

Clark Township Master Plan



Clark Township
Mackinac County, Michigan
October 2021

CLARK TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN

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Township Board Approval: October 2021

Public Hearings: September 2021

Planning Commission Approval: August 2021

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1 – THE MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this Plan is to guide policy and decision making for all future land use and infrastructure development decisions within Clark Township. This Plan is adopted pursuant to the authority of the Township Planning Act, PA 168 of 1959.

The Clark Township Master Plan is a "*basic plan*". It is prepared as a foundation for the Township's zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, and a capital improvement program. The Plan proposes land use development policy and land use arrangements, but it has no regulatory power.

Act 33 of 2008, the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, was approved on March 13, 2008, and takes effect on September 1, 2008. The contents of this Plan are to be reviewed and modified as necessary every 5 years to ensure compliance with this new Act governing Master Plans throughout the State of Michigan.

How to Use the Plan

This Plan is a visible statement by the Township and its residents, regarding the intended future character of the community and strategies to assure that character. Master Plans instill a sense of stability and direction for officials, residents, and future investors. This Plan should be consulted for:

- Review of Rezoning, Variances, and Special Use Permits: Applications for rezoning, variances, or special use permits should be evaluated versus the Zoning Ordinance this Plan.
- Public Improvement Projects: Public improvement projects (such as new facilities, utilities, or buildings) should be reviewed by the Planning Commission for consistency with this plan.
- Review of Land Subdivision and Lot Splits: The subdivision of land and associated lot split activities impacts the character of a community, future public service needs, and tax burdens.
- Brownfield Redevelopment: The Mackinac County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority was established by the County on April 25, 2013. Brownfield site descriptors include:
 - Contaminated: hazardous substances in soil/groundwater exceeding State criteria.
 - Functionally obsolete: no longer able to be used for its intended purposes.
 - Blighted: condemned, a nuisance, or disconnected from utilities.

Master Plan History

- Originally prepared in the 1970's, this Master Plan served as the foundation of local planning for approximately 15 years. During this period, no revisions were made to this document.
- 1990: Clark Township Planning Officials undertook a community-wide survey of residents, both year-round and seasonal, with the objective of updating the Master Plan.
- 1991: Several specific Plan amendments were adopted. These included updating land use maps, extension of the sanitary sewers, establishing guidelines for new development.
- 1994: The Master Plan was updated. Two alternative future land use patterns were adopted.
- 2008: The Master Plan was updated with the help of Gourdie-Fraser, Inc. & 2 public hearings.
- 2015: Review & update of the Master Plan was done by the Planning Commission in 2015 & 2021 following guidance from the State to update Master Plans every 5 years.

2 – THE MASTER PLAN

Vision for the Les Cheneaux Area

The Les Cheneaux Area is admired for its unique natural beauty and leisure opportunities. As a community, we are committed to maintaining the small-town character of Les Cheneaux.

1. Natural resources... are cherished as a vital part of our community and our identity; are considered fundamental to both our present and our future. They will be treated sympathetically as future growth and development occurs.
2. Economic growth...is sustainable, monitored, & guided; tourism continues to strengthen the local economy and provide employment; a diverse business climate promotes mixed use development that attracts and retains commercial and industrial buildings designed proportionately to our scale.
3. Downtown centers...are attractive, pleasing, vibrant, and are comfortable for pedestrians and traffic flow. Local landscape...encourages the development of a natural, attractive community with structures both old and new that have character and diversity.
4. Infrastructure and Social Services... that protect our natural resources, enable economic growth while maintaining our character, and improves quality of life for all residents.
5. A sense of community...is achieved by involving residents in the planning process to enhance the traditions, goals, and values of the area. Our character is maintained, and people feel a sense of belonging and responsibility.

Objectives for each of these 5 Vision Statements are listed on the following 5 pages...

Natural Resources Vision

Natural resources... are cherished as a vital part of our community and our identity; are considered fundamental to both our present and our future. They will be treated sympathetically as future growth and development occurs.

Objectives to Support Natural Resources

1. Protect environmentally sensitive areas from unsound and incompatible development.
2. Work with organizations such as the Chippewa/East Mackinac Conservation District, Native American Tribes, Les Cheneaux Watershed Council, Little Traverse Conservancy, Nature Conservancy, and the Les Cheneaux Islands Association to educate Township residents about potential impacts on the natural environment and water quality from land use activities.
3. Implement and consistently enforce the Zoning Ordinance. Recommend updates and changes when warranted.
4. Protect groundwater quality via a sewer system maintenance program and through site plan review standards for those developments that use or sell toxic or hazardous substances.
5. Retain indigenous vegetation on developing and developed sites to protect against excessive runoff, soil erosion and sedimentation.
6. Preserve and protect the quality and quantity of water in the Les Cheneaux area.

Economic Growth Vision

Economic growth...is sustainable, monitored, & guided; tourism continues to strengthen the local economy and provide employment; a diverse business climate promotes mixed use development that attracts and retains commercial and industrial buildings designed proportionately to our scale.

Objectives to Support Economic Growth

1. Work with economic development organizations, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Native American community to attract new jobs with incomes sufficient to support a family.
2. Support area merchants in the expansion of services (e.g., expanded store hours, coordinated promotional activities, a common business theme, welcome center).
3. Broadband. The community needs to enlist the cooperation of both public and private sectors in partnering for continuing to improve broadband access. Reliable broadband access is a key enabler to making the Township a viable destination for all residents and visitors
4. Support the artisan community and ecotourism initiatives as components capable of strengthening the role of the Les Cheneaux area as a destination tourism area.

Downtown Centers Vision

Downtown centers...are attractive, pleasing, vibrant, and are comfortable for pedestrians and traffic flow. Local landscape...encourages the development of a natural, attractive community with structures both old and new that have character and diversity.

Objectives to Support Downtown Centers

1. Work with area merchants to tie shops and recreational facilities together with plantings, signage, lighting, a boardwalk and/or other pedestrian-oriented facilities.
2. Work with area merchants to strengthen the historic commercial center roles of Hessel and Cedarville as destination commercial core areas that offer a variety of commercial, recreational, and cultural opportunities in a walkable community setting.
3. Increase formal plantings in character with the community, (e.g., wildflower plantings).
4. Improve the physical and visual relationship between Hessel and Cedarville with the waterfronts of the Les Cheneaux area to improve the attractiveness of these core commercial areas and strengthen their role as a destination location.
5. Improve and encourage pedestrian travel in Hessel and Cedarville as these areas move towards becoming more walkable communities.
6. Investigate potential locations and opportunities to provide centralized parking in the core areas of Hessel and Cedarville.
7. Investigate the development of pedestrian walkways or boardwalks along the shoreline in Cedarville.

Community Services and Infrastructure Vision

Infrastructure and Social Services... that protect our natural resources, enable economic growth while maintaining our character, and improves quality of life for all residents.

Objectives to Support Community Services and Infrastructure

1. Develop and pursue a prioritized Capital Improvement Plan focusing on the marinas, roads, sewer system, recreation, and economic development needs.
2. Continue to support the ongoing efforts of the County and area residents towards effective reduction, and recycling of waste materials.
3. Support efforts to create bike paths between & around Hessel and Cedarville.
4. Work with local, county and state government agencies, churches, charitable and civic organizations to improve affordable housing choices for the residents of Clark Township.
5. Support human service programs of government and private agencies designed to enhance the quality of life of Township residents.
6. Provide fire protection, police protection, and emergency services as the need is identified and financial resources are available.
7. Develop standards for the use, functionality, and appearance of Road End and Lake Access points.

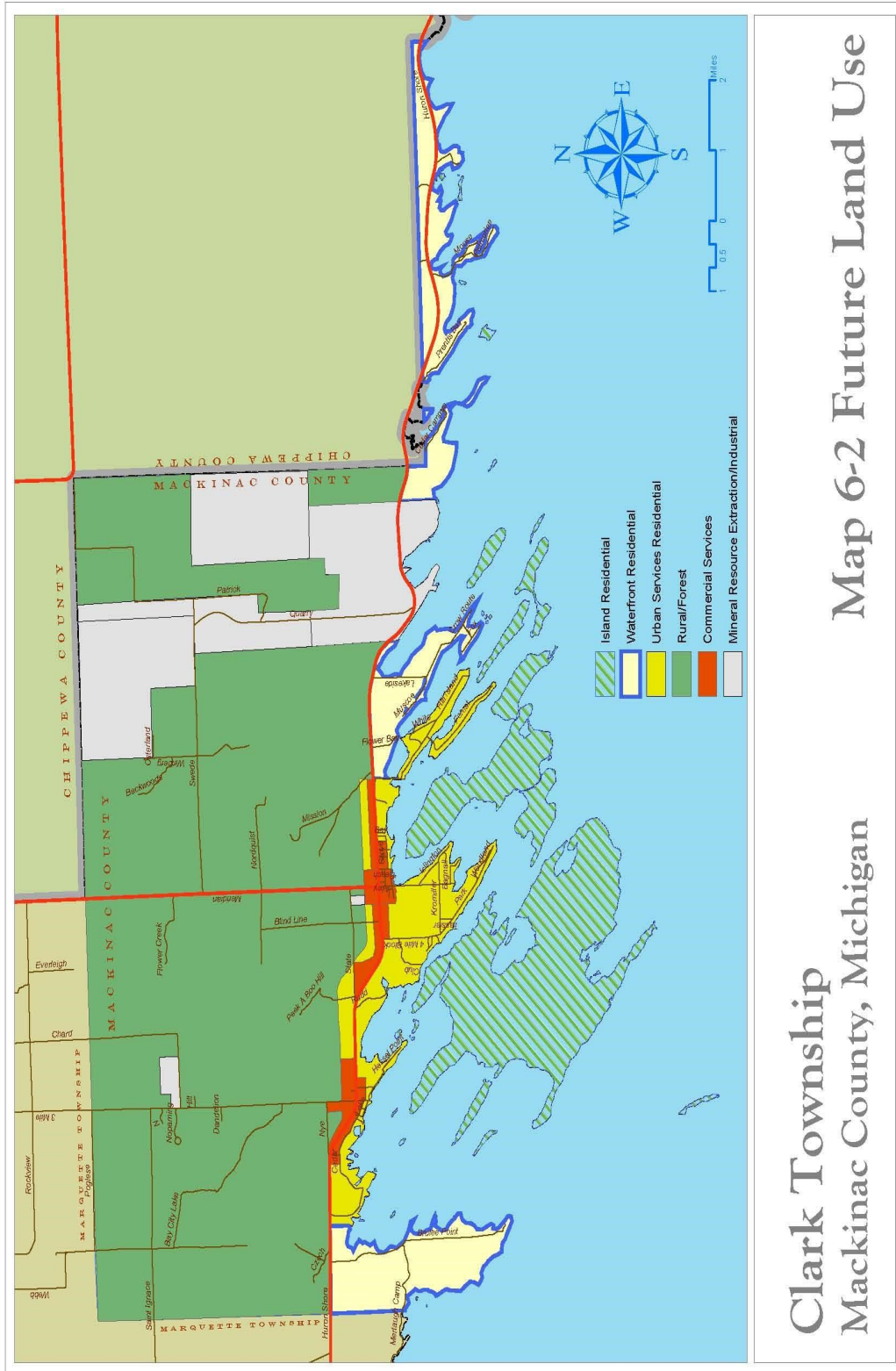
A Sense of Community Vision

A sense of community...is achieved by involving residents in the planning process to enhance the traditions, goals, and values of the area. Our character is maintained, and people feel a sense of belonging and responsibility.

Objectives to A Sense of Community Vision

1. Invite and encourage public input from community members toward Township planning and administrative.
2. Identify community members to voluntarily participate on Township committees and groups such as: Planning Commission, Fire and Ambulance Services, Recreation Committee, Sewer Advisory Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and ...
3. Support efforts towards bicycle path that ties together Township amenities: e.g., Hessel and Cedarville, state and federal recreational facilities and the islands/coastal areas.
4. Strengthen and develop facilities to support special community events, such as all-season festivals, plays, antique boat shows, band concerts and cultural arts.
5. Support youth activities in the Township.
6. Support water safety programs.
7. Support enhancement and protect historic sites in the Township.
8. Protect and enhance scenic views throughout the Township, particularly at high points and near coastal areas with focus on:
 - a. Maintain appropriate building heights, particularly along waterfront areas.
 - b. New lighting should comply with dark sky standards.
 - c. environmental remediation, noise pollution, safety regulations in place and enforced.
9. Encourage mixed use development with upper-level residential units in the core areas of Hessel and Cedarville to support the identity of these areas as walkable centers.

Vision for Future Land Use



Clark Township
Mackinac County, Michigan

Map 6-2 Future Land Use

Future Land Use Vision Legend Explanation

Island Residential

New development density targets for island properties serviced by public sanitary sewer should be 10,000 square feet minimum lot sizes with a minimum frontage of 100 feet. Island properties with private services should be one (1) acre minimum lot sizes with a minimum frontage of 200 feet.

Waterfront Residential

New development density targets for mainland waterfront properties should be a minimum lot size of 40,000 square feet and should be maintained with at least 100 feet of water frontage.

Urban Services Residential

The urban residential district is intended to accommodate the most intensive development within the Township. Boundaries of this district are primarily identified based on existing and possible sewer service within the Township.

Rural/Forest

The long-term quality of life in Clark Township, and the ecological integrity of its land, are directly influenced by the development patterns which occur within rural areas. Parcel sizes permitted within rural areas should vary with the overall density not exceeding one dwelling unit per acre.

Commercial Services

Cedarville and Hessel are the centers of activity within the Township. Development should target for a mix of uses – both commercial and residential.

Mineral Resources Extraction/Industrial

The largest of these is Port dolomite operated by Carmeuse.

3 - COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

In the 17th century, European explorers and fur traders sojourned through this wooded and protected waterway of 36 islands and homeland of the Anishinaabe called Les Cheneaux, by the French explorers, an expression referring to "The Channels."

Today, sheltered bays along the 12-mile coastland, unique and colorful boat houses, sandy beaches, woodland trails, and natural beauty of the area welcome contemporary explorers and offer four seasons of fun, rest, and relaxation for vacationers and residents alike. Two thousand people call Clark Township home, living in the villages of Cedarville, Hessel, or residing within the Les Cheneaux Islands (LCI).

LCI was designated by the Nature Conservancy as one of the "Last Great Places on earth" for its unique and virtually pristine environment and ecology. Rare rock formations, a 36-island archipelago, geologic formation along the Niagara escarpment, a variety of coniferous and hardwood trees, bouquets of wildflowers, and home to a variety of wildlife from migratory birds to game fishes, deer, bear, wolves and inhabit the woods, waters, and islands.

And then, there's the people and their community. Home to the first Great Lakes franchise of the Chris Craft wooden boat and nationally renowned Antique Wooden Boat Show, Les Cheneaux is also home to the Great Lakes Boat Building School, one of four in the country; the Les Cheneaux Culinary School, which focuses on 'farm to table' culinary training to develop chefs into culinary leaders and features a regional, organic cuisine; two museums--Historical and Maritime--which tell the stories of the spirit and people of the Islands; artesian crafts, paintings, pottery and more at the Old Shell Art Gallery; the Les Cheneaux Distillers makers of their own vodka, gin, whiskey and craft beers; the Kewadin casino hosted by the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians welcomes those who enjoy 'inside gaming'; and a host of festivals, organizations and groups that promote recreational activities, care and protection of the environment, and celebrate all the seasons in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. They reflect the ingrained Anishinaabe spirit of "people who cannot be separated from the land and its cycle of seasons."

The community also knows the importance and value of its own backyard. Preserving and protecting the coast and shore, ensuring good habitat for wildlife, promoting ethical use of the lands, and close monitoring of its sewer and lagoon system are interwoven among governmental, recreational, and community-wide interests and activities. Clean lake water promotes the sport fishery which supports the tourism industry. Healthy wildlife habitat fosters adequate duck and deer hunting which supports our cottages, motels, and restaurants. Managed forests and trails promote hiking and winter activities. That ecological consciousness is fostered and developed in the school system as well as students conduct water sampling activities that provide specific data to the State. Classes and programs on gun, boating and snowmobiling safety, essential to activities and way of life in the area, are integrated into the school's activities.

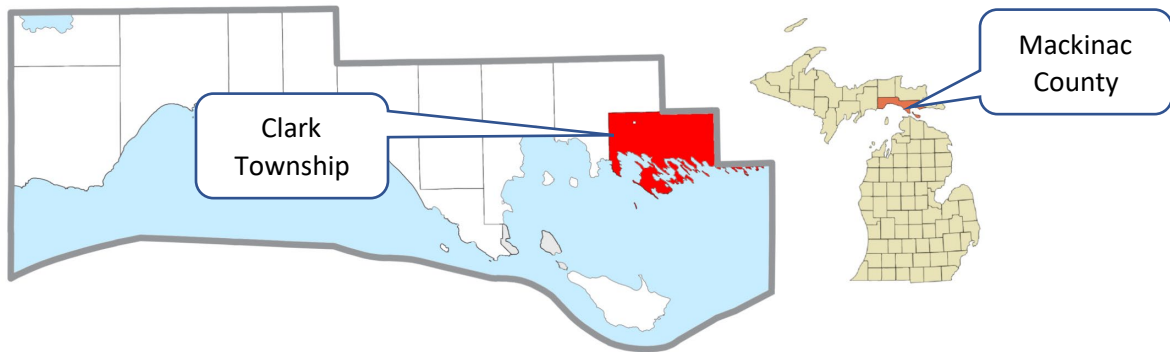
Clark Township is also home to the international Carmeuse Lime and Stone, Inc., which has more than 95 facilities through 15 countries around the world, and the largest employer in Clark Township.

And the community knows how to throw a good party. The Antique Wooden Boat Show established in 1976 hosts almost 8,000 people on the second Saturday in August. The annual Snowfest winter festival helps break up cabin fevers in February. The Aldo Leopold Festival brings visitors from across the mid-

west in late May to learn about the wonders of the wilderness and beauty of Les Cheneaux. The Ensign Class Yacht races sail colorfully through the bays in summer. The 4th of July celebrates our national heritage and brings families and friends together. Art in the Park and the Artisan's Craft show displays the skill and beauty of our local painters, potters, musicians and more. Islands Wildlife hosts a delicious dinner and auction to benefit wildlife habitat protection. The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians host their annual Gathering of Eagles Pow Wow in August featuring their traditional drum ceremonies and colorful dancing. And then the Old Timer's Softball game takes the labor out of Labor Day with laughs, hot dogs and beer, and plenty of sore muscles.

The Les Cheneaux Islands stretch from west of Hessel to east of Cedarville along the Pure Michigan M-134 Byway nestled on the northern Lake Huron shoreline. Clark Township is a civil township of Mackinac County in the U.S. State of Michigan. Clark Township was established in February 1905 by the consolidation of Sherwood Township and Cedar Township. Cedar Township was established in March 1887.

- Cedarville is an unincorporated community at the junction of M-129 and M-134 north of the Les Cheneaux Islands, 3.3 miles east of Hessel, and about 35 miles south of Sault Ste. Marie. It began as a lumber settlement in 1884. A post office was established in July 1888.
- Hessel is an unincorporated community on M-134 north of Marquette Island, the largest of the Les Cheneaux Islands at 46°00'15"N 84°25'33"W. It was founded in 1885 by two Swedes and a Norwegian, John and Carl Hessel and John A. Johnson and a post office was established in September 1888. Hessel is the home of the Antique Wooden Boat Show and Festival of the Arts which is held annually at the public docks on the second weekend of August.
- Port Dolomite is a commercial port in the eastern end of the township at 45°59'05"N 84°16'30"W. In 2004, it was the 93rd largest port in the United States ranked by tonnage.



(Graphic from Wikipedia)

4 - COMMUNITY DATA

DEMOGRAPHICS

The data and analysis in this section will help the township to make critical land use decisions as it plans for future development and sustainability within the township.

Overall, this data set indicates that for Clark Township:

- Total population is down 18% from 2014.
- The % of residents 20-34 and under 19 have increased over the last 5 years, reversing the trend over the previous 15 years.
- Residents trend older, wealthier, more educated and tend to live in single unit structures and have smaller household sizes than County and/or State averages.

With rural townships and small data sets of Clark Township’s size, it is very common - for large margins of error to occur. Below is a list of symbols that are used throughout this data:

Symbol or Abbreviation	Explanation
Co.	County
MOE	Margin of error: number, not percent
n	Number
n; %	Number (usually total); percent of number
n>	Number is greater than
n≥	Number is greater than or equal to
n<	Number is less than
n≤	Number is less than or equal to
ND	No data
p	Period
r	Range
Twp.	Township
y	Year
%Δ	Percent Change = ((new n - old n) / old n)

TOTAL POPULATION

y	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township	
	n	n	n	moe
2019	9,986,857	10,780	1,718	+/- 201
2014	9,889,024	11,080	2,106	+/- 221
2010	9,952,687	11,281	1,890	+/- 241
2000	9,938,444	11,943	2,200	ND

Source: American Community Survey

- Clark Township is down 18% from 2014 and is at its lowest in the last 20 years.
- In 2019, Michigan population in the last 20 years has been stable within a 1% range.

MALES PER 100 FEMALES

y	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township	
	n	n	n	moe
2019	96.9	103.9	98.8	+/- 15.2
2014	96.4	101.3	118.7	+/- 15.5
2010	96.4	102.4	103.9	+/- 13.3
2000	96.4	99.7	100.0	ND

Source: American Community Survey

- Clark Township has had a significant reduction in males per 100 females since 2014, going from 118.7 to 98.8 and now is more in line with the County & State.
- The State & County ratio has been stable over the last 20 years.

MEDIAN AGE

y	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township	
	n	n	n	moe
2019	39.8	52.8	53.9	+/- 7.9
2014	39.3	50.3	52.9	ND
2010	38.1	47.1	51.1	ND
2000	35.5	42.8	44.6	ND

Source: American Community Survey

- The Township & County median ages are similar, both increasing over the past 20 years.
- The Township and County median ages are significantly higher than the State.

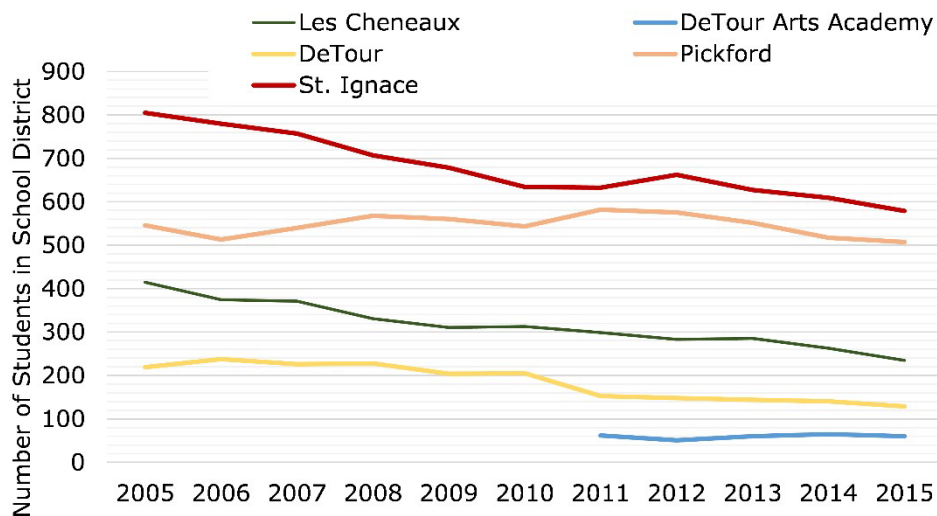
AGE DISTRIBUTION

r	y	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township	moe
		%	%	%	
n <= 19	2019	24.2%	16.9%	17.9%	+/- 2%
	2014	25.9%	20.0%	16.5%	ND
	2010	27.4%	21.6%	17.4%	ND
	2000	29.0%	24.3%	24.3%	ND
20 - 34	2019	19.8%	14.4%	13.0%	+/- 3.5%
	2014	19.0%	12.1%	10.6%	ND
	2010	18.7%	12.3%	9.0%	ND
	2000	20.2%	14.1%	12.4%	ND
35 - 64	2019	38.3%	41.2%	39.7%	+/- 3.4%
	2014	40.5%	43.9%	45.2%	ND
	2010	40.7%	44.8%	51.1%	ND
	2000	38.5%	43.3%	43.7%	ND
n >= 65	2019	17.6%	27.3%	29.5%	+/- 3.4%
	2014	14.5%	24.0%	27.8%	ND
	2010	13.2%	21.3%	22.5%	ND
	2000	12.3%	18.2%	19.6%	ND

Source: American Community Survey

- Township % of residents 20-34 and under 19 have increased over the last 5 years, reversing the trend over the previous 15 years.
- The County saw the same for 20-34 but saw a big decline in < 19.
- State, County and Township % of residents over 65 is continuing to increase.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN AND ADJACENT TO CLARK TOWNSHIP

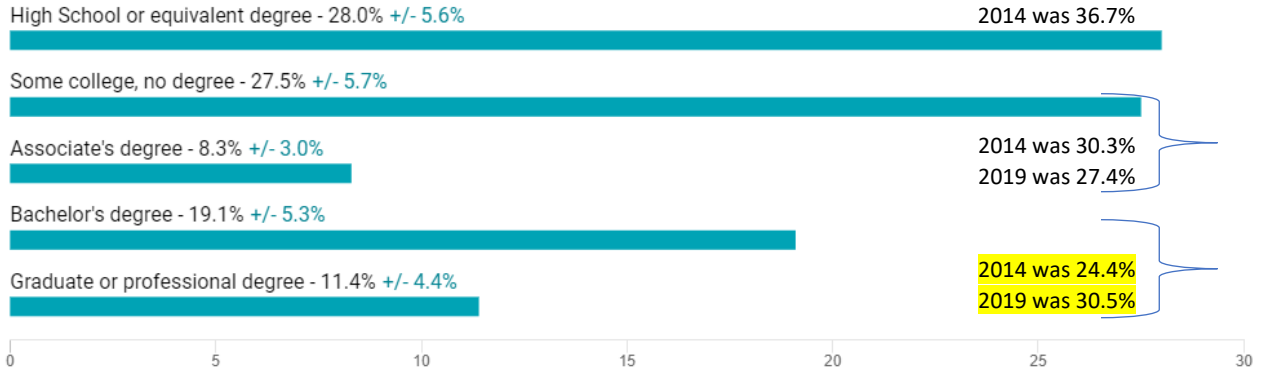


Source: Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District

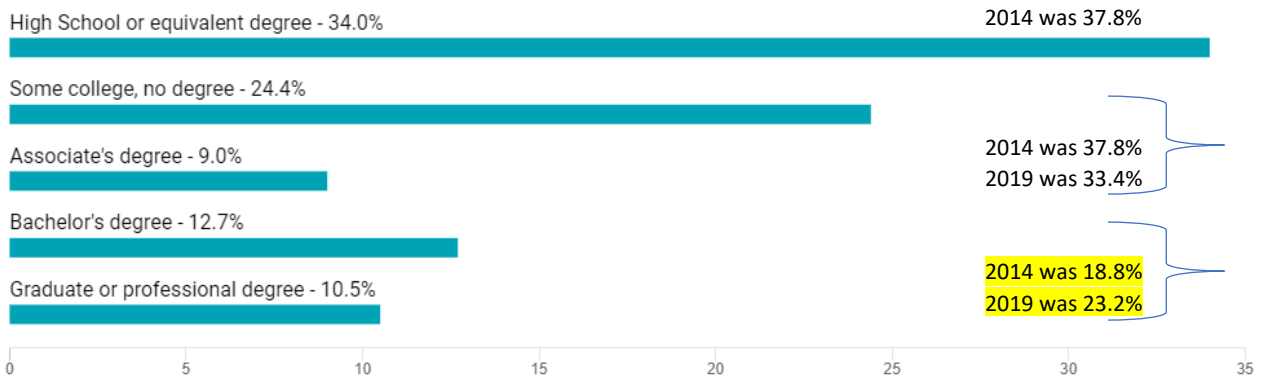
EDUCATION ATTAINMENT OF POPULATION OVER 25 YEARS OLD

Source: American Community Survey

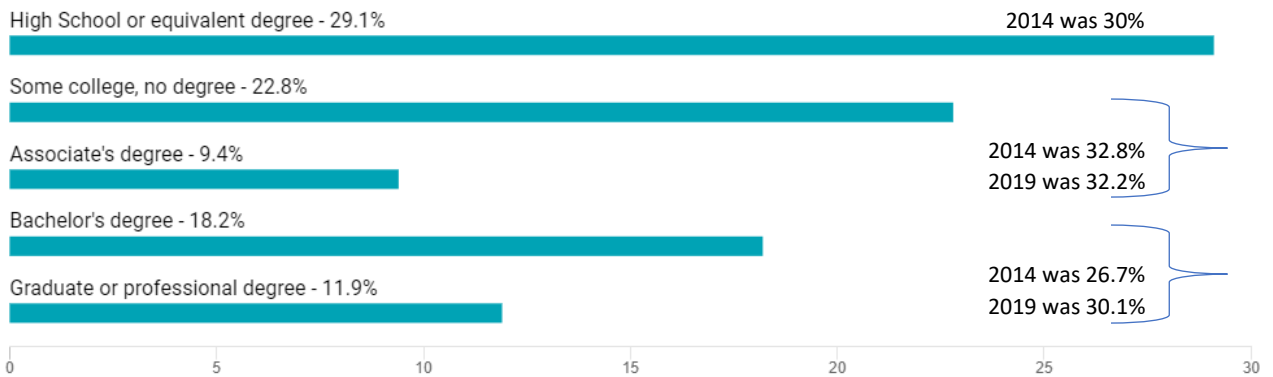
Education Attainment in Clark township, Mackinac County, Michigan



Education Attainment in Mackinac County, Michigan



Education Attainment in Michigan



- 25% decline in population with HS diploma in Clark Township over the past 5 years while the County & State were stable.
- 25% increase in population with BS & Graduate Degree in Clark Township over the past 5 years while the County had a big decline, and the State was stable.

HOUSING STATUS

	y	Michigan n/%	Mackinac County n/%	Clark Township n/%	moe
Total Housing Units (HU)	2019	4,629,605	11,168	2,257	+/-80
	2014	4,532,719	11,007	2,155	ND
	2010	4,529,680	10,831	2,114	ND
Total Occupied HU	2019	85.7%	47.2%	37.4%	+/-102
	2014	84.4%	46.0%	47.2%	+/-110
	2010	84.9%	45.5%	40.7%	+/-109
Owner Occupied HU	2019	ND	ND	ND	ND
	2014	60.4%	35.2%	36.5%	+/-95
	2010	63.0%	36.9%	38.8%	+/-107
Renter Occupied HU	2019	ND	ND	ND	ND
	2014	24.0%	10.8%	10.8%	+/-68
	2010	21.9%	8.6%	1.9%	+/-22
Total Vacant HU	2019	14.3%	52.8%	62.5%	+/-103
	2014	15.6%	54.0%	52.8%	+/-110
	2010	15.1%	54.5%	59.3%	+/-115
HU Vacant for Seasonal or Recreational Use	2019	ND	ND	ND	ND
	2014	6.3%	43.3%	46.3%	+/-122
	2010	5.9%	45.1%	51.8%	+/-108

Definition of a housing unit: “A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied as separate living quarters.” (Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

- Data available on ACS has changed – not all data from previous years is available.
- Occupied Housing in Clark Township declined significantly in the past 5 years while the County and State remained stable – this means seasonal use has gone up.

UNITS IN HOUSING STRUCTURES

	y	Michigan %	Mackinac County %	Clark Township %	moe
1 Unit Structures	2019	76.4%	81.6%	92.9%	+/-2.6
	2014	77.5%	80.5%	88.1%	ND
	2010	77.6%	81.6%	86.3%	ND
2 or more Unit Structures	2019	18.7%	12.2%	3.7%	+/-1.3
	2014	17.6%	12.4%	5.0%	ND
	2010	17.2%	10.1%	2.8%	ND
Mobile Homes and All Other	2019	5.3%	6.2%	3.4%	+/-1.7
	2014	7.1%	7.1%	6.9%	ND
	2010	8.3%	8.3%	10.9%	ND

Source: American Community Survey

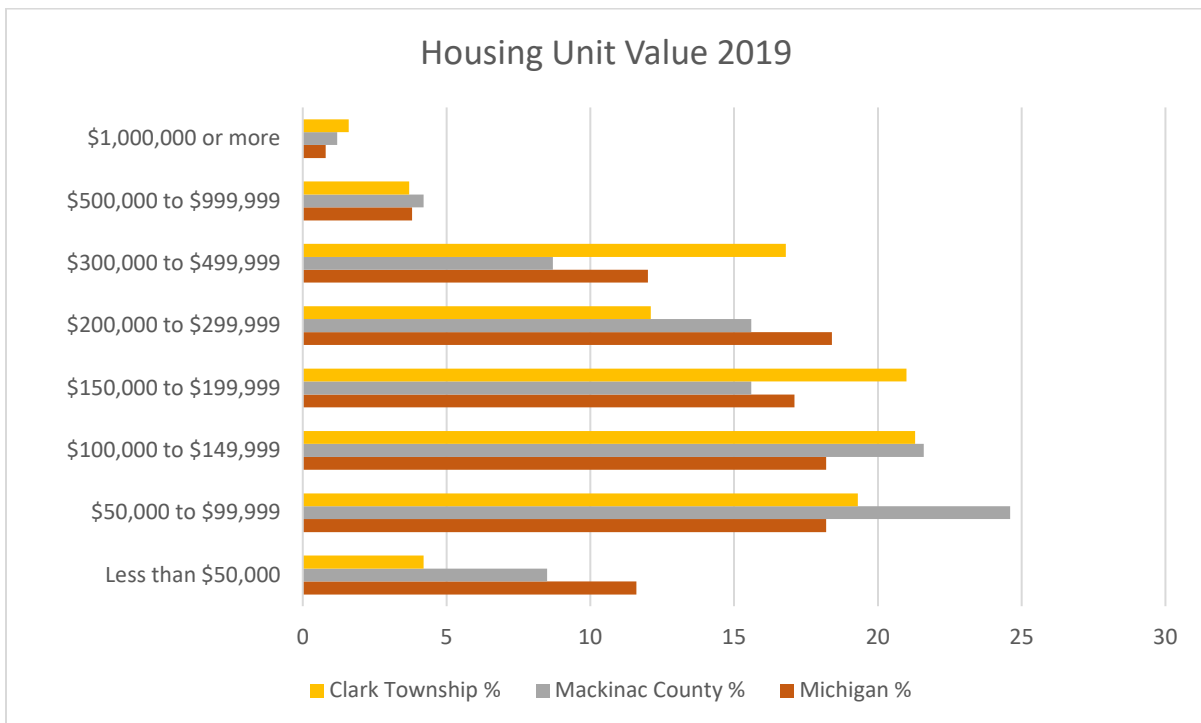
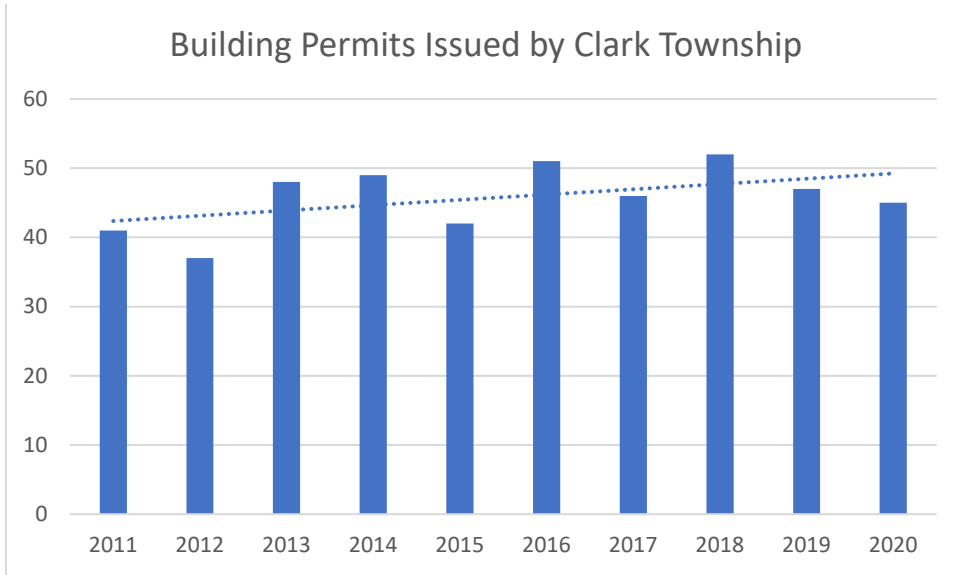
- The % of single unit structures in the Township continues to rise slightly and remains significantly higher than the County or the State.

OCCUPIED HOUSING UNIT HEATING FUEL TYPE - 2014

	Michigan %	Mackinac County %	Clark Township %	moe
Utility Gas	76.4%	26.9%	4.5%	+/-3.4
Bottled, Tank, or LP Gas	8.3%	27.2%	35.3%	+/-6.4
Electricity	9.8%	25.0%	29.3%	+/-7.3
Fuel Oil, Kerosene	1.1%	2.2%	3.4%	+/-2.5
Coal or Coke	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	+/-2.9
Wood	3.0%	15.8%	22.8%	+/-5.9
Solar	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	+/-2.9
All Other Fuels	0.9%	2.1%	4.6%	+/-3.1
No Fuel Used	5.3%	0.7%	0.0%	+/-2.9

Source: American Community Survey

- Clark Township heats with propane, electricity, or wood. The utility gas listed is almost certainly an error and is very likely also propane.



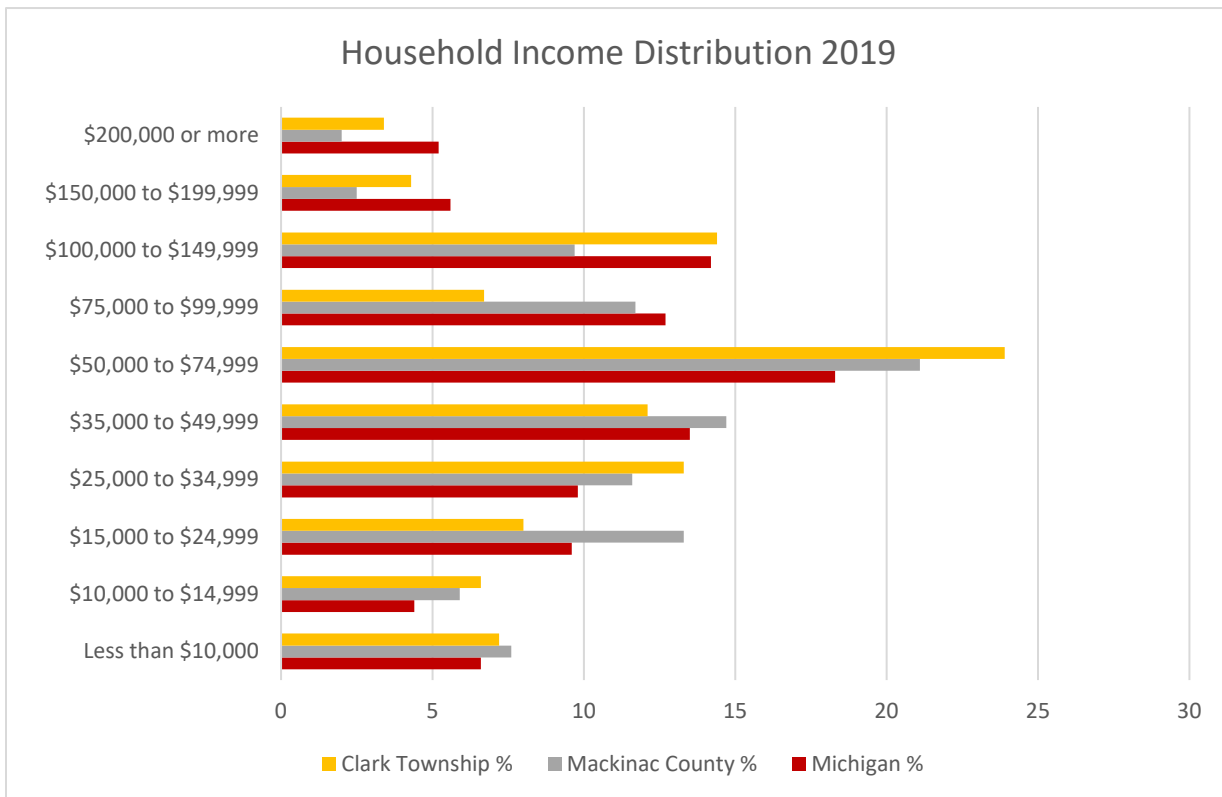
- Overall Owner Occupied Housing Unit Value in Clark Township is higher than the County.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

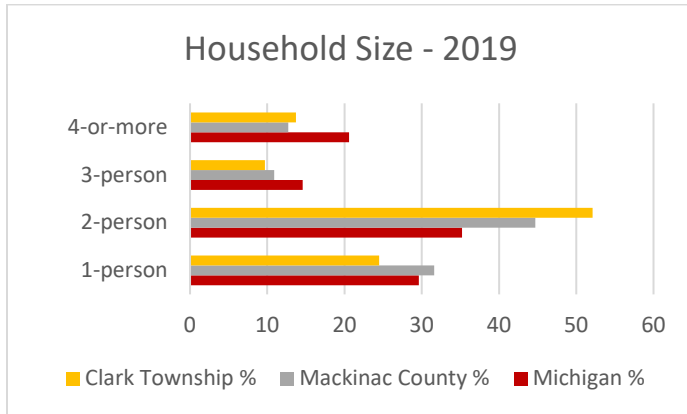
	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township	
y	\$	\$	\$	moe
2019	57,144	47,938	54,468	+/- 9585
2014	49,087	38,690	36,987	+/-3850
2010	48,432	39,339	47,069	+/-6856

Source: American Community Survey

- Median household income in the Township has gone up significantly and is now higher than the County.



- Overall income in Clark Township is higher than the County.



- 1 & 2 person Households make up > 75% of Clark Township.

HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS/SNAP ASSISTANCE

	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township
y	%	%	%
2019	13.3%	11.7%	6.9%
2014	1.7%	2.1%	3.3%
2010	1.9%	2.8%	3.7%

Source: American Community Survey

- % households receiving SNAP has gone up, but Clark Township is well below the County & State.

POVERTY BY AGE GROUP

		Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township
	y	%	%	%
Total Impoverished	2019	14.4%	16.4%	10.2%
	2014	16.9%	15.7%	11.8%
	2010	14.8%	14.7%	9.9%
Under 18 years old	2019	19.9%	19.4%	10.3%
	2014	23.7%	24.0%	20.6%
	2010	20.5%	19.7%	23.4%
18 - 64 years old	2019	14.0%	18.1%	12.0%
	2014	16.4%	17.0%	14.0%
	2010	14.0%	16.0%	9.2%
65 and older	2019	8.4%	11.0%	7.1%
	2014	8.1%	6.5%	2.2%
	2010	8.3%	6.3%	1.9%

Source: American Community Survey

- Poverty levels in Clark Township are lower than the County and State and have declined.

Unemployment Rate 2019	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township
	%	%	%
16 years old and over	5.9	9.8	7.9
20 years old and over	5.5	9.7	7.0

Source: American Community Survey

Labor Force Size 2019	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township
	n	n	n
In labor force:	4953003	5048	826
Civilian labor force:	4948824	5011	826
Armed Forces	4179	37	0
Not in labor force	3096766	4284	621

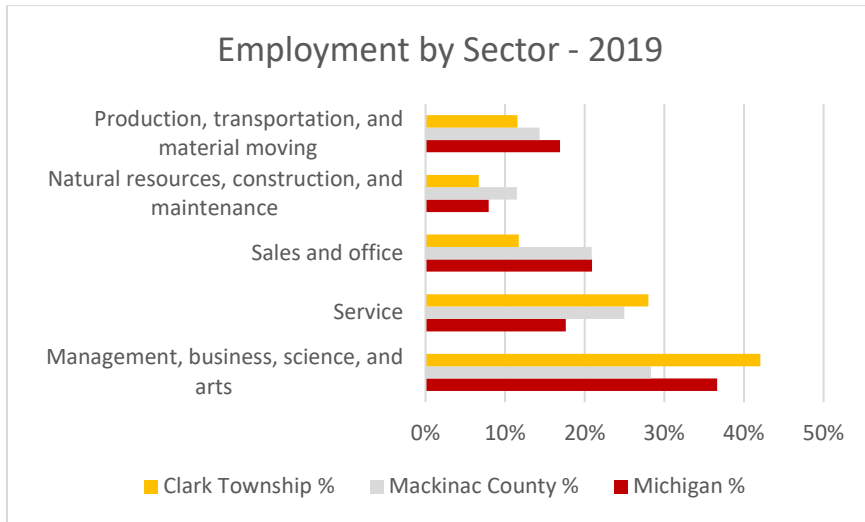
Source: American Community Survey

- Clark Township is equivalent to the State and higher than the County.

Employment to Population Ratio 2019	Michigan	Mackinac County	Clark Township
	%	%	%
16 years old and over	57.8	48.4	52.6
20 years old and over	72.1	66.3	73.7

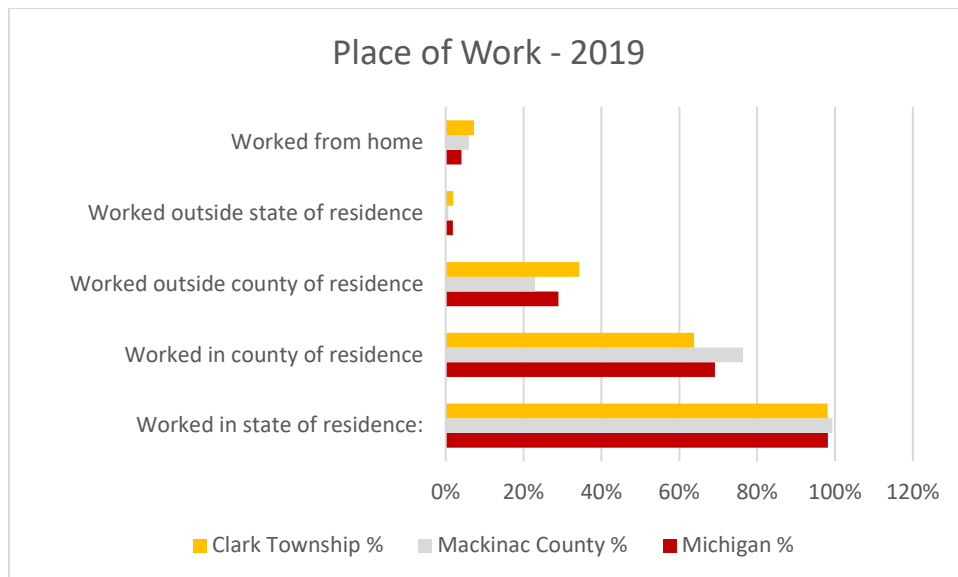
Source: American Community Survey

- Unemployment in Clark Township is higher than State and lower than County.



Source: American Community Survey

- 70% of employment in Clark Township is Service & Management – higher than State and County.



Source: American Community Survey

5 - NATURAL FEATURES

Introduction

Natural features are described as a subset of the natural environment. In basic terms these features are topography, geology, soil, water, and vegetation. They are readily identifiable and establish the most significant element of community character.

Coastal and Surface Water Resources

The most striking feature of the Township is its intricate shoreline of bays, peninsulas and the Les Cheneaux chain of some 36 islands. The Township's 176 miles of coast has diverse characteristics providing beaches, bays, harbors, and marshes. Several Lake Huron reefs are off the Township's coastline including Pomery, Tobin, Martin, Surveyors, and Beaver Tail.

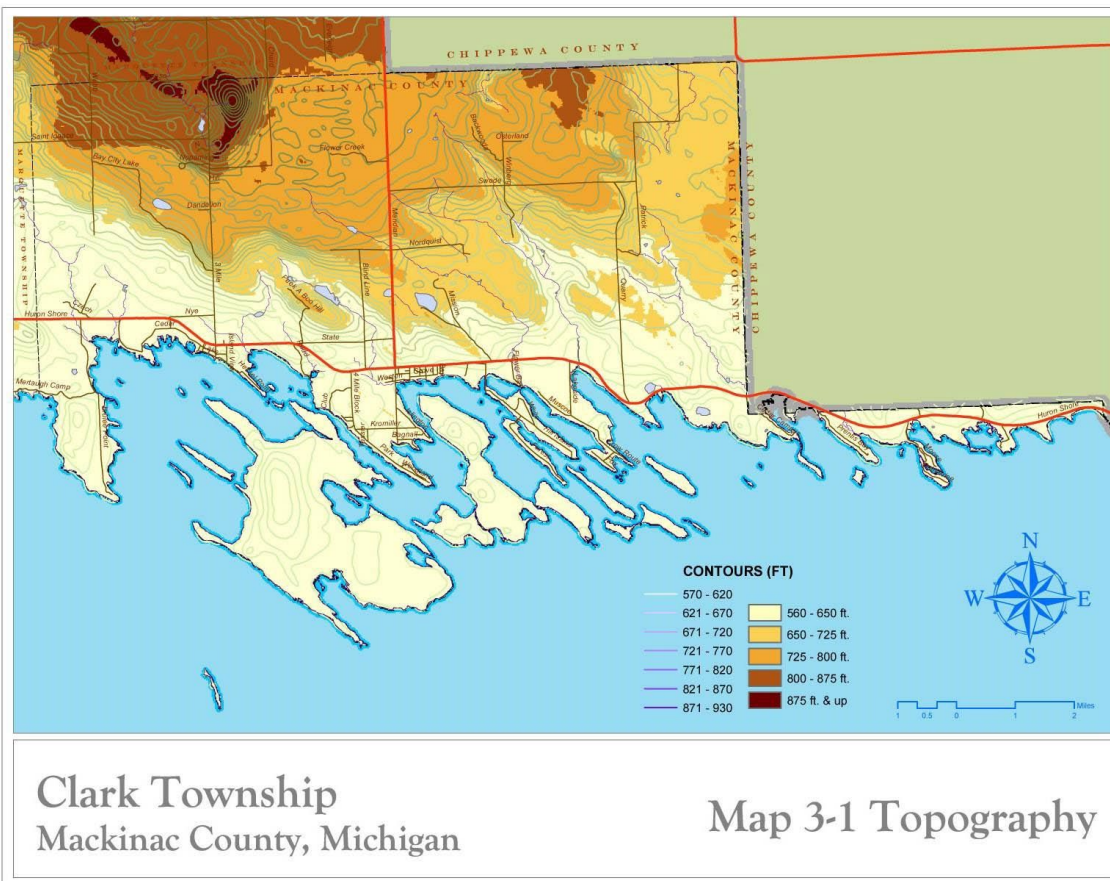
Excluding Lake Huron, surface water area in the Township is relatively small (about 162 acres). Leach, Bay City, Pollock, Mud, and Bass Cove Lakes, and a few small, unnamed lakes represent the primary bulk of inland surface water in Clark Township. Bass Cove Lake is on La Salle Island. Prentiss, McKay, Flowers, Pearson, Steele, Mackinac, and Law Creeks run primarily in a southeasterly direction and provide drainage directly to Lake Huron.

Topography

The topographic characteristics of an area influence drainage, erosion, and construction limitations. Topography also influences community character by providing scenic relief and local landmarks.

In general, topography in the Township can be classified as level to gently rolling with slopes of less than 10%. There are some ridges that present scenic features including Peek-a-Boo hill west of Pearson Creek and Rockview Lookout Tower area near Poglese and Chard Roads. Several hills and ridges throughout the Township, like the creeks, are generally angled in a southeasterly direction and were formed by the scouring action of ancient glacial recession.

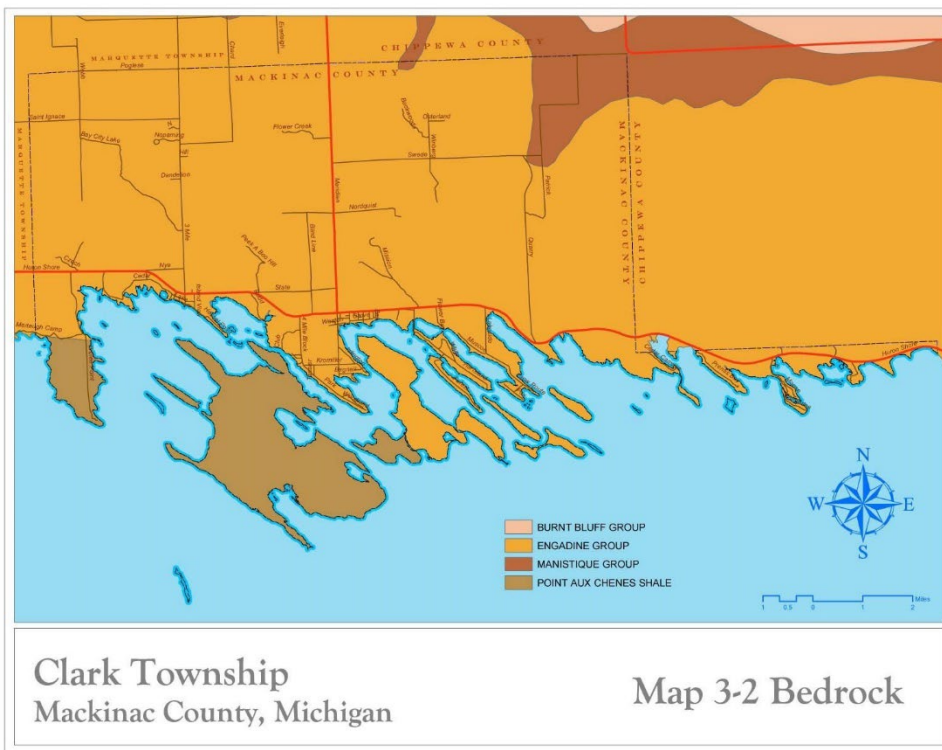
The approximate mean elevation of Lake Huron is 580 feet. Elevations adjacent to Lake Huron range from about 590 feet to about 650 feet. Further inland elevations generally rise reaching a maximum of 950 feet in the northwest half of the Township (the Rockview Lookout area). Islands and peninsulas form gentle mounds with high points that reach only about 50-60 feet above the Lake Huron water level.



Geology

The geology of the Township reveals that more than half of its area has bedrock within ten feet of the surface. Generally, if bedrock is within ten feet of the surface, the overlying land is considered unsuitable for residential, commercial, and industrial development, particularly where public sewer and water facilities are not available. Areas with shallow bedrock have severe limitations for on-site sewage disposal systems and may require specialized treatment systems to overcome challenges and comply with public health requirements.

Most of the bedrock which lies under the Township is known as Paleozoic rock, which consists of limestone or Engadine dolomite. Portions of these deposits are being mined in the Township.



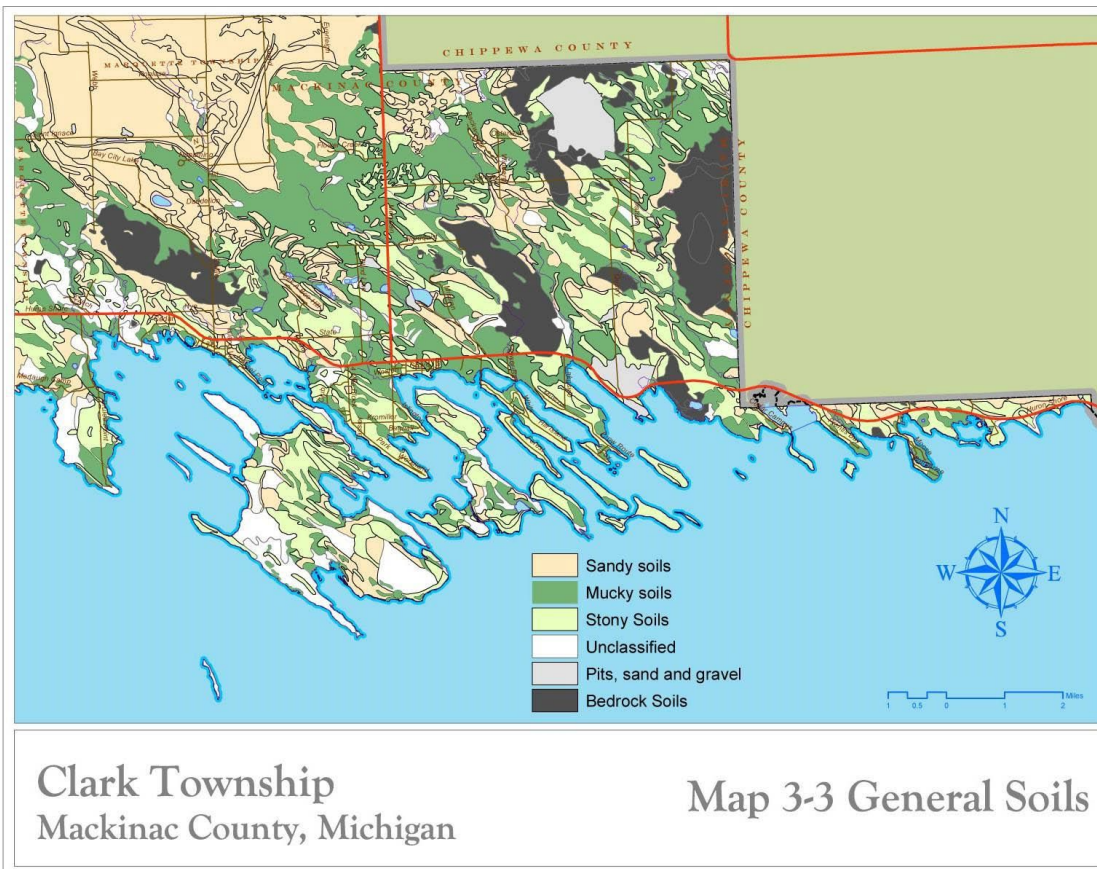
Soils

Soils are an essential part of the area's natural resources and are important in determining building foundation strength, effectiveness of septic tank sewage disposal, plant fertility, erosion hazards, and drainage conditions. All these factors are crucial in determining the nature and extent of development that should occur within the Township.

A general soils survey, done during the 1920's, and an updated soils survey done in 1993 are the sources of reliable soils information available for the Township. Soil analysis indicates that most of the land in the Township has severe limitations for agriculture, commercial forestry, and on-site septic systems. The soil surveys indicate that most of the area in the Township has stony (calcareous) soils except the northwest corner of the Township, where soils are sandier.

The northwest four sections of the Township have heavy blue clays. General soil groupings, reveals a pattern of mixed soil types throughout the Township except for large bedrock soil types to the north, east and south-west. These are the areas with limestone deposits.

Farmland mapping reveals that much of the land within the Township is identified as prime farmland. Extremely small and isolated areas of the Township are prime farmlands of local importance. Limited areas would be considered prime farmland if drained. This reflects general drainage limitations throughout the Township, particularly the north, north-east and southern extents.



Drinking Water Resources

The Les Cheneaux Area relies on its surface and groundwater resources for drinking water sources as well as lake intake systems which accounts for over 120 residences. No public water systems exist at this time or are anticipated. In recognition of this, it is the intent of this Plan to encourage protection of the Township's groundwater resources.

The most significant sources of water supply contamination are landfills, surface impoundment areas, subsurface percolation from septic tanks, open dumps, uncapped or improperly abandoned wells, and underground storage tanks. These uses represent both *point* and *non-point* contamination sources. Point source is the term used to describe contaminants, which originate in the immediate area of the well or tap. All the above, if located near a water supply source, are examples of potential point source polluters. Contaminants from these uses may seep directly down through the soil to the water source.

Non-point source contamination is much more difficult to control because the cause of the problem may be located a considerable distance from a well. This type of contamination is caused by pollutants that filter into an underground aquifer and then migrate slowly through the groundwater aquifer to off-site well and water sources. Prevention of this type of contamination must involve a collective effort on the part of property owners and local officials from a large geographic area. It is the recommendation of this Plan that all existing and future wells be protected from both point and non-point source contamination to the greatest degree possible.

Wetlands and Drainage Ways

Clark Township has a significant amount of wetland. Most of the wetland areas of the Township consist of lowland conifers and low-lying wetland predominate with hydric soils. The presence of wetland can be found scattered throughout Clark Township. Most may not be covered with water year-round but will show the tell tales signs of a wetland habitat by the presence of wetland vegetation and hydric soils. Some of the wetlands in Clark Township are interconnected or contiguous, providing a distinctive network of "natural" areas throughout the Township. Wetlands have traditionally been regarded as wastelands—sources of mosquitoes, flies, and unpleasant odors. Presently wetlands are viewed as a valuable resource responsible for flood control, as habitat for wildlife, and as aesthetic resources contributing to the ecological health and natural beauty of watercourses and lakes. Currently, wetland in the Township is protected by federal and state laws, and a local Township regulation.



Clark Township
Mackinac County, Michigan

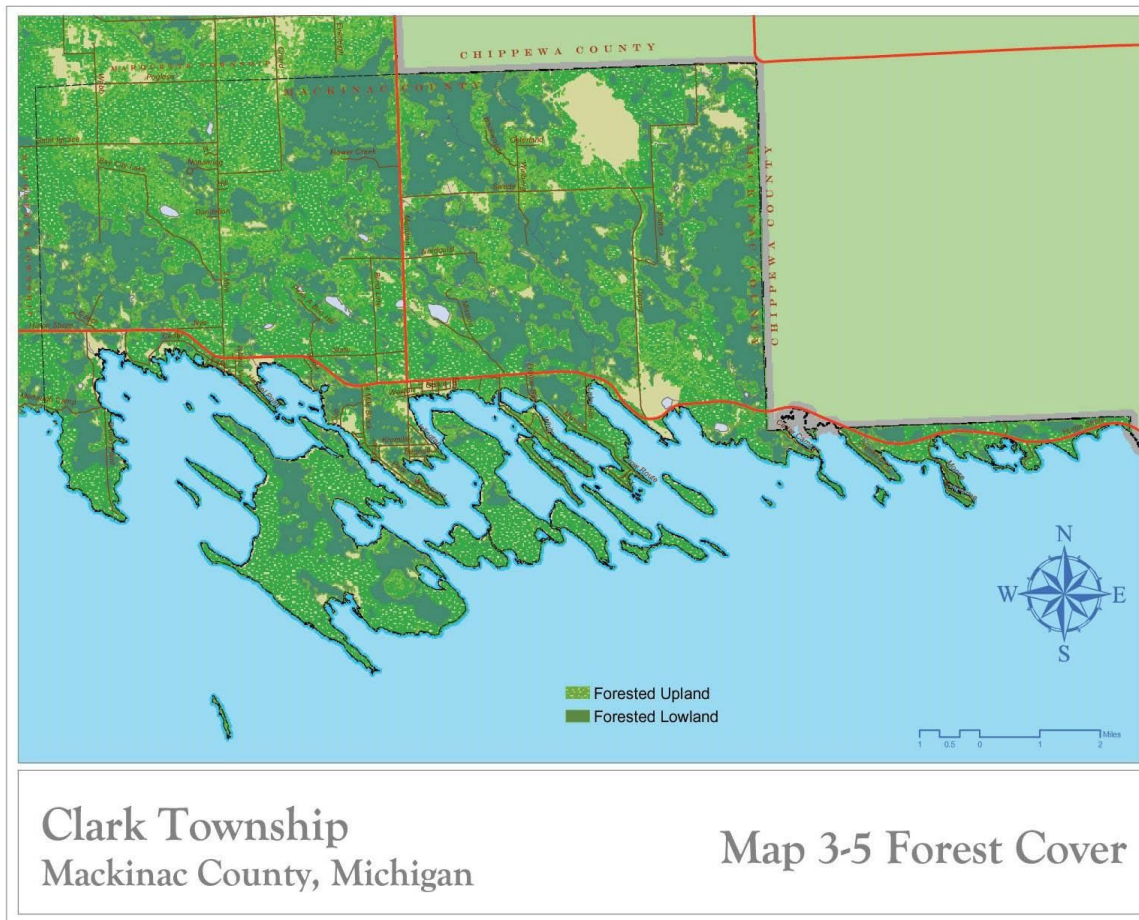
Map 3-4 Wetlands

Vegetative Cover

Most of the Township is under forest cover. The eastern part is composed primarily of second growth mixed hardwoods; and, the western part, primarily of cedars, other conifers, and scrub growth. (see Map 3-5) Much of the forested areas of the Township are not of commercial grade.

Many of the islands are heavily forested as are wetland areas adjacent to creeks and intermittent streams. Extensive areas of wetlands and hydric soils are dispersed throughout the Township.

Most of the waterfront areas of the islands are identified as swampy and low lying. There are no areas classified as floodplains in the Township.



Environmental Quality Issues

Environmental quality in the context of this discussion focuses on the natural environment, namely water quality, aquatic and terrestrial habitat, fisheries and wildlife populations, and human impacts upon them. A variety of human activities, most of them associated directly or indirectly with land use, impact environmental quality. Environmental quality is degraded primarily by 1) the introduction of pollutants, 2) the alteration of natural processes (e.g., watershed functions) and 3) the destruction of aquatic or terrestrial habitat.

Pollutants

Pollutants are usually byproducts of human activity. They are generally transported and distributed via air or water. Contributors of pollutants include municipal and industrial wastewater treatment discharges, residential, commercial, and agricultural nonpoint runoff, individual septic systems, soil sediment carried in stormwater runoff, waste disposal sites, leaking storage tanks, toxic waste spills, waste injection wells and atmospheric deposition.

Municipal sewage waste is typically discharged to receiving waters via a pipe, ditch, or channel (point source). Nonpoint pollutants come from dispersed sources (e.g., pavement runoff, mining activities, construction sites, agricultural fields, faulty septic systems) and are transported via air, groundwater and/or stormwater runoff to receiving water bodies. Pollutants are usually placed in one of four general categories: nutrients, sediments, toxics, and pathogens.

Plant nutrients, primarily nitrogen and phosphorus, that enter surface waters in concentrated levels can drastically alter natural ecological processes by stimulating booms in aquatic plant growth. Such booms choke surface waters with weeds and algae, deplete oxygen levels, and can smother certain species of aquatic organisms, changing the ecological composition of water habitat.

Since there is limited agricultural activity in the Township, most nutrient loads to Township waters are likely to come from overuse of commercial fertilizers in residential and commercial development and from faulty septic systems.

Potential pollutants and nutrient discharges from the outflows at the Township's sewage lagoons will require continued monitoring. Efforts to minimize any effects from this outflow will be undertaken as determined necessary.

Soil Erosion

Soil erosion and sedimentation are a major source of pollution to Michigan waterways. Stormwater runoff washes soil from unprotected ground and carries it to receiving waters. As the soil travels in runoff, it picks up additional pollutants (oils, pesticides, etc.). Eventually, eroded soil settles surface waters as sediment. Sediment: 1) damages the ability of the waterway to serve its natural functions by

eroding channels, depleting oxygen, and smothering habitat; 2) effects navigability and recreational uses of surface waters, and 3) clogs drainageways, increasing public costs and chances of flooding.

Because of its relatively high percentage of forest cover, most of the Township's sandy or gravelly soils are protected from excessive runoff and erosion. Forest cover slows runoff velocities and, therefore, its damaging effects. The Township should take measures to assure the retention of vegetative cover to protect against future soil erosion and sedimentation. The standards and objectives of the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act will be used as control guidelines in these efforts.

Toxic Substances

A toxic substance is defined as a substance which can cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutations, physiological or reproductive malfunctions or physical deformities in any organism or its offspring, or which can become poisonous after concentration in the food chain or in combination with other substances. Many toxics are persistent in that they do not readily break down. Toxics can originate from industrial and commercial processes, leaking underground storage tanks, faulty landfills, or the misuse of certain household products.

Pathogens (disease-causing bacteria, viruses, or parasites) generally originate from human or animal waste which enter surface or groundwater through leaching and/or runoff. The primary source for pathogen contamination in the Township is via faulty septic systems.

Alteration of Natural Processes

A brief overview of the natural processes of an environment can best be explained at the watershed level. A watershed is that land area that drains into a lake, river, or creek system. Although it is not completely isolated, a watershed is a rather self-contained biological unit. Its significant in that environmental quality is often overlooked in the arena of human activity. Very briefly, components of a watershed and their relative functions are:

- *Flowing water* - Microorganisms help breakdown pollutants through natural biological processes. Water is aerated as it travels downstream over channel obstructions. Habitat is provided to many useful aquatic species which help feed terrestrial organisms.
- *Drainageways* - Drainageways convey stormwater and meltwater to surface waters, allowing sediment and other pollutants to settle out prior to discharge into surface water.
- *Wetlands* - Wetlands provide a buffer for flooding by storing stormwaters. Silt and sediment settle or filter out before discharge into a lake or stream. Diverse habitat is also provided for fish and wildlife. Wetlands serve as breeding ground for many species of fish, insects, and waterfowl.
- *Groundwater* - Groundwater adds to the base flow of surface waters during the dry season, stabilizing micro ecosystems. It also very often is the source for domestic water consumption.

- *Vegetation* - Vegetation stabilizes soils, preventing erosion and sedimentation. Slows the velocity of stormwater and its damaging effects. Provides cover to adjacent streams which keeps water temperature down (this is especially important in trout streams).
- *Soils* - Soils provide a medium and nutrients for vegetation.

Human Intervention

Human activity in the environment can greatly disrupt the natural processes found in a watershed. Various land uses have their own brand of impacts on the watershed, water quality, and ultimately, environmental quality.

New construction sites contribute sediment to surface waters. Once developed, stormwater flows over impervious surfaces (rooftops, parking areas, roadways, and sidewalks) picking up soil, dust, gas, oil, road salt, and other residues, which are quickly transported into drains, streams, wetlands, and lakes. Residential uses can contribute fertilizers and pesticides to surface waters. Improper disposal of hazardous wastes (e.g., oils and solvents) can contribute to water quality degradation.

Malfunctioning septic systems can degrade both surface and groundwater quality. Septic systems can release toxics into groundwater. Chemical solvents are not broken down the same way sewage is broken down (bacterially). Many chemical solvents can pass through a septic system and soils in their original state. Mown lawns provide much less buffering for stormwater than natural vegetation does. Impervious surfaces in residential development also carry residues to surface waters.

Agriculture introduces nutrients, pesticides, and sediment which flow as runoff into surface waters, some pollutants also reach groundwater. Bulk storage of animal manure and farm chemicals, and underground and above ground fuel storage tanks are examples of point source threats. There is limited agricultural activity in the Township, so issues associated with agricultural pollution are not as acute as they are in other areas of the state.

Act 307 Sites

307 sites are parcels of known soils or groundwater pollution. Those land use activities that have the highest risk of becoming 307 sites are those that generate, use, store and dispose of hazardous substances. These are generally private commercial and industrial operations, but public facilities can have operations which use hazardous substances. Many commonly used materials are hazardous substances including petroleum-based products, chemicals, solvents, acids, and salts. Hazardous waste generators must be registered with the Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). The Township hosts three facilities registered with the MDNR; an AT&T relay station on M-134; which generates nonhazardous industrial waste; Michigan Limestone, which is classified as a small quantity generator. A former salt storage facility was found contaminated. The site was mitigated and sold to a private individual.

There are two sites of known environmental contamination in the County identified under P.A. 307 of 1982, the Michigan Environmental Response Act. Neither of the identified sites are in Clark Township. There are only 12 hazardous waste generators in the County.

Underground storage tanks can also pose threats to groundwater quality. According to the Michigan State University Institute for Water Research, "*a leakage rate of two drops per second can result in the loss of up to 500 gallons of fuel per year and can contaminate up to 500 million gallons of water to the level where odor and taste make it unacceptable for drinking*". In Michigan, underground storage tanks are regulated by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality under Part 211, Underground Storage Tank Regulations, of the Natural Resources and Environment Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451). Although the existing data base does not have township-specific data it can be searched by mailing address. As of June 2008, there were 37 facilities having Cedarville or Hessel addresses. Of these facilities, 28 are considered closed and no longer have active tanks at the facility. A total of 40 tanks are registered to the remaining 9 sites. Of these tanks, 25 have been removed from the ground, 3 have been closed in the ground, 1 is temporarily out of use and 12 are active.

6 – PUBLIC SERVICES, FACILITIES, AND TRANSPORTATION

Introduction

This chapter reviews existing and planned public facilities, services, and transportation systems in Clark Township. Public services and related infrastructure include sewage disposal, water service, fire and police protection, emergency medical services, recreational, and cultural facilities. Transportation relates to various classifications and types of roads within the Township.

The intent of this chapter is to provide a strategy where public services and transportation systems are delivered in tandem with development activity so that land development occurs harmoniously with adjacent lands and in a manner that is consistent with public's ability to provide needed public facilities. A description of each service and system is provided below.

Sewage Treatment

Until 1993, only limited sewer service was available in the Township. The first sewer system in Clark Township was constructed in 1972, serving only the Village of Cedarville. The initial design combined gravity flow and pressurization systems and consisted of two pump stations, two lagoons and a spray irrigation facility. Pond leakage, lack of an adequate discharge system, unfavorable conditions for on-site sewage disposal systems and aquifer contamination prompted the need to upgrade the old system, enlarge its processing capacity and consequently expand the service area. The original service area was built around M-134 and Griffith Street, serving approximately 200 dwelling units. Currently we are servicing 248 customers in the original services area. An expansion of the system, completed during the summer of 1993, extended sewer lines west along M-134 into Hessel and Hessel Point; and east of Cedarville along M-134, into Connors Point, Hill Island and No. 8 Island. The most recent expansion, completed in 2003, extended service lines to Hillcrest Lane.

The existing sewer system has been designed to accommodate current and future demands. The current capacity of this system is approximately 0.2 million gallons per day (mgd) as determined by the capacity of the existing storage lagoons. The pumping and processing facility has the capacity to process more than the storage lagoons will hold and expandability is limited to the availability of suitable land for more storage space.

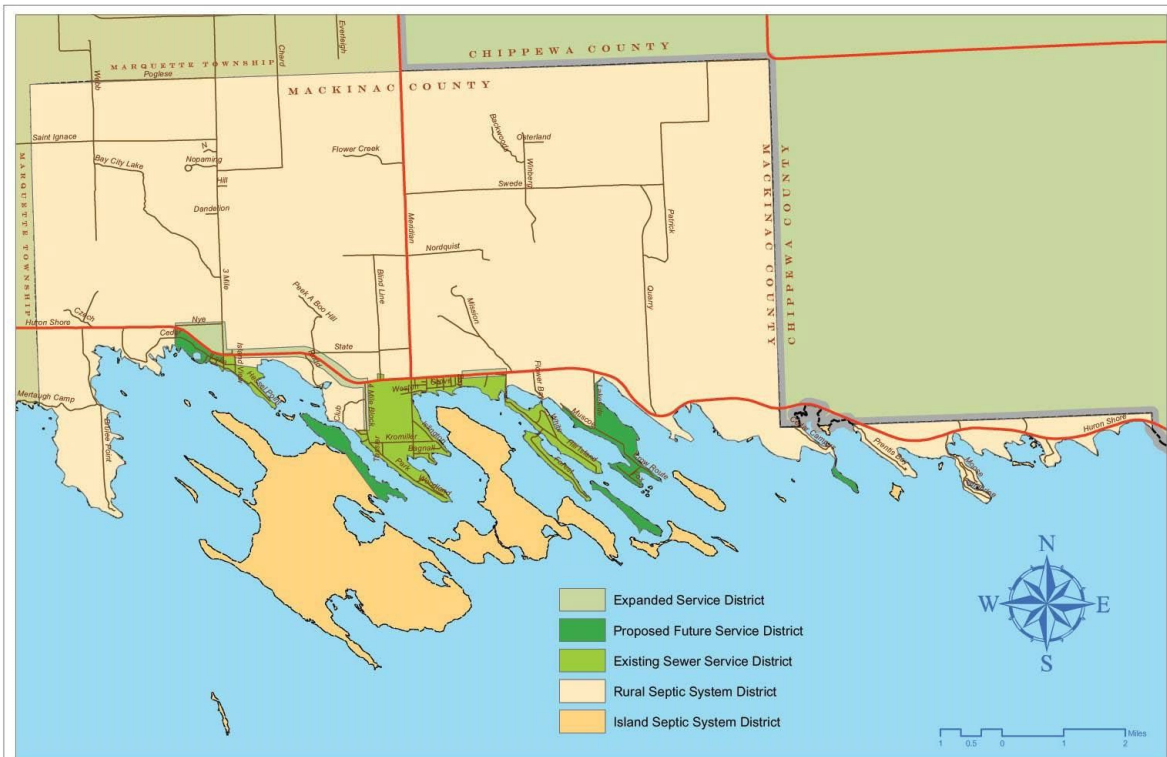
TABLE 4-1 SEWER FACILITY CAPACITY					
Plant	Current Built Capacity	Average Daily Flows	Excess Capacity	Treatment Level	Expand-ability
Clark Township Wastewater Facility	0.2002 mgd	0.108 mgd	0.092 mgd	Tertiary discharged into Pearson Creek/Lake Huron	Limited by geography

At present, all hook up requests within the existing service area have been satisfied and significant adjacent undeveloped land remains. Since the system's completion, the Blindline flow meters have been measured & monitored. An average daily flow has been estimated at 0.108 mgd. This was derived by multiplying the average household size (2.5 persons per household) times a per person usage rate (75 gallons per day) times the current number of hookups (576). The excess capacity under this method of calculation is 0.092 mgd (see Table 4-1).

By using the same method to derive unutilized capacity, approximately 490 additional residential units could be accommodated before consuming the excess capacity. Applying 490 dwelling units to the current allowable minimum development density for R-1 through R-3 zones (1 du/10,000 sf) the developed area would be slightly less than 113 acres. In contrast, the 576 hook-ups in the existing service area extend over 1500 acres, much of which is sparsely developed land. Most of the existing development activity is concentrated near the waterfront. The presence of wetlands, hydric soils or other sensitive environmental features will limit the full utilization of the entire 1500 acres for future development purposes. For planning purposes, approximately 500 additional acres can be added to the existing service area to include both properties within and immediately adjacent to the existing service district. These 500 additional acres is comprised of undeveloped properties where sewer main and lateral lines are already in place and will constitute an expanded Service District as described (or discussed) below.

Public Service Districts

The development of public service districts is based upon the strategy that as new development occurs, public services necessary to serve it are in place and where no services exist, the land has sufficient carrying capacity to accommodate development. It is a strategy intended to concentrate development above 1 dwelling/acre in select areas of the Township. Map 4-1 depicts five public service districts: Existing Service District, Expanded Service District, proposed Future Service District, Rural Service District, and Island Service District.



Clark Township
Mackinac County, Michigan

Map 4-1 Public Service Districts

Existing, Expanded and Future Service Districts

The Existing Service District includes all the area encompassing existing hook-ups and the Expanded Service District includes adjacent land that could easily be included at some point in the future. Together, the existing and expanded service districts consume the entire capacity of the existing sewer system. Thus, additional areas could be served only with expansion of the treatment facility. Future expansion of the system requires construction of additional storage lagoons. If constructed, additional treatment lines could be extended to those properties which lie adjacent to the waterfront but outside of the expanded service district. Expansion would involve extending existing sewer laterals east and west along M-134.

Table 4-2 As evidenced in the following table, an indicator of growth within the township can be derived from the number of building permits issued annually. Although not all permits represent new construction, they do serve as a barometer of new demands on system infrastructure. At the current rate of growth, the need for sewer service within the proposed future service district is at least 20 years away. A change in growth rates, however, could accelerate the need for service within this area.

TABLE 4-2: WELL AND SEPTIC SYSTEM PERMITS CLARK TOWNSHIP, MACKINAC COUNTY		
Year	Total building permits issued	Value of building permits
2011	41	N/A
2012	37	\$2,067,700.00
2013	48	\$2,391,500.00
2014	49	\$1,785,275.00

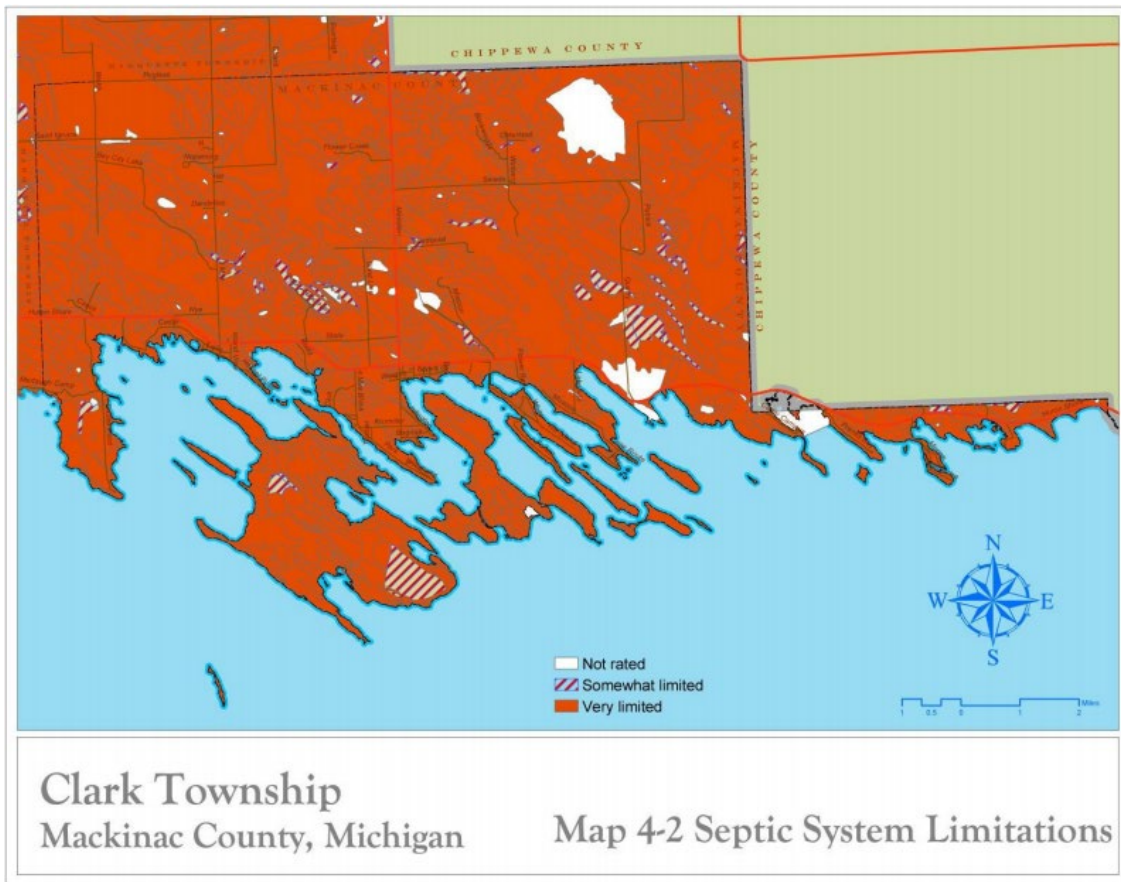
Rural Service Districts

The Rural Service District is characterized by low development densities, no public infrastructure, and a predominance of septic field systems. Porous soils and shallow geology have made for severe conditions for the siting of septic systems in over 98% of the Township's land area. Map 4-2 graphically depicts surficial soils limitations for residential septic systems. This map should also be viewed in tandem with Geological Characteristics. Limitations ranging from severe to slight are shown with severe limitations solidly shaded and slight limitations shown with cross-hatching. Areas not rated are shown in white.

This map also indicates a part of the northwest portion of the Township as suitable for development based on septic systems. It is characterized by natural geologic formations of unique proportions and composition, marked by glacial escarpments, perched wetlands, and sharp contrasts in elevation. In particular, the Rockview Lookout Tower sits approximately 180 feet above the mean elevation of the

township, providing an opportunity for panoramic views of the surround landscape. This area's unique physical characteristics, together with its relative suitability for accommodating private septic systems, has resulted in a high level of land parcellation, significantly more intensive than other sections of the township.

Presently, the Luce, Mackinac, Alger, Schoolcraft (LMAS) District Health Department administers the septic approval processes for all of Mackinac County. The United States Soil Conservation Service completed all field work for a modern soil survey and identified all soil classifications in a report put out during 1994. With current information in-hand, LMAS County Health officials can conduct area suitability assessments with confidence and knowledge of Clark Township's indigenous soil conditions. Future residents in the Rural Service Districts have the benefit of this resource when selecting future homesites.



Island Service Districts

Many of the environmentally sensitive properties are being given protection through acquisition by nature conservancies or organizations.

The availability of public services within the Island Service District are extremely limited as access is by watercraft only and seasonal change makes the provision of most services during winter months very difficult. The islands are also host to some of the Township's most sensitive environments and are vulnerable to intensive forms of development. Current development density on the islands is generally low but, is more intensive than found in the rural areas of the mainland.

The intent of this Plan is to encourage only low-density future development on the islands in areas that avoid sensitive environments. Doing so will not only protect areas that contribute to the tourist economy, but also will avoid the need for extensive public infrastructure and associated costs.

Potable Water

There is no public water supply system in Clark Township and no plans are underway to develop one. Individual wells tapping groundwater are the most common system utilized, although some island residents get their water directly from Lake Huron.

The LMAS District Health Department has recommended that a public water supply system be developed. Private wells in select areas of the Township have become contaminated by failing septic systems. Most existing private wells are shallow; less than 100 feet deep. Furthermore, groundwater is in unconfined aquifers so there is no cap (clay, or other impervious material) between the upper and lower aquifer layers found within bedrock. The bedrock is comprised of dolomite limestone and is fractured due to glaciation and weathering over time. These fractures permit contaminants to easily migrate from upper to lower aquifers. The LMAS District Health Department requires that all new wells be drilled to depths greater than 100 and that a grouting system, which seals the entire casing, be employed to mitigate the migration of contaminants.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater drainage has been identified as a problem in many areas south of M-134, particularly within the Hodeck Road corridor. Clark Township's coastal areas filling and grading have altered natural drainage patterns. Old stormwater drainage tiles have collapsed in many areas near the Lake.

Two primary issues stand in the way of resolving existing drainage problems.

- The lack of a County Drain Commissioner with the authority to develop standards, regulate and finance drainage projects.
- The need to protect existing wetland amenities, which have already been damaged by improper filling and grading activities. Since the Township has limited agricultural development, drainage facilities would be primarily for residential and commercial development. One of the best ways to address drainage issues is preventive: work to reduce sediment and hazardous chemical discharge from existing development and isolate future development and redevelopment from hydric soils, coastal floodplains, and wetlands.

Electric Power

Electric power is provided by Cloverland Electric Co-op, Inc., of Dafer. Electric power service, for domestic, industrial, and commercial uses is considered adequate at this time. Alternative clean energy sources, including wind and solar power, are encouraged in appropriate locations within the Township.

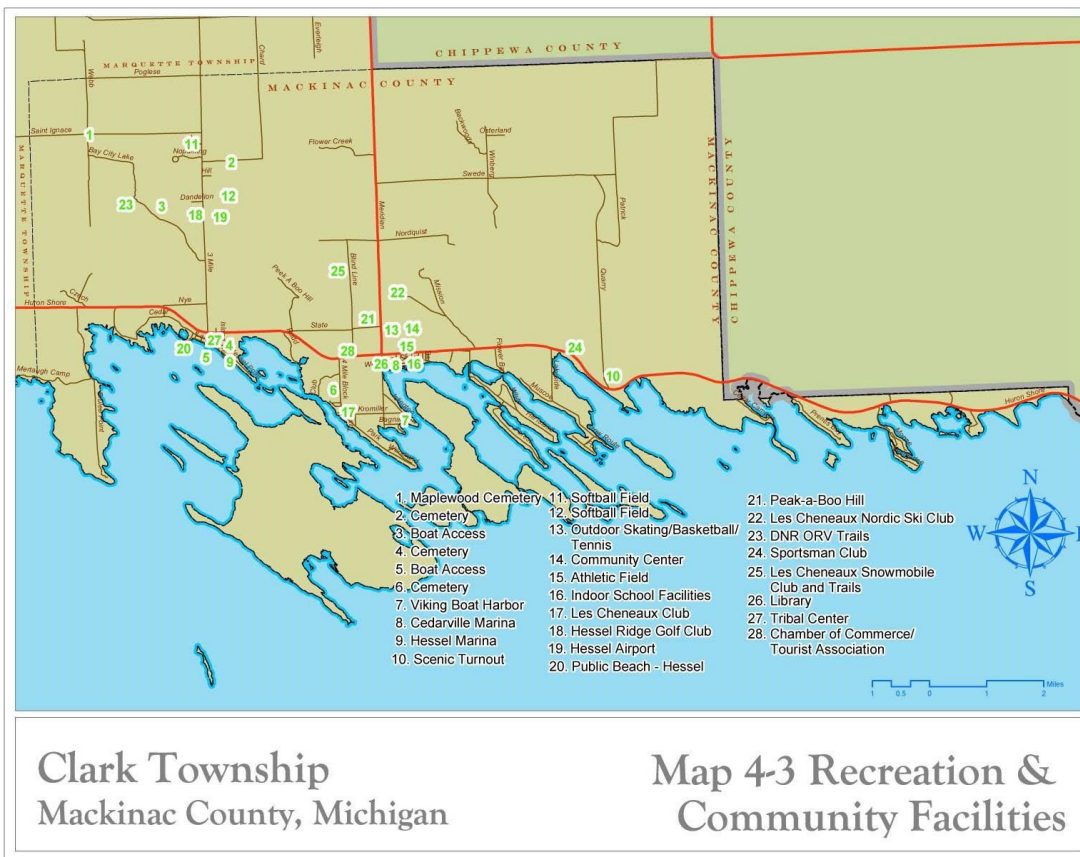
Emergency Services

The Township has excellent fire protection equipment and services. The Township continues to maintain and improve standards and equipment. The islands however, because of their isolation, cannot get as prompt responses as available on the mainland. The Township does have a fire boat although the service available to the islands is very limited. Police protection and marine law enforcement are provided by the County Sheriff's Department. Ambulance services are provided by the township volunteer EMS along with available paramedic intercepts.

Recreational and Cultural Facilities

There are a variety of recreational facilities available in the Township, including boating and camping facilities, trails, play fields, gyms, and a golf course (see Table 4-3 and Map 4-3). The Township is responsible for both the Hessel and Cedarville mooring, launching and harbor facilities, the community center, and several outdoor sport facilities. The Cedarville Branch Library, located in Clark Township, is a separate entity from the Township. Over the past several years, the Township sought and located a new public beach on the waterfront of Hessel as a compliment to existing recreational opportunities.

The Clark Township Recreation Plan inventories the existing facilities within the community and identifies opportunities for expanded recreational facilities over the coming years. The Recreation Plan and this Master Plan are to be read jointly to fully understand the recreational objectives and intentions of the Township.



CLARK TOWNSHIP RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES		
NAME	OWNERSHIP	FACILITY NUMBER*
Maplewood (Italian) Cemetery	Township	1
Fenlon Cemetery	Township	2
State Rec Land/ boat access	State	3
Indian Cemetery	Township	4
Hessel Boat Launch	Township	5
Cedar Cemetery	Township	6
Viking Boat Harbor	Private	7
Cedarville Marine	Private	8
Mertaugh Boat Works	Private	9
Scenic Turnout	State	10
Les Cheneaux snowmobile club & trails	Township	11
Airport Softball Field	Township	12
Future consideration	Township	13
Community Center	Township	14
Athletic Field	Les Cheneaux Schools	15
Indoor School Facility	Les Cheneaux Schools	16
Les Cheneaux Golf Club	Private	17
Hessel Ridge Golf Club	Private	18
Hessel Airport	Township	19
Public Beach – Hessel	Township	20
Peek-a-boo-hill trail	Township and State	21
Les Cheneaux Nordic Ski Club	Private	22
DNR – ORV Trails	State	23
Sportsman’s Club	Private	24
Snows Heritage Park	Township	25
Library	Private	26
Tribal Center	Private	27
Chamber of Commerce/ Tourist Association	Private	28
*Numbers correspond to identical numbers on Map 4-3		

Cedarville & Hessel Harbor

Clark Township has a profound history of recreational boating activity supported by municipal operated Harbors in both Cedarville & Hessel. Both offer boat launching, short- & long-term boat slip rental, and car/trailer parking.

Transportation

The western border of the Township is approximately 24 miles northeast of the Mackinac Bridge. Highway M-134 provides major east-west access, running near the coastline and through the Township. Highway M-129 generally bisects the Township and provides major north/south access, starting at Cedarville running north to the City of Sault Ste. Marie. Both highways are in good condition and carry a large volume of traffic throughout the year (see Map 4-4). M-129 is also Michigan's principal meridian. Three Mile Road running North/South and serving the Western sections of the Township, functions as a collector road primarily for rural residents.

Although most roads in the Township are gravel many principal arterials and collector roads are paved, including Nordquist Road and Swede Road east of M-129 (see Map 4-5). The Michigan Department of Transportation and the Mackinac County Road Commission have classified Clark Township roadways as follows:

- M-134 and M-129 are classified as state trunklines.
- M-134 from I-75 to Detour is now designated as a scenic highway.
- Outside Hessel and Cedarville, and inland from the coast; St Ignace, 3-Mile, and Swede Roads are classified as county primaries.
- In Cedarville, Hodeck, Meridian and Beach Streets are classified as county primaries.
- In Hessel, part of Cedar Road west of 3-mile is classified as county primary.
- Other small stretches of county primary roads in the Township include:
 - Meridian Road (M- 129), south of Cedarville.
 - State Ave., west of Blind Line; ☐ the road out to Connor's Point; ☐ Lakeside Road.
 - Hill Island Road.
- All other roads or streets in the Township are classified as county local roads.

Road access throughout the Township is limited. Most standard Townships have a grid-like road system every mile or so. However, Clark Township has several sections with limited or nonexistent road access. The only islands with road linkage to the mainland are Hill Island and Island No. 8. This lack of access is not necessarily negative. Oftentimes, road access inadvertently promotes fragmentation of the land base and sprawl development patterns. Limited access in the Township is also a land use issue and is discussed in Chapter 6.

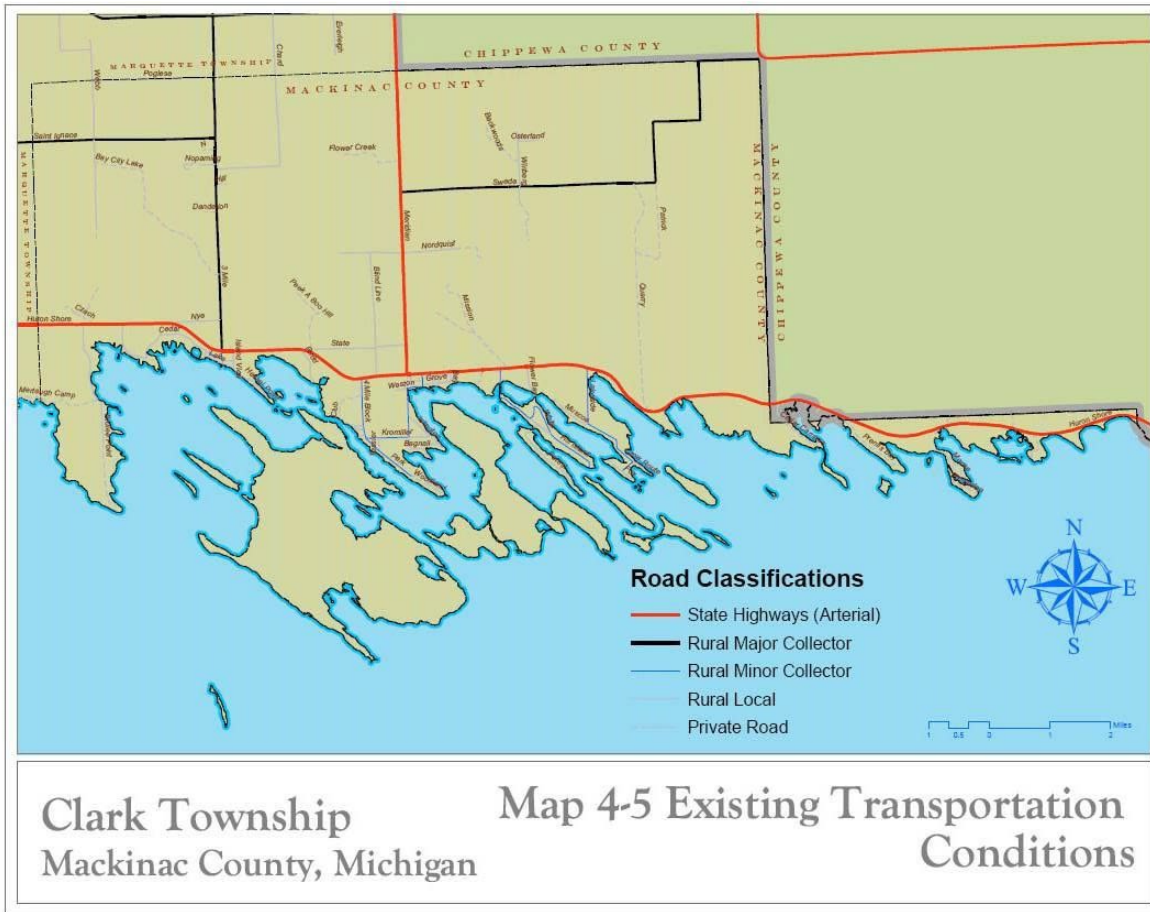
With the acquisition of large tracks of environmentally sensitive land, relevant green zones are established, and dispersed housing patterns will become more focused.



The current system has adequate capacity for existing and future demand for the next 10 years based upon current growth rates. The intent of this Plan is to promote continuance of the present level of service and to make minor future improvements as deemed appropriate to meet growing transportation demand.

Township Airport

The Clark Township Airport is located north of Hessel off 3 Mile Road. This facility services only small aircraft. Consisting of a black top runway, a hangar and other storage buildings. fuel is available on the honor system and plans are in place for a GPS system to be added as well as aprons, tie downs, and hangar expansions. The blacktop runway which is now 3700' is also being looked at to expand to 5000' to accommodate larger aircraft as well as add another taxiway to create a roundabout. More parking is



also being considered.

Other Access Points

The Township is also readily accessed via private boat at either the Hessel or Cedarville docks, excursion and fishing vessels use these facilities. The harbor at Hessel is more modern and can accommodate small to medium sized vessels. There is an unmet need for commercial vessel dockage in Hessel and Cedarville.

There are recreational boat launch facilities at both Cedarville and Hessel. The existing marina in Cedarville was constructed to meet the increasing demand for pleasure boat facilities.

The Port Dolomite dock is a deep-water port capable of handling heavier ship traffic than it currently supports. The joint use of this facility by new industrial operations that would not interfere with the operations of the current quarry is encourage.

Revision History:

- Drafts 1-5 are the versions leading up to Planning Commission finalizing their recommendation.
- Draft 6, 10/14/21: Reflects input from Gil Newberry (citizen). Mainly corrections to word choices & formatting. Added summary of census data.