVEMENTS IN TWO PHASES SO THE LAKE AND GARDEN COULD REMAIN OPEN DURING THE PROJECT. PHASE 1 FINISHED AUG. 24, 2023, AND PHASE 2 OFFICIALLY OPENS JUNE 8.



A brick paver walkway replaces a worn asphalt path & connects Heritage Garden to the refurbished pavilion & one of three fishing piers.



Heritage Lake features three new piers. Two extend into the lake for fishing & lake views. A third 'deck' expands photo opportunities.



A second Heritage Lake fountain improves aesthetics, aeration, water movement & cooling. Adding a focal point in the new design.



Two pergolas enhance the visual beauty of the Heritage Lake path adding structure & architectural interest while providing shaded areas for relaxation.



Existing pavilion & gazebo refurbished with cedar shake shingles to improve durability, aesthetics, weather resistance & reduce maintenance costs.



Michigan limestone bank stabilization adds durability, natural aesthetics & reduced maintenance costs for Heritage Lake.



The award-winning Heritage Garden is now accessible from western gate near Heritage Lake & a new eastern gate improving patron privacy.



Township Clerk Stanley Grot
 52700 Van Dyke Ave.
 Shelby Township, MI 48316
www.shelbytwp.org
 Phone: 586-731-5102

Re: Making the best even better, enhancing our Heritage Lake and Garden experience

Dear Shelby Township Neighbors,

As your Shelby Township Clerk, I am thrilled to share some exciting news regarding recent improvements to our beloved Heritage Lake and Heritage Garden.

As crews have completed phase one and phase two of the Heritage Garden and Heritage Lake enhancement project, it brings me immense joy to witness the impact it has already had on our community. Whenever I see a family at our lake or residents enjoying the beautiful gardens, it reminds me of the journey leading to this moment.

The inspiration for this project struck me during a simple lunch outing. Noticing two boys, no more than 10 or 12 years old, enjoying their time fishing on the shore sparked a vision within me. Despite the muddy and uninviting conditions of the shore at that time, I saw the potential for transformation. I envisioned a space that beautified our surroundings and provided a safe and enjoyable environment for residents of all ages.

With this vision in mind, our team embarked on the journey to turn dreams into reality. Phase one of the project introduced fishing docks, pergolas, a deck for special occasions and enhanced safety features, making Heritage Lake a destination for families, joggers and nature enthusiasts alike.

Following that, phase two included more shoreline with Michigan limestone installed for safety and accessibility. We added amenities like picturesque brick-paver paths and serene seating under cedar-shank shingled pavilions and gazebos. We fulfilled this initiative with no increase in taxes, no debt and no bonding. Using federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, we made one of our township's most cherished parks and places better than ever at no direct cost to our taxpayers.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in bringing this project to fruition, including the Board of Trustees, Supervisor Rick Stathakis, Treasurer James Carabelli, township engineers from AEW, Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Director Joe Youngblood, our Parks and Recreation team, and the Shelby Gardeners Club. Most importantly, I want to express my deepest gratitude to you, our residents, for your unwavering support and belief in this project.

As we celebrate these achievements, I invite our valued residents and taxpayers to come out to visit the lake and garden to experience the renewed beauty of Heritage Lake and Heritage Garden. Let us cherish this gem within Shelby Township and make the most of this shared resource to create lasting memories and build a stronger sense of community in our beloved township.

Sincerely,
 Township Clerk Stanley Grot

Rick Stathakis
 Supervisor

Stanley T. Grot
 Clerk

James Carabelli
 Treasurer

Lisa Casali
 Trustee

Lucia Di Cicco
 Trustee

John Vermeulen
 Trustee

Vince Viviano
 Trustee

SINCE 2012, SHELBY TOWNSHIP HAS INVESTED \$10,100,000 IN PARKS & RECREATION AMENITIES WHILE MAINTAINING MORE THAN 1,300 ACRES OF PARKS AND OPERATING WITH FIVE FEWER FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES THAN IN 2008 - PAID IN CASH WITH NO DEBT, NO BONDING & NO TAX INCREASE.



In addition to these improvements, Shelby Township invested \$120,000 to expand the tree canopy on township properties & throughout 1,300 acres of parks-paid in cash with no debt, no bonding & no tax increase.



The Shelby Township Summerfest June 28-29 at the municipal campus at 52700 Van Dyke Ave. promises two days of family fun and entertainment. Kicking off June 28, attendees enjoy activities in the Kids Zone sponsored by the Friends of the Shelby Township Library, Niagra Bottling, Genisys Credit Union and Faygo! with Touch-a-Truck, face painting, a petting zoo, an outdoor movie and a live taping of Shelby TV's award-winning "The Treehouse." On June 29, the event concludes with a live performance from the Macomb Symphony Orchestra, including a grand finale drone show. Both days feature food trucks and craft beer tent from Connect Macomb, ensuring a delightful experience for all attendees.

PRESENTED BY THE SHELBY TOWNSHIP DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Friday, June 28

- Touch-a-Truck
- Princesses and superheroes
- Face painting
- Petting zoo
- "The Treehouse Live"
- Outdoor family movie
- Reptarium experience

Saturday, June 29

- Macomb Symphony Orchestra Patriotic Live Performance
- Independence Day Grand Finale drone show from Firefly Drone Shows

