

# COVERT TOWNSHIP

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Covert Township Awarded \$475K for Boardwalk Improvement Project via Michigan Spark Grant Program

COVERT TOWNSHIP, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN – On Thursday, February 9, 2023, The Michigan Department of Natural Resources announced Covert Township as a recipient of \$475,000 to improve the north boardwalk at the Covert Park Beach and Campground via the Michigan Spark Grant. The grant is expected to cover all costs associated with the improvement of an aging 600-foot wooden boardwalk and stairs that passes through critical dunes from the park to Lake Michigan. The boardwalk serves as a secondary access to the beach from the park, and will provide visitors with a safe, stable walking surface through the natural dunes, while protecting the ecosystem. Improvements include adding safety rails, widening the boardwalk, installing benches, as well as using a recycled composite material instead of wood to minimize maintenance and prolong the life of the project.

Michigan Spark Grants offer the DNR a chance to reach people in communities whose economic opportunities and public health were most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This reimagined approach activates historic support for projects that provide safe, accessible public recreation facilities and spaces to improve people's health, introduce new recreation experiences, build on existing park infrastructure and make it easier for people to enjoy the outdoors.

Covert Park Beach and Campground is located at 80559 32nd Ave, Covert, MI 49043. The park is owned by Covert Township and sits on 50 acres, including 1300 feet of Lake Michigan beach. The seasonal park is open to visitors and campers May 15 through October 15, and offers 63 campsites for both primitive and RV campers, including four cabins. A pavilion, picnic area and playground are also available to visitors. In the last several years, efforts have been made to rehabilitate the park's facilities. This has included landscaping, electrical upgrades and a new washroom facility completed in 2020. This park is the Township's only public access to Lake Michigan.

For more information on this project, please contact Covert Township at (269) 764-8986 or visit [coverttwp.com](http://coverttwp.com).

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