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press release



Contact: Lisa M. Lothringer, MCAT
VBT-DDA Assistant Executive Director
Charter Township of Van Buren
10151 Belleville Road
Van Buren Township, MI 48111
Direct: 734-699-8941
llothringer@vanburen-mi.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

mParks Recognizes Quirk Park Splash Pad & Playground Project With Design Award

Van Buren Township (November 2019) – The Michigan Recreation & Park Association (mParks) has selected the Quirk Park Splash Pad & Playground as their 2020 Park Design Award Winner. Honoring exemplary park and recreation professionals and citizen advocates, the annual Design Award is presented to mParks agency members in honor of outstanding landscape design, facility or architectural design and park design. The mParks awards program encompasses five award categories – Design, Organization, Marketing, Individual and Therapeutic Recreation.



A collaborative effort between the Van Buren Civic Fund, the Township and the DDA, the Quirk Park Splash Pad & Playground project reinforces Van Buren Township's commitment to recreation and park services for our residents. The Splash Pad & Playground, which was completed in 70 working days, has become an area destination and gathering place for the community, cultivating an environment that promotes inclusive play, motor skill improvement, cognitive development and socialization for residents and visitors of all ages.

As part of an ongoing dedication to responsible growth and improvement, other notable enhancement opportunities throughout Quirk Park were identified and completed during the construction window. The final design included way-finding signage, removal of old play equipment and installation of new play equipment (ADA compliant play structure and traditional, toddler and buddy swings), a new pavilion, additional seating options (benches, traditional and accessible picnic tables), redesigned ADA compliant pathways, improved and accessible ADA parking, new changing rooms, a memorial garden and a number of infrastructure improvements to meet and exceed utility demands.



The Design Award will be presented on Friday, January 31, 2020 during the mParks Conference & Trade Show at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Van Buren Township is conveniently located just off I-94, at the heart of commuter travel patterns. The community and its Belleville Road Shopping Corridor are a convenient stop for travelers on their way to Detroit, Ann Arbor and many places in between. The Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority has welcomed a plethora of new restaurants, stores and shops to their growing business district and the organization looks forward to further community enhancements like those made at Quirk Park. For more information, contact the Van Buren Township DDA at 734-699-8941 or visit VanBurenDDA.com.

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