

Empties into: Sandusky Bay
Mouth: Riley Township, OH (east) and Rice Township, OH (west)
Length: 130 miles

Elevation at source: 1,093 feet above sea level
Elevation at mouth: 573 feet above sea level
Average fall: 3.9 feet per mile

8-digit HUC: 04100011
8-digit HUC name: Sandusky

Number of Access Sites: 32



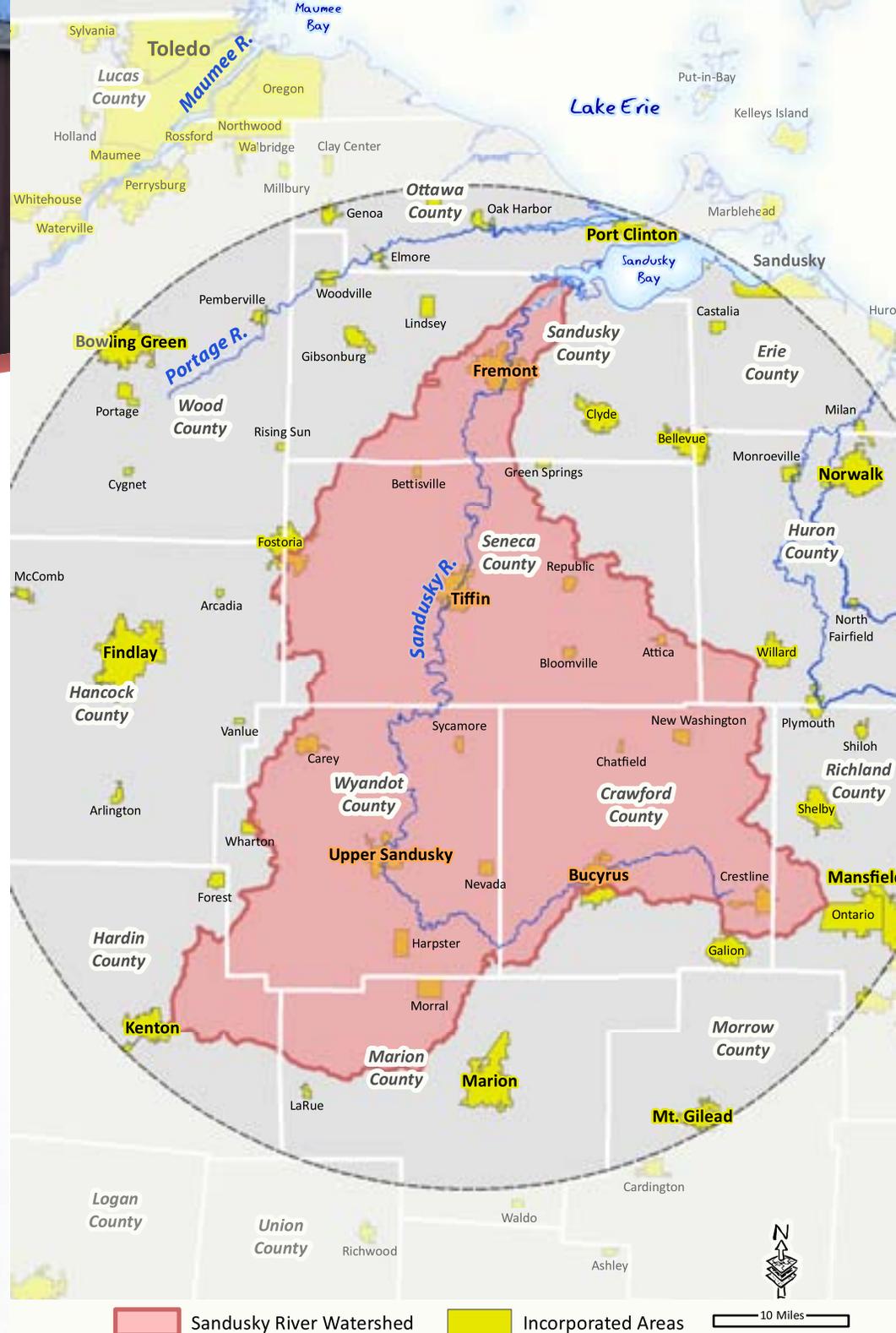
Sandusky River

The Sandusky River begins its nearly 130-mile journey to Lake Erie about 2.6 miles west of Crestline in the town of Leesville (Crawford County). The river begins at the confluence of Paramour Creek and the Allen Run. The first 45 miles of the Sandusky River flow along the outer margin of an end moraine in a general east-to-west direction. The river turns to a more northerly course in Upper Sandusky and continues in that direction through Tiffin and Fremont before reaching its mouth at the Sandusky Bay (Lake Erie).

The Sandusky River Watershed drains more than 1,825 square miles (1,168,000 acres); major tributaries include the Broken Sword, Honey, Tymochtee and Wolf creeks. Compared to many of Ohio's other Lake Erie tributaries, the land surrounding the mouth of the Sandusky River is mostly undeveloped consisting of bogs and marsh areas. The watershed is home to 220,000 people (120 people per square mile), making it the least densely populated of Ohio's major watersheds.

The Sandusky River was once home to the Seneca and Wyandot Indians. The 1785 Treaty of Greenville established a boundary between Native American territory and lands open for white settlement. The Native American territory encompassed northwest and north-central Ohio, including the Sandusky River basin. The 1817 Treaty of the Miami of Lake Erie laid out reservations along the Sandusky in Seneca County, including the Big Springs, Delaware, Seneca, Vanmeter and Wyandot. In 1830, U.S. Congress passed the Indian Removal Act, which led to the eventual relocation of all Native American tribes from Ohio. In 1842, the Wyandot Indians relinquished their claim to reservation lands in Upper Sandusky and in 1843 were the last Native American people to leave Ohio.

A 65-mile stretch of the Sandusky River between Upper Sandusky and Fremont is designated a State Scenic River. Many areas are open to the public for various recreational opportunities, including canoeing, kayaking, hunting and fishing. Similar to the Maumee River, the Sandusky is noted for its annual walleye run. Other popular catches include catfish, smallmouth bass and white bass.





Fisher Road Fishing Access

Location:
Fisher Road, east of State Route 53

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 4 and RM 5

Jurisdiction:
Rice Township, OH

County:
Sandusky

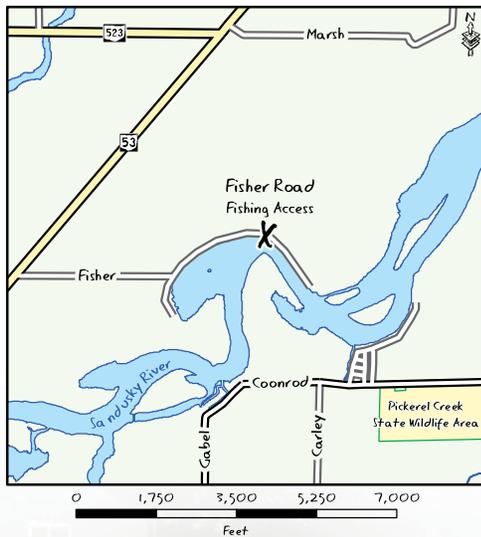
Latitude:
N 41° 25.81'

Longitude:
W 083° 3.48'

Access Site Type:
Outdoors

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Field Notes:

Rodger Young Park

Location:
1111 Tiffin Street

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 16 and RM 17

Jurisdiction:
Fremont, OH

County:
Sandusky

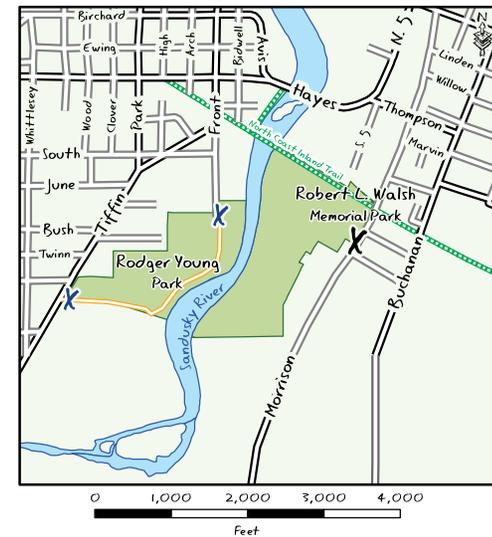
Latitude:
N 41° 20.2'

Longitude:
W 083° 6.83'

Access Site Type:
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Just north of Rodger Young Park is the North Coast Inland Trail, which crosses the Sandusky River. A connector path parallels the west bank of the river, linking the trail with Rodger Young Park to the south and Hayes Avenue to the north. On the east side of the river, the North Coast Inland Trail connects to Robert L. Walsh Memorial Park.

Learn More:
City of Fremont
www.fremontohio.org

Field Notes:



Robert L. Walsh Memorial Park

Location:
610 Morrison Street

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 16 and RM 17

Jurisdiction:
Fremont, OH

County:
Sandusky

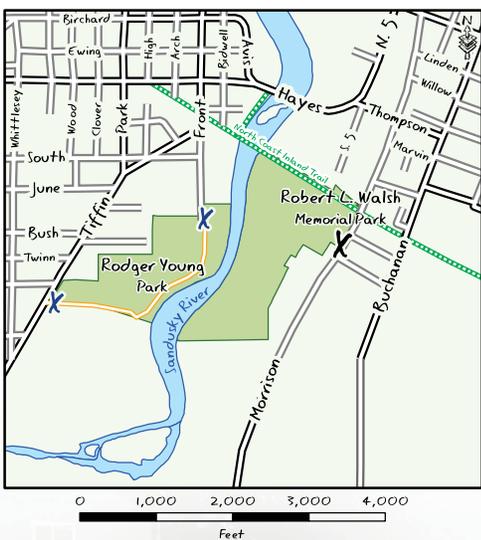
Latitude:
N 41° 20.18'

Longitude:
W 083° 6.44'

Access Site Type:
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



A connector trail links Robert L. Walsh Memorial Park to the North Coast Inland Trail (to the north).

Learn More:
City of Fremont
www.fremontohio.org

Field Notes:

Amenities:



Riverside Mill

and South River Road Pull-Off

Location (Mill):
Old Plank Road,
between Buckland
Avenue and
Lutz Street

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 18 and RM 19

Jurisdiction:
Ballville Township, OH

County:
Sandusky

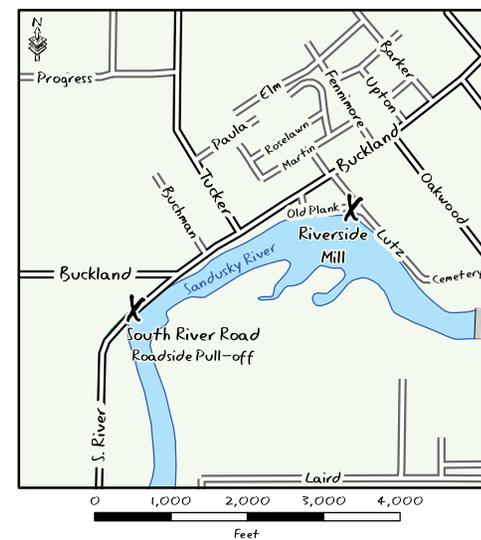
Riverside Mill:
Lat: N 41° 19.82'
Long: W 083° 8.53'

South River Road Pull-Off:
Lat: N 41° 19.61'
Long: W 083° 9.14'

Access Site Type:
Scenic

Date Visited:

Location Map:



South River Road Pull-Off Location:
South River Road, south of Buckland Avenue

Field Notes:

Amenities:





Tindall Bridge Access

Location:
Rice Road, between South River and Darr South roads

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 20 and RM 21

Jurisdiction:
Ballville Township, OH

County:
Sandusky

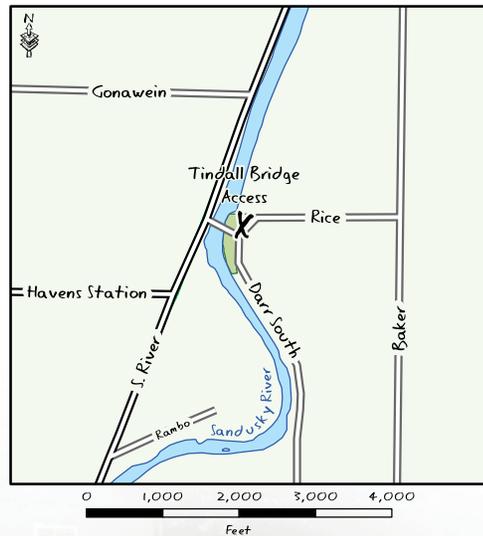
Latitude:
N 41° 18.5'

Longitude:
W 083° 9.41'

Access Site Type:
Scenic

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Field Notes:



South River Access Park

Location:
County Road 201 at South River Road

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
At RM 22

Jurisdiction:
Ballville Township, OH

County:
Sandusky

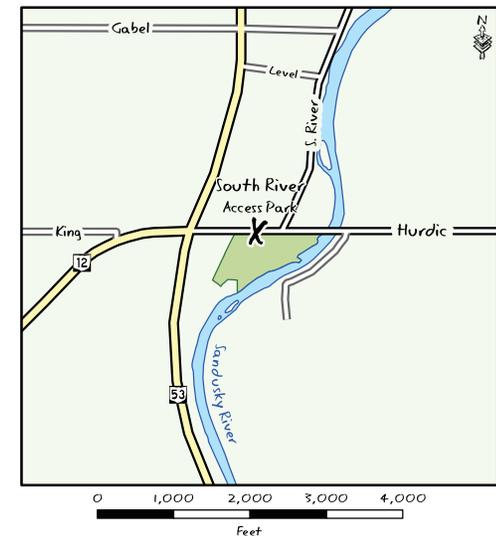
Latitude:
N 41° 17.49'

Longitude:
W 083° 10.06'

Access Site Type:
Outdoors

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



South River Access Park is an unimproved facility that is comprised of the remnant South River Road right-of-way and adjacent green space between County Road 201 and State Route 53.

Learn More:
Ballville Township
www.ballville.org

Field Notes:

Wolf Creek Park

Location:

State Route 53,
between Little and
Gillmore roads

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile

Location:

Between
RM 22 and RM 24

Jurisdiction:

Ballville Township, OH

County:

Sandusky

Canoe Launch:

Lat: N 41° 16.52'
Long: W 083° 10.1'

Campground:

Lat: N 41° 15.85'
Long: W 083° 10.07'

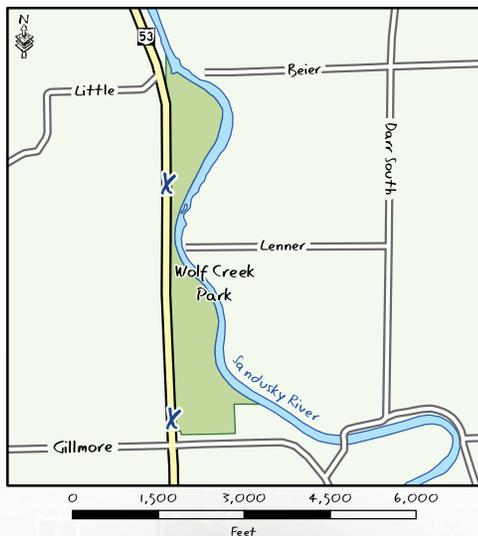
Access

Site Type:

Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



The 24-site campground at the 93-acre Wolf Creek Park is open April through December and is a primitive facility (no water or electric hook-up). All sites are first-come, first-serve; no reservations are taken. Registration is located at the campground entrance and is based on the honor system. Eight campers are allowed at each site, with two tents or one camper and one tent.

The Pemberville Section of the Buckeye Trail, a statewide hiking trail, runs through the park.

Learn More:

Sandusky County Park District
www.lovemyparks.com

Old Fort Bridge Park

Location:

Wood Street
(County Road 51) at
Railroad Street

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile

Location:

At RM 27

Jurisdiction:

Pleasant
Township, OH

County:

Seneca

Latitude:

N 41° 14.38'

Longitude:

W 083° 8.82'

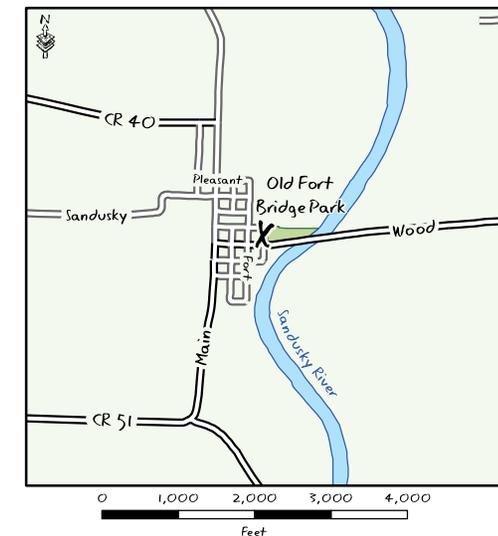
Access

Site Type:

Scenic

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Field Notes:



Schekelehoff Nature Preserve

Location:
Fairmont Road and North Water Street

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 38 and RM 39

Jurisdiction:
Tiffin, OH

County:
Seneca

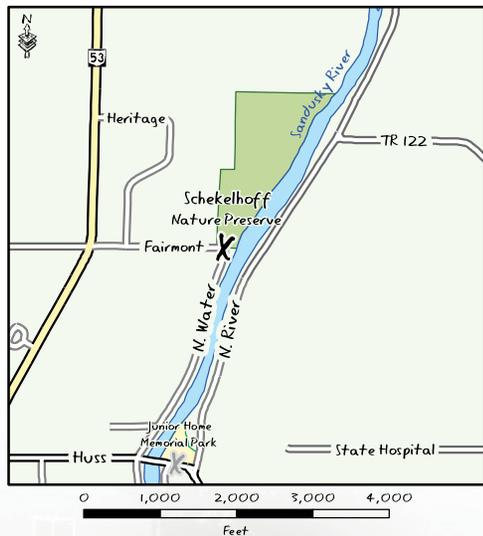
Latitude:
N 41° 8.32'

Longitude:
W 083° 9.76'

Access Site Type:
Recreation
Natural

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Added in 2009, the Schekelehoff Nature Preserve's paved nature trail is one-half mile long. The trail parallels the Sandusky River and dead-ends at the northern boundary of the preserve.

Learn More:
City of Tiffin Parks and Recreation
www.tiffinparks.com

Field Notes:

Junior Home Memorial Park and Patterson Park

and Patterson Park

Location (Junior Home):
Huss Street at Riverside Drive, west of Ohio Avenue

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 39 and RM 40

Jurisdiction:
Tiffin, OH

County:
Seneca

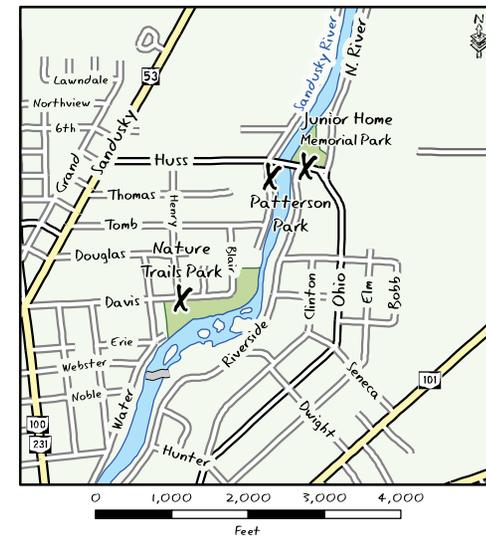
Junior Home:
Lat: N 41° 7.85'
Long: W 083° 9.89'

Patterson Park:
Lat: N 41° 7.84'
Long: W 083° 10.0'

Access Site Type:
Recreation
Scenic

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Patterson Park Location:
Water Street, south of Huss Street

Learn More:
City of Tiffin Parks and Recreation
www.tiffinparks.com

Field Notes:



Nature Trails Park

Location:

East Davis Street, between Elwood and Blair streets

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile Location:

Between RM 39 and RM 40

Jurisdiction:

Tiffin, OH

County:

Seneca

Latitude:

N 41° 7.62'

Longitude:

W 083° 10.18'

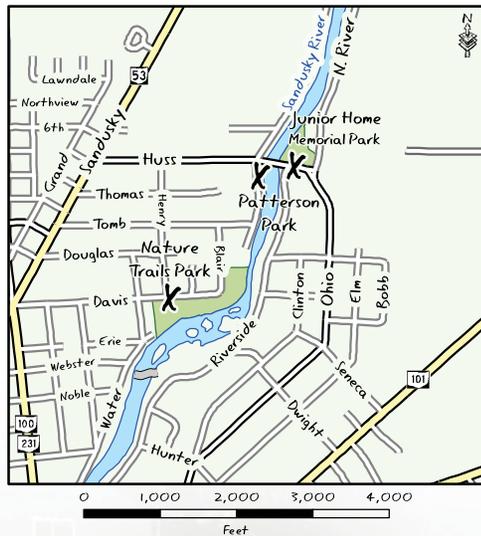
Access

Site Type:

Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Learn More:

City of Tiffin Parks and Recreation
www.tiffinparks.com

Field Notes:



Rotary Fort Ball Park

Location:

Frost Parkway, between North Washington (SR 100/SR 231) and West Perry (SR 18/SR 101) streets

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile Location:

Between RM 40 and RM 41

Jurisdiction:

Tiffin, OH

County:

Seneca

Latitude:

N 41° 7.04'

Longitude:

W 083° 10.6'

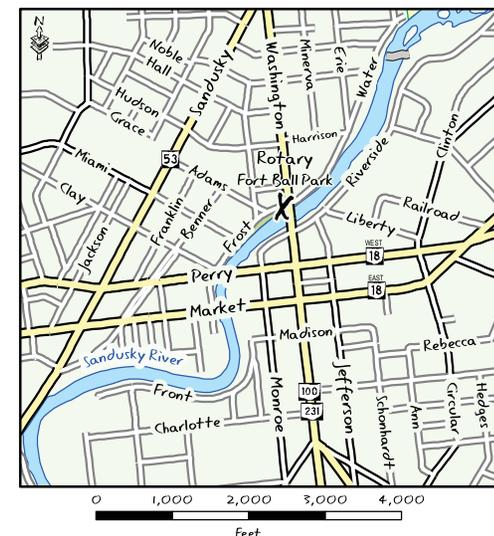
Access

Site Type:

Scenic

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Learn More:

City of Tiffin Parks and Recreation
www.tiffinparks.com

Field Notes:



Tiffin Community Fitness Trail

St. Johns Bridge Scenic River Access

Location:
Shepherd Drive,
between Union and
Ella streets

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

**River Mile
Location:**
Between
RM 41 and RM 42

Jurisdiction:
Tiffin, OH

County:
Seneca

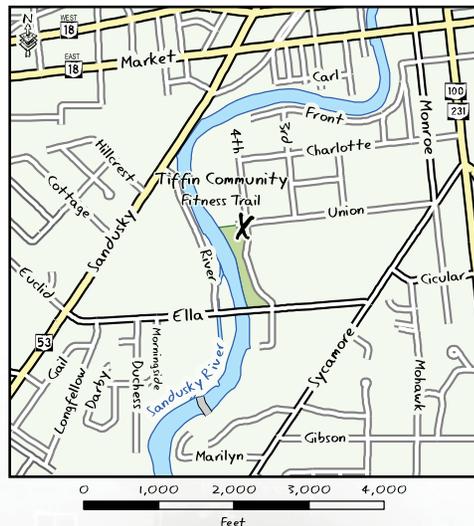
Latitude:
N 41° 6.37'

Longitude:
W 083° 11.12'

**Access
Site Type:**
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Field Notes:

Location:
County Road 6 at
Township Road 131

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

**River Mile
Location:**
Between
RM 50 and RM 51

Jurisdiction:
Seneca Township, OH

County:
Seneca

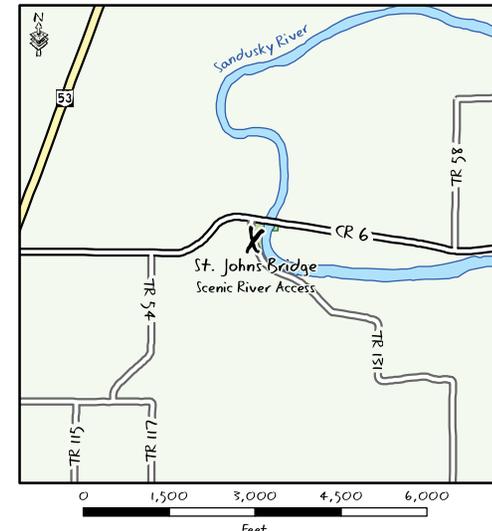
Latitude:
N 41° 1.72'

Longitude:
W 083° 12.99'

**Access
Site Type:**
Natural

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Learn More:

ODNR Division of Watercraft
www.ohiodnr.com/watercraft

Field Notes:



Collier (Howard) State Nature Preserve

Location:

1655 West Township
Road 38

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile

Location:

Between
RM 52 and RM 55

Jurisdiction:

Seneca Township, OH

County:

Seneca

Latitude:

N 41° 0.13'

Longitude:

W 083° 12.13'

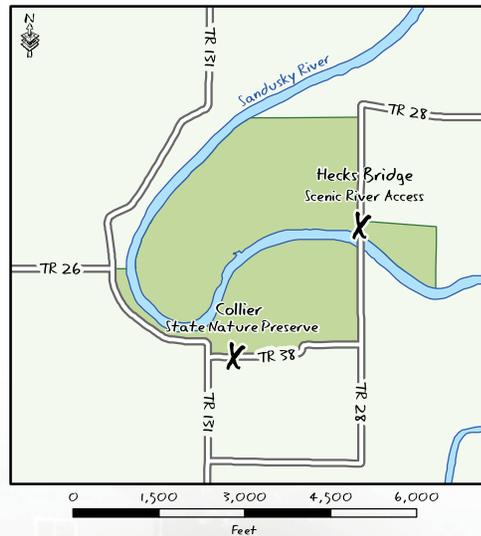
Access

Site Type:

Natural

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



The 115-acre preserve features vast wooded areas along a deep river valley. Collier contains many beech trees and a diverse number of spring wildflowers.

Collier also features the 1.5-mile Loop Trail, which follows the top of the ridge and descends the hillside via a wooden boardwalk and series of staircases. The site, located 3 miles northeast of McCutchenville in southern Seneca County, is named in honor of former state budget director, Howard Collier.

Learn More:

ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
www.ohiodnr.com/dnap



Hecks Bridge Scenic River Access

Location:

Township Road 28,
north of Township
Road 38; within
Howard Collier State
Nature Preserve

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile

Location:

Between
RM 54 and RM 55

Jurisdiction:

Seneca Township, OH

County:

Seneca

Latitude:

N 41° 0.57'

Longitude:

W 083° 11.64'

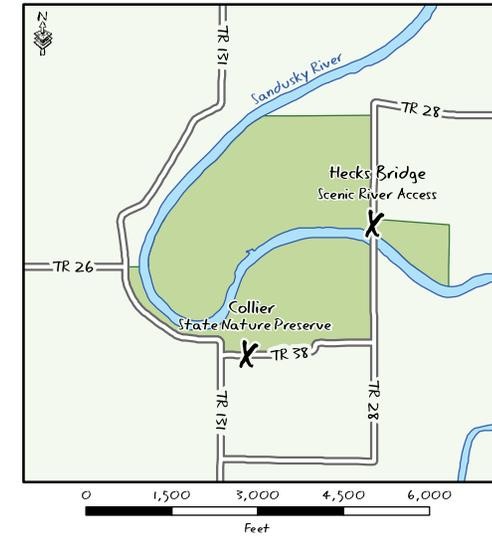
Access

Site Type:

Scenic

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Learn More:

ODNR Division of Watercraft, www.ohiodnr.com/watercraft
ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, www.ohiodnr.com/dnap

Field Notes:



Indian Mill Scenic River Access

Location:

County Road 47,
opposite Indian Mill

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile

Location:

Between
RM 76 and RM 77

Jurisdiction:

Crane Township, OH

County:

Wyandot

Latitude:

N 40° 51.79'

Longitude:

W 083° 15.14'

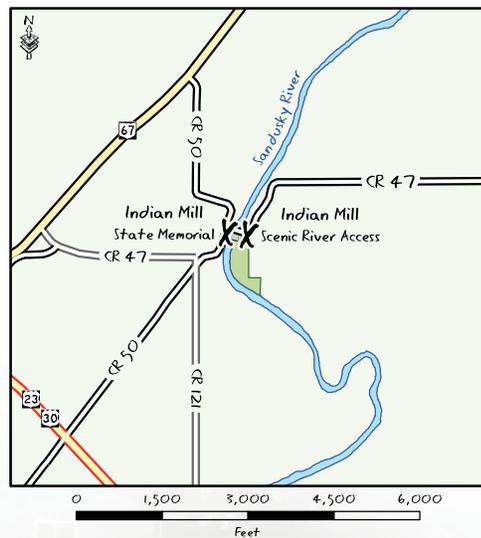
Access

Site Type:

Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Learn More:

ODNR Division of Watercraft, www.ohiodnr.com/watercraft
ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, www.ohiodnr.com/dnap

Field Notes:

Indian Mill State Memorial

Location:

County Road 47 at
County Road 50

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile

Location:

Between
RM 76 and RM 77

Jurisdiction:

Crane Township, OH

County:

Wyandot

Latitude:

N 40° 51.78'

Longitude:

W 083° 15.25'

Access

Site Type:

Cultural
Educational
Historic
Scenic

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



The original Indian Mill was built in 1820 by the United States government as a reward to the local Wyandot Indians for their loyalty during the War of 1812. It was located 300 feet upstream from the current mill, which was built in 1861 from some of the old mill's timbers.

The current three-story structure was purchased in 1943 by Ward Walton who gave it to the state of Ohio. The state eventually converted it into the nation's first educational museum of milling. Many exhibits are placed around the mill's original machinery. The museum, located three miles north of Upper Sandusky in Wyandot County, is open from May through October.

Learn More:

Ohio Historical Society
<http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/>



Stepping Stones Park

Location:
End of Elliott Street,
east of Front Street

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

**River Mile
Location:**
At RM 81

Jurisdiction:
Upper Sandusky, OH

County:
Wyandot

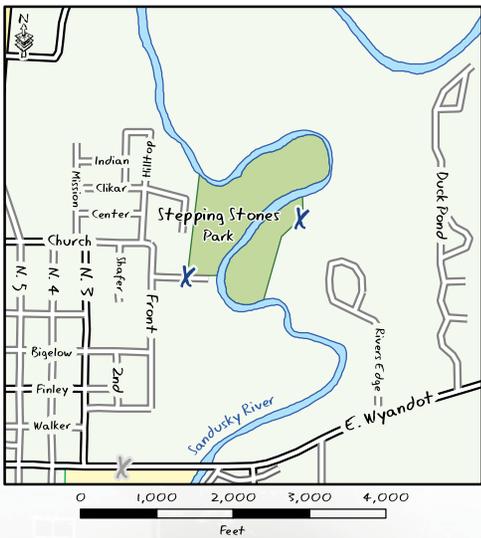
Main Entrance:
Lat: N 40° 50.04'
Long: W 083° 16.34'

**River's Edge
Trailhead:**
Lat: N 40° 50.18'
Long: W 083° 15.99'

**Access
Site Type:**
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Alternate Entrance:
Trailhead access from River's Edge Lane

Learn More:
City of Upper Sandusky
www.upperSanduskyoh.com

Field Notes:



Harrison Smith Park

Location:
East Wyandot Ave., at
North 3rd Street

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

**River Mile
Location:**
Between
RM 82 and RM 83

Jurisdiction:
Upper Sandusky, OH

County:
Wyandot

Main Entrance:
Lat: N 40° 49.64'
Long: W 083° 16.45'

Reservoir Park:
Lat: N 40° 49.43'
Long: W 083° 16.42'

**Access
Site Type:**
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Alternate Entrance:
Trail from Reservoir Park

The Tarhe Trail crosses the Sandusky River connecting Harrison Smith Park to Upper Sandusky Reservoir Park.

Learn More:
City of Upper Sandusky
www.upperSanduskyoh.com

Field Notes:



Upper Sandusky Reservoir Park

Water Works Park

Location:
End of Reservoir Road, south of Berry Street

Waterbody:
Sandusky River
Upper Sandusky reservoirs #1 and #2

River Mile Location:
Between RM 82 and RM 83

Jurisdiction:
Upper Sandusky, OH

County:
Wyandot

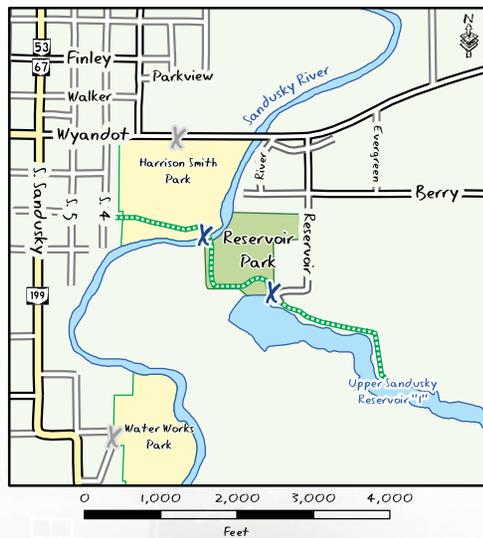
Main Entrance:
Lat: N 40° 49.31'
Long: W 083° 16.2'

Harrison Smith:
Lat: N 40° 49.43'
Long: W 083° 16.42'

Access Site Type:
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Alternate Entrance:

Trail from Harrison Smith Park

Reservoir Park is located between the Sandusky River and the Upper Sandusky Reservoir #1 (to the southeast). The boat launch, transient dock and small boat access is to the Upper Sandusky Reservoir #1, not the Sandusky River. Reservoir #1 is a 32-acre body of water. To the immediate east is the 118-acre Upper Sandusky Reservoir #2. It also has a boat launch.

Reservoir Park has an 18-hole disc golf course. The Tarhe Trail crosses the Sandusky River connecting Reservoir Park to Harrison Smith Park.

Learn More:

ODNR Division of Wildlife, www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife
City of Upper Sandusky, www.uppersanduskyoh.com

Location:
High Street, east of State Route 199

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 83 and RM 84

Jurisdiction:
Upper Sandusky, OH

County:
Wyandot

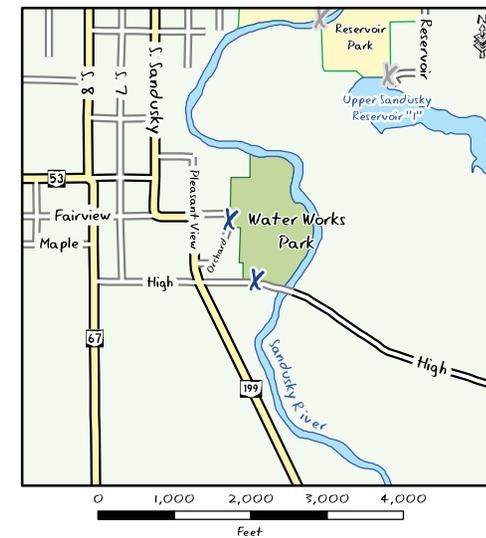
Main Entrance:
Lat: N 40° 48.87'
Long: W 083° 16.59'

Orchard Drive Entrance:
Lat: N 40° 49'
Long: W 083° 16.67'

Access Site Type:
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Alternate Entrance:

Orchard Drive, west of Pleasant View Street

Learn More:

City of Upper Sandusky
www.uppersanduskyoh.com

Field Notes:

Sears Woods State Nature Preserve

Location:
1486 Mt. Zion Road

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
At RM 107

Jurisdiction:
Bucyrus Township, OH

County:
Crawford

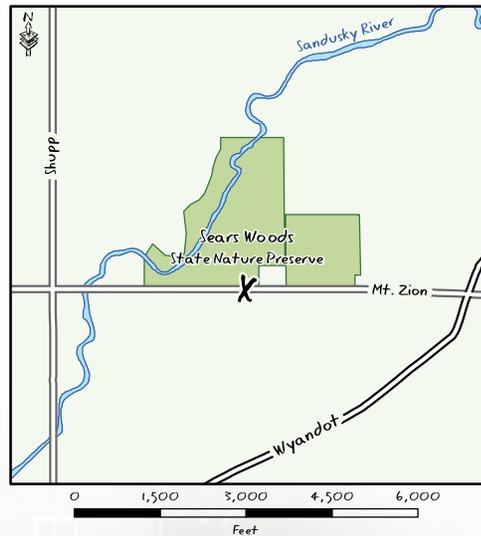
Latitude:
N 40° 46.58'

Longitude:
W 083° 2.65'

Access Site Type:
Natural

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



The 99-acre Sears (Paul B.) Woods State Nature Preserve is a beech-maple old growth woodland that contains one of the best remaining fragments of the once extensive forest which covered the Crawford County region. The preserve also boasts excellent spring wildflowers.

Sears Woods is named in honor of the nationally renowned Yale professor of ecology, Paul B. Sears. The preserve land was purchased from the Sears family in 1986. The preserve, maintained by the Crawford (County) Park District, is located one mile southwest of Bucyrus.

Learn More:

Crawford Park District, www.crawfordparkdistrict.org
ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, www.ohiodnr.com/dnap

Field Notes:

Sandusky Wildlife Area

Location:
2035 River Road

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

River Mile Location:
Between RM 109 and RM 110

Jurisdiction:
Bucyrus Township, OH

County:
Crawford

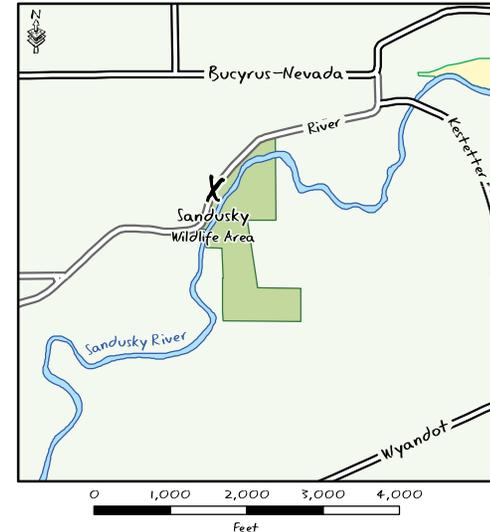
Latitude:
N 40° 48.07'

Longitude:
W 083° 0.91'

Access Site Type:
Outdoors

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Learn More:

Crawford Park District
www.crawfordparkdistrict.org

Field Notes:



Unger Park

Location:

1303 Nevada Road
(Bucyrus-Nevada Road)

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile

Location:

Between
RM 110 and RM 112

Jurisdiction:

Bucyrus
Township, OH

County:

Crawford

Main Entrance:

Lat: N 40° 48.45'
Long: W 082° 59.76'

Friendship

Bridge:

Lat: N 40° 48.16'
Long: W 082° 59.54'

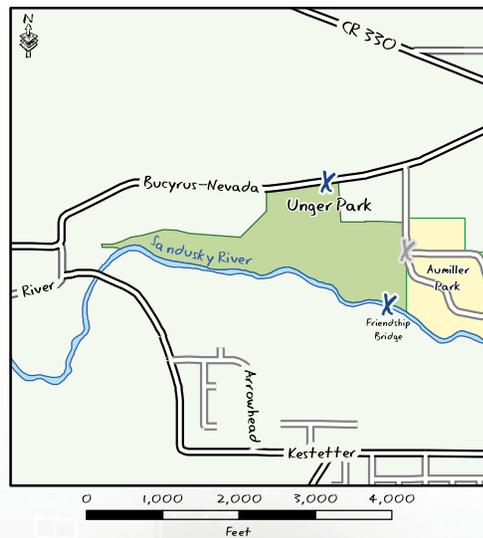
Access

Site Type:

Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



The 53-acre Unger Park is adjacent to Aumiller Park to the east, connected by a bike trail. The trail crosses the Sandusky River via the Friendship Bridge and continues to Southern Avenue. Unger Park features 2 miles of hiking trails that are open from dawn to dusk.

Learn More:

Crawford Park District
www.crawfordparkdistrict.org

Field Notes:



Aumiller Park

Location:

Aumiller Park Drive,
south of Nevada Road

Waterbody:

Sandusky River

River Mile

Location:

Between
RM 111 and RM 112

Jurisdiction:

Bucyrus, OH

County:

Crawford

Main Entrance:

Lat: N 40° 48.28'
Long: W 082° 59.45'

Friendship Bridge:

Lat: N 40° 48.16'
Long: W 082° 59.54'

Gay Street:

Lat: N 40° 48.24'
Long: W 082° 59.23'

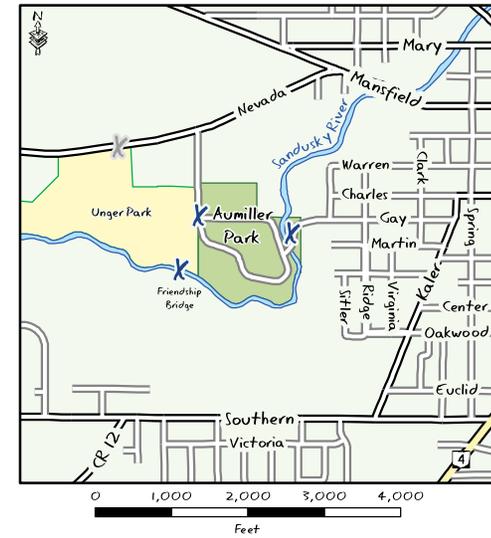
Access

Site Type:

Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Alternate Entrance:

1. Friendship Bridge
2. Footbridge from Gay Street

Aumiller Park is adjacent to the east of Unger Park, connected by a bike trail. The trail crosses the Sandusky River via the Friendship Bridge and continues to Southern Avenue. A second footbridge crosses the river and leads into the park from Gay Street.

In addition to the numerous recreational amenities, Aumiller is home to the Shunk Foundation Carillon.

Learn More:

City of Bucyrus
www.cityofbucyrusoh.us



Harmon Field

Location:
North Lane Street,
south of Plymouth
Road (SR 98)

Waterbody:
Sandusky River

**River Mile
Location:**
Between
RM 112 and RM 113

Jurisdiction:
Bucyrus, OH

County:
Crawford

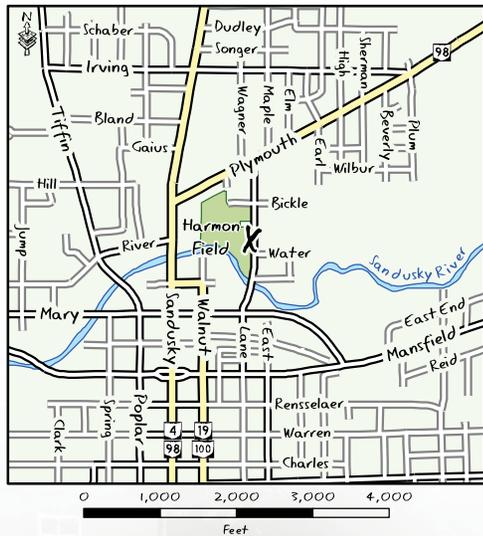
Latitude:
N 40° 48.78'

Longitude:
W 082° 58.2'

**Access
Site Type:**
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



Learn More:
City of Bucyrus
www.cityofbucyrusoh.com

Field Notes:



Lowe-Volk Park

Location:
2401 State Route 598

Waterbody:
Sandusky River
Paramour Creek
Allen Run

**River Mile
Location:**
At RM 130

Jurisdiction:
Jefferson
Township, OH

County:
Crawford

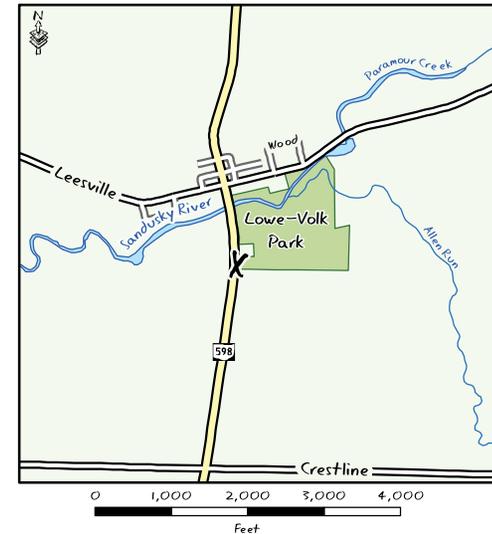
Latitude:
N 40° 47.31'

Longitude:
W 082° 47.34'

**Access
Site Type:**
Recreation

Date Visited:

Location Map:



Amenities:



The 38-acre Lowe-Volk Park is located where the Paramour Creek and Allen Run converge to form the Sandusky River. The park features 1.5 miles of hiking trails, the Lowe-Volk Park Nature Center, a catch-and-release fishing pond and picnic area. Fishing is also permitted in the three streams. The park is located on State Route 598 three miles north of Galion.

Learn More:
Crawford Park District
www.crawfordparkdistrict.org

Field Notes:
