



# Genesee County Health Department

Mark Valacak, M.P.H., Health Officer  
Gary K. Johnson, M.D., M.P.H., Medical Director

**Current Date:** July 10, 2015

**Release Date:** Immediate Release

**End Date:** July 31, 2015

**Contact Person:** Suzanne Cupal, M.P.H.

**Phone:** (810) 768-7970

**RE:** Genesee County Health Department Celebrates the Enduring Power of Community Parks and Recreation this July

Genesee County residents know their parks and recreation facilities provide places to get active, explore nature or connect with fellow community members. But what they may not know is that their parks and recreation also contribute to improved health outcomes, higher property values and environmental sustainability.

Parks and recreation have the power to strengthen communities, transform lives and protect the future. That's why this year, the Genesee County Health Department joins cities across the country in celebrating the power of parks and recreation for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Park and Recreation Month—an annual event created by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and celebrated in July since 1985.

To showcase the impact parks and recreation has in every community, NRPA is releasing a short animated video titled, "Power of Parks." The video can be viewed at <http://www.nrpa.org/july-power-of-parks/>. NRPA encourages all people that support parks and recreation to watch and share this video with the hashtag #JulyPRM30.

This July, get out, get active and enjoy the many amazing parks in Genesee County. To learn more about Park and Recreation Month, visit [www.nrpa.org/July](http://www.nrpa.org/July).

###

Better Life Through Better Health

Floyd J. McCree Courts & Human Services Building ♦ 630 S. Saginaw Street, Ste. 4 ♦ Flint, Michigan 48502-1540

Burton Branch ♦ G-3373 S. Saginaw Street ♦ Burton, Michigan 48529

Main Phone 810-257-3612 ♦ Visit us at: [www.gchd.us](http://www.gchd.us)