

CROSSROADS VILLAGE & HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD

geneseecountyparks.org | 800.648.PARK

Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission
5045 Stanley Rd. Flint, MI 48506

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GENESEEE  COUNTY PARKS
Get away. Right away.

GENESEEE
COUNTY
PARKS 



EXPERIENCE LIFE IN A 19TH CENTURY MICHIGAN VILLAGE.

Imagine being surrounded by history, where the school bell is calling and you can smell the sweet scent of apples waiting to be pressed and the banjo player is singing a familiar tune. Imagine life in the 1800's...then come experience it first-hand in this remarkable village of more than 30 historic homes, shops and trades buildings all moved here from around Genesee County and put back into use!

Watch the blacksmith pound red-hot iron into the perfect horse shoes. Feel the floor of the gristmill begin to tremble when its huge stone wheels come together to grind grains. Sit at a desk in the one-room Stanley School and understand what daily lessons were like for the hundreds of children who learned their ABCs here.

If you think butter always came in boxes, we'll give you fresh cream in a churn so you can make butter as families did a hundred years ago. You can use a hand pump to draw water for laundry and scrub clothes on a traditional wash board. And when chores are done, there might be cookies waiting for you, baked in a wood-burning oven by our volunteers and cooled on the windowsill!

We're presenting plays and magic shows throughout the day in the restored second-floor opera house, just upstairs from the General Store, and our Carousel and Superior Wheel, both over a century old, are waiting to take you for a spin! Reserve your seats for a ride through the countryside on our historic narrow-gauge Huckleberry Railroad, and explore the quiet waters of Mott Lake on the beautiful paddlewheel riverboat, the Genesee Belle.

Get away, right away and experience the rich history of Genesee County. It's all right around the corner at Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad!

Joe Krapohl

President, Genesee County Parks
and Recreation Commission

PS: Planning to visit Crossroads Village more than once this year? Get big savings with a Family Annual Pass. We think it's the best value in history!

THERE'S SO MUCH TO SEE AND DO.

Spend A Day In The Village

There are so many 19th century experiences to appreciate at Crossroads Village! Taste the cider being made daily at the apple press and the flour ground by the miller at the Atlas water-powered grist mill. Watch the blacksmith hammering hot iron into fireplace tools and the printmaker at work on the old printing press. Each villager has an important role - from barber to broom maker, doctor to seamstress, homemaker to school teacher. And each helps keep the Village running smoothly.

If you like hands-on history lessons, roll up your sleeves and come help with chores! Draw water from the pump to use for everything from cooking to tending the garden. Sit with a sturdy metal wash board and do laundry. Turn cream into butter. Experience first-hand the important activities that were part of the daily lives of early Genesee County families.

When it's time for a little entertainment, catch the delightful 20-minute performances presented several times each day at the Colwell Opera House. They're included with your admission.

Kids Love Our History Programs

The Village offers daily programs for kids, so the lessons from their history books about the lives of pioneer children become real-life experiences they'll remember forever.





COMING 'ROUND THE BEND!

Our handsome train depot was moved to the Village from the city of Davison, and that's where you'll find the Huckleberry Railroad waiting to take you on a 40-minute ride through woods and meadows and along the shore of beautiful Mott Lake.

The railroad's collection of cars includes 11 original and replica wooden coaches. Our two authentic coal-fired locomotives were built by Baldwin Locomotive Works. Engine #464 carried miners to Colorado on their quest for gold and silver, and they gave her the nickname Mud Hen.

Wondering how our beloved narrow-gauge Huckleberry Railroad got her name? Old timers say that huckleberries grew alongside the track, and because the train moved so slowly, passengers could climb off, pick a handful of berries, and step back onboard before the last car passed them by. Come experience the "modern" way travelers crossed the country one hundred years ago!



THE BELLE OF THE VILLAGE.

There's a surprise waiting for you at the Village dock. It's the beautiful Genesee Belle, a replica of the sternwheeler riverboats that gained favor plying the waters of the mighty Mississippi a hundred years ago. Step aboard and join us for a scenic 45-minute cruise around Mott Lake!

From the deck of the Belle, you'll have clear views of Bluebell Beach and the lake's wooded shoreline. Watch for soaring eagles, white-tailed deer and other wildlife that make their home in this peaceful setting.

The Belle runs Wednesday through Sunday during summer and on October weekends for "Halloween Ghosts and Goodies." Want a cool treat? Board the Belle at Stepping Stone Falls for Beat the Heat evening cruises in July and August, and for lunch cruises in summer and fall.

You can also charter the Belle for your special event. She offers a romantic backdrop for weddings and receptions and a unique setting for business gatherings. Her lower level is climate controlled for your comfort.

For more information, go to geneseecountyparks.org, or call the reservation office at 800.648.PARK, ext. 6.

'ROUND AND 'ROUND AND 'ROUND YOU GO!

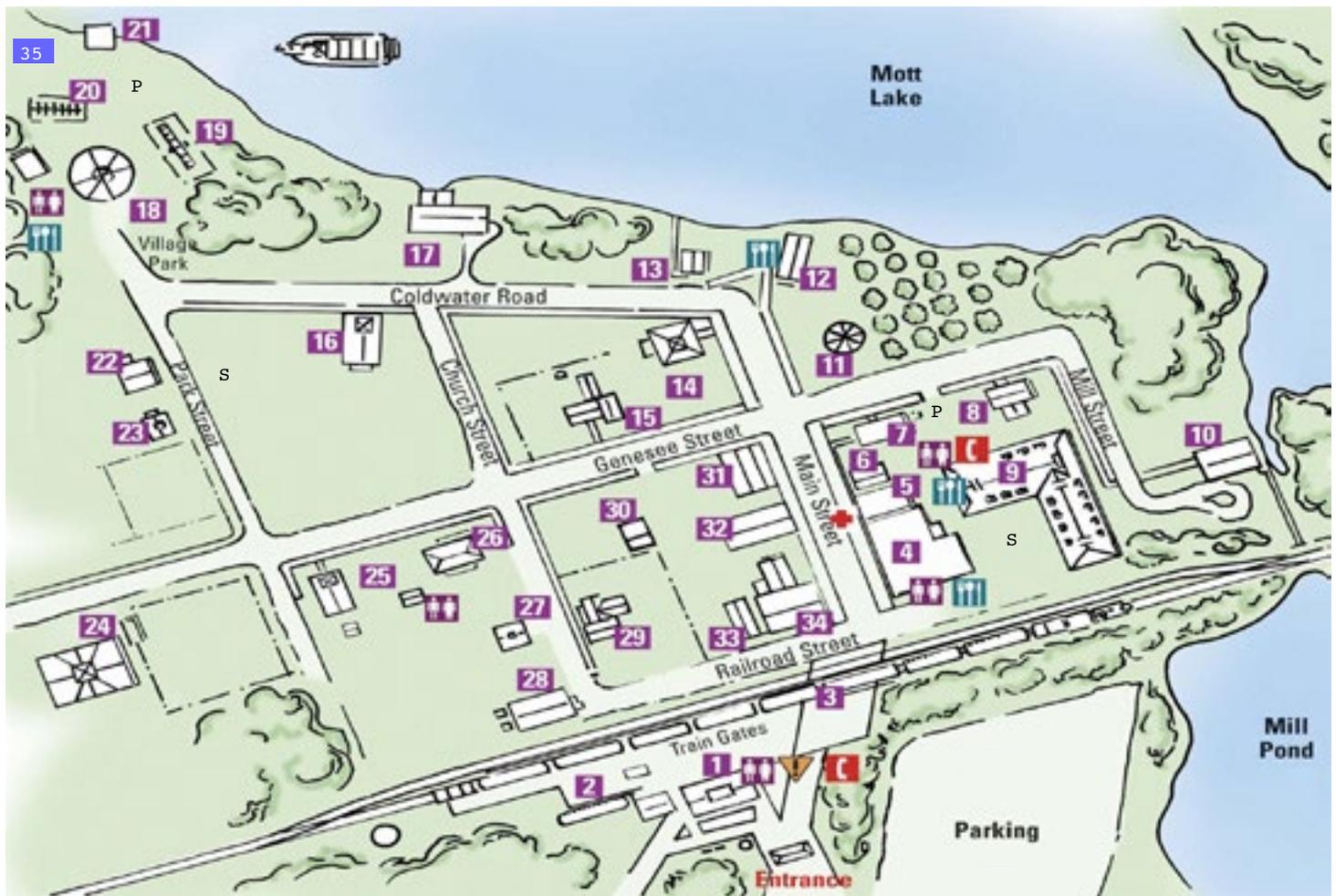
Our beautiful Parker Carousel has a history as colorful as its horses! It was designed by Charles W. Parker and built in 1912 at his world-famous factory in Leavenworth, Kansas. For more than 30 years, it traveled to fairs and carnivals all across North America, thrilling fans of all ages. In 1947, it was moved to Fairmont Park in Riverside, California, and operated for another 30 years. Then it was put into storage, but not for long!

The freshly renovated Carousel and its rare Military Band Organ were dedicated here at Crossroads Village before an enthusiastic crowd on July 1, 1983. Step aboard and choose your seat from among 36 handsome horses, a spectacular dragon chariot, four ponies and a "mother's bench." Then hold on tight!

Our graceful 1910 Superior Wheel, also designed by Mr. Parker, offers a breathtaking treetop view of Mott Lake and the Village from 45 feet up! Charles Parker produced thousands of amusements, but Crossroads Village is the only place in the world where you can enjoy two of his rides, side-by-side, still in operation.

We round out our collection of vintage amusement rides with the Mott Lake Flyer, Venetian swings and pony carts that offer sweet old-fashioned fun for your little ones.





1. **DAVISON DEPOT** Turn-of-the-century depot.
 2. **PERE MARQUETTE CABOOSE** A621 1921 Standard-gauge caboose sits on original rails from the Pere Marquette line.

3. **HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD** Named for the original Pere Marquette Railroad, which traveled from Flint to Fostoria. Passengers traveled part way to pick huckleberries and were picked up on the return trip. Powered by Baldwin steam locomotives, the railroad is narrow-gauge (3' between the rails).

4. **HORTON-COLWELL BUILDING** Moved from Fenton, the building includes a second floor Opera House and a U.S. Post Office on the first floor.

5. **T.N. NORTH & SON BANK AND LOCY'S DENTAL ROOMS** The bank, built in 1878, retains its original walk-in vault and ornate teller's cage. The re-created Locy's Dental rooms, located on the second floor, depict 1800's dentistry.

6. **FOWLER BARBER SHOP** Served as a post office and barbershop in the community of Fowler.

7. **CLAYTON TOWNSHIP HALL** Built in 1878 for \$500.

8. **GEORGE H. DURAND LAW OFFICE** 1850's home office.

9. **MILL STREET WAREHOUSE AND DINING ROOM** This modern building is designed to resemble a railroad warehouse.

10. **ATLAS MILL** Powered by an underwater turbine, the gristmill operated in the Village of Atlas from 1836-1942.

11. **GAZEBO** This replica of a Victorian gazebo is a popular spot for weddings.

12. **MASTERS' CIDER MILL** Moved to the Village from Richfield Township.

13. **ICEHOUSE** Moved from a farm near Holly.

14. **WISNER CARRIAGE BARN** First automobile produced in Flint was built in this barn by Judge Charles H. Wisner.

15. **BUZZELL HOUSE** The oldest surviving home in Flint.

16. **COLDWATER ROAD CHAPEL** Built in 1898 for the Cohoctah Evangelical Church.

17. **CROSSROADS LUMBER COMPANY** Portable steam-powered sawmill.

18. **CHARLES W. PARKER CAROUSEL** Built in Kansas in 1912 and operated in Riverside, California.

19. **CHARLES W. PARKER SUPERIOR WHEEL** Last existing 1910 Superior Wheel.

20. **VENETIAN SWING, PONY CARTS, and "FLYER" MINIATURE TRAIN** Vintage amusement rides.

21. **THE GENESSEE BELLE PADDLEWHEEL RIVERBOAT** Offers cruises on Mott Lake. Barrier free access.

22. **BLACKSMITH SHOP** This working smithy replicates an 1870's shop.

23. **SALTER LOG HOUSE** 1840's log cabin moved from Greenfield Village in 1995.

24. **CALKINS BARN and DONAHUE CHICKEN COOP** Built in 1885, the barn was moved to the Village and reconstructed in 1983.

25. **STANLEY SCHOOL** 1883 one-room school.

26. **FOX HOUSE and CRAWFORD WINDMILL** 1876 house was originally the home of a prosperous farm family with 10 children.

27. **FENTON CARRIAGE BARN** Moved from Fenton in 1994.

28. **MEETING HALL** Built in 1878 for \$569.22.

29. **ELDRIDGE HOUSE** Built in the 1860's near Genesee.

30. **DURANT BARN** Built by Billy Durant.

31. **MASON TAVERN** Built about 1850 in Mundy Township by Daniel Mason, a settler from New York.

32. **MANWARING BUILDING** Built by the founder of Dryden for use as a dry goods store.

33. **J.E. BARBOUR, M.D.** Exact replica of Dr. Julius Barbour's 1880's office.

34. **ATTICA HOTEL** This 1870's Italianate style building was originally called the Williams House.

35. **LAKE SIDE GRILL** Casual outdoor eating with sweeping views of Mott Lake.

P- Picnic Area
 S- Smoking Area

RESTROOMS (1) Davison Depot, (4) Café; (9) Mill Street Warehouse; (25) Stanley School House (35) Lake Side Grill

LOST & FOUND (34) Attica Hotel
FIRST AID (6) Fowler Barbershop

FOOD (4) Crossroads Café 10-5 (35) Lakeside Grill 12-3

HANDCRAFTED TREASURE FROM THE TRADES.

Chat with our skilled villagers as they demonstrate the trades that were essential to a community a hundred years ago. You'll feel the heat from the blacksmith's fire as he creates a dinner bell, and marvel at the skill of the broom makers at work in the Fenton Carriage Barn and Broom Shop. The toy makers are using wood cut right here in the Village on a portable steam-powered sawmill.

Other tradespeople are pressing apples, printing signs and grinding grains for the day's flour, and you can purchase many of their handcrafted products in their workshops.

TAKE HOME A KEEPSAKE.

Like the General Stores of the past, our shop carries a wide selection of Michigan-made jams, fragrant candles, pretty dishes and flour ground right here in the Village at the authentic water-powered Atlas gristmill.

The General Store was moved here from Fenton, and it includes an old U. S. Post Office where you can have your postcards stamped with the Crossroads Village postmark!

All About Trains

From train whistles and engineer caps to books, games and trains, the Train Station Gift Shop is a train-lover's paradise. And check out all the activities scheduled for our special Railfans weekend the first full weekend in August!

Candies And Collectibles

If you love sweets, stop by the Attica Hotel and choose from more than 100 kinds of old-fashioned candies – from apple sours to Zotz – plus tasty Michigan-made specialties.

You'll also find unique jigsaw puzzles, reproduction tin signs and one-of-a-kind products by local artisans.

For other summer programming at Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad visit geneseecountyparks.org or call 800.648.PARK ext. 6.



WHEN YOU GET HUNGRY.

Casual dining options in the Village offer a selection of snacks, sandwiches and beverages. The Mill Street Warehouse is air conditioned, and has plenty of seating for large groups.

If you'd like to bring food with you, you'll enjoy peaceful settings throughout the Village where you can relax and enjoy a picnic.

A CROSSROADS VILLAGE ANNUAL PASS – THE BEST VALUE IN HISTORY!

If you plan to visit the Village more than once in a 12-month period, the Annual Pass is your ticket to big savings! The pass is good for one year from the date of purchase, and it entitles you to the following:

Summer: Unlimited visits to the Village and unlimited rides on the Genesee Belle and Huckleberry Railroad, when space is available!

PLUS! | **Halloween Ghosts and Goodies:** One Village visit and one ride on the train or the Belle when space is available.

PLUS! | **Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic:** Unlimited visits to the Village and unlimited train rides when space is available.

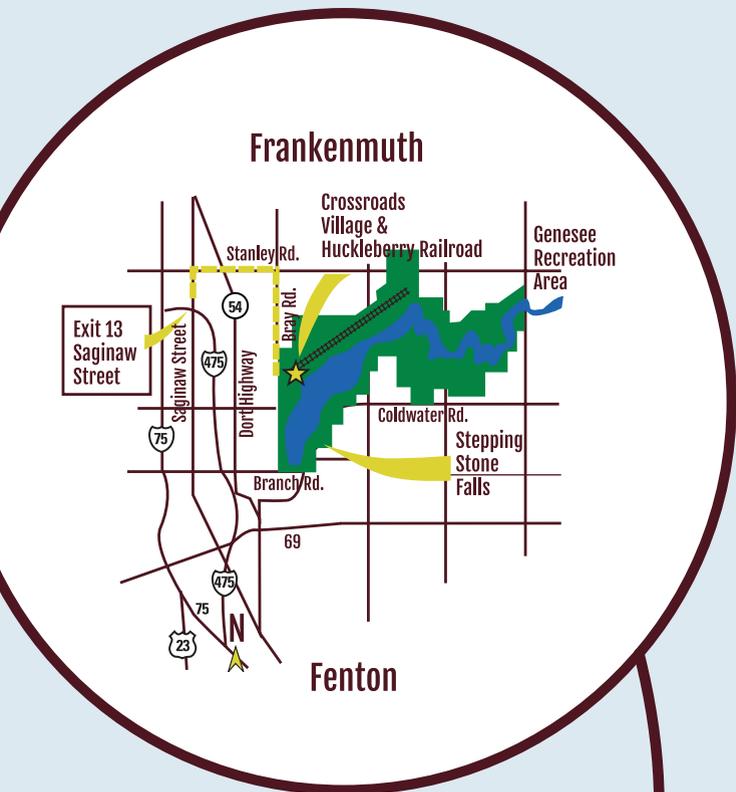
PLUS! | **Ladies Night Out:** Free tickets! Reserve them in advance.

For season pass pricing information please visit us online at geneseecountyparks.org or call us at 800.648.PARK ext. 6.

Ask about our Group Home Annual Pass opportunities.

We're sorry, but passes and discount coupons may not be used for Day Out With Thomas™ or other special events.





HOW TO GET TO CROSSROADS VILLAGE & HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD

6140 Bray Rd. Flint, MI 48505

(Just 15 Minutes South of Frankenmuth)

Visitors coming from the North, head south on I-75/US-23 toward Flint. Merge onto I-475 exit 125 toward downtown Flint. Take the Saginaw Street exit 13 toward Mt. Morris. Turn left onto N. Saginaw. Proceed 1/4 mile north to the corner of Saginaw and Stanley Road, turn right. Take Stanley Road 2 miles to Bray Road. Turn right on Bray Road; Village is 1/2 mile south on left-hand side.

Visitors coming from the West, head east on I-69 toward Flint. Merge onto I-475 exit 136 toward Saginaw. Take the Saginaw Street exit 13 toward Mt. Morris. Turn right onto N. Saginaw. Proceed 1/4 mile north to the corner of Saginaw and Stanley Road, turn right. Take Stanley Road 2 miles to Bray Road. Turn right on Bray Road; Village is 1/2 mile south on left-hand side.

Visitors coming from South (Detroit Area) head north on I-75 toward Flint. Merge onto I-475 exit 111 toward Saginaw. Take the Saginaw St. exit 13 toward Mt. Morris. Turn right onto N. Saginaw. Proceed 1/4 mile north to the corner of Saginaw and Stanley Road, turn right. Take Stanley Road 2 miles to Bray Road. Turn right on Bray Road; Village is 1/2 mile south on left-hand side.

Visitors coming from South (Ann Arbor Area) head north on US-23 merge onto I-69 east exit 117-A toward Flint. Merge onto I-475 exit 137 toward Saginaw. Take the Saginaw St. exit 13 toward Mt. Morris. Turn right onto N. Saginaw. Proceed 1/4 mile north to the corner of Saginaw and Stanley Road, turn right. Take Stanley Road 2 miles to Bray Road. Turn right on Bray Road; Village is 1/2 mile south on left-hand side.

Visitors coming from the East, head west on I-69 toward Flint. Merge onto I-475 exit 137 toward Saginaw. Take the Saginaw Street exit 13 toward Mt. Morris. Turn right onto N. Saginaw. Proceed 1/4 mile north to the corner of Saginaw and Stanley Road, turn right. Take Stanley Road 2 miles to Bray Road. Turn right on Bray Road; Village is 1/2 mile south on left-hand side.

