

October 2, 2025



City of Saugatuck
Ryan Cummins
PO Box 86
Saugatuck, MI 49453

Dear Ryan,

On behalf of ODC Network, thank you for your payment of \$5,000.00, which we received on 9/25/2025 in support of the Kalamazoo River Greenway. Your support is vital to our efforts to address environmental restoration, recreation, conservation and education along the greenway corridor.

This year marks a quarter century of ODC Network connecting people to nature, pioneering nature-based education, and protecting natural ecosystems. In those 25 years, our team has connected more than 1.3 million people to nature, reduced phosphorus levels in Lake Macatawa by 62%, started 5 nature-based early childhood centers, and preserved over 1,000 acres of land, changing our community for the better.

With support from donors like you, we are able to continue offering life-changing nature experiences that inspire the next generation of leaders and environmental stewards, while creating lasting memories together. Whether you are hiking snowy trails, jumping in puddles, or fishing with loved ones, a connection to nature has profound impacts on overall health. Thank you, again, for believing in our work and investing in our mission to advance outdoor education and conservation in West Michigan.

Sincerely,

Ashlee Van Zee

Ashley Van Zee
Director of Philanthropy
ashley@outdoordiscovery.org

*Thank you for supporting
the Kalamazoo River
Greenway!*

Federal Tax ID#: 38-2461102 MI Charitable Solicitation#: MICS8341
According to IRS regulations, no goods or services were provided by the ODC for this gift.





Jamie Wolters

From: Jamie Wolters
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 12:26 PM
To: Jamie Wolters
Subject: FW: Request Fort New City Ordinance

From: Tom Smith

Subject: Request Fort New City Ordinance

Some people who received this message don't often get email from smith_tom_m@cat.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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The Honorable Mayor of the City of Saugatuck
The Honorable Members of the Saugatuck City Council
102 Butler Street
Saugatuck, MI 49453

Dear Honorable Mayor and Honorable Council Members,
My name is Thomas M. Smith and I am writing this letter on behalf of myself and other fellow property owners, business owners and constituents of this community.

In the past months, we have expressed our concerns about homelessness and camping in public spaces, and park hours to the City Manager, Ryan Cummins, as well as some of you. Ryan has explained in his emails that the City has no ordinances against this, nor posted hours for most of our city parks. In his July 24th email, he said, "I don't disagree that it's a bit surprising we don't have more established park rules. I take my direction from the City Council as they set policy. I know this is on their radar. If they would like staff to work on recommendations for further park rules, we can certainly do that."

We are asking the Mayor and City Council to act on establishing an ordinance to prevent overnight camping in all city parks. In the past two months, I have contacted representatives from the towns listed below. They have all expressed how beneficial these ordinances have been in preventing people in the park after hours.

Laketown - Sec 24-20.11 No camping or sleeping in public park. Spoke with Michelle, LT Communications Coordinator. Enacted ordinance in 1996 and revised in 2009. They do not have any homeless issues in any park. About once a year, someone tries to camp in woods behind rest area on 196. Sheriff gets dispatched to explain ordinance and displace them.

Holland - Sec 22-2a City parks closed from 11pm- 6am to prevent sleeping overnight in parks. Sept 2016 Homeless overnight sleeping issue was brought to the attention of Holland City Council by citizens. Nov. 17,2016 City council enacted closing hours ordinance to deter homeless sleeping in parks. (Holland Sentinel article)

Ludington - Sec. 38.72 Camping- no sleeping overnight in public parks. Spoke to Asst. City Manger - enacted in 1984 and further revised in 2011

Pentwater- Sec. 92.01 & 92.02 - No overnight parking in any public parks and parks closed 10pm- 6am. Spoke with the Ordinance Enforcement Officer - enacted in 1999. Officer enforce these ordinances. He said they do not have any homeless issues due to these ordinances.

Frankfort- Sec 41.06 No person shall remain overnight or erect tents or temporary shelter in any park, beach, or public parking area.

As you can see from the above dates, most of these cities and townships have had these ordinances enacted for years, if not decades. We feel that it is time for Saugatuck to do the same. Please let us know how you plan to move forward with our request for this much needed ordinance.

Regards,
Tom & Maureen Smith
403 Water Street #6

Nancy Schmitt

433 Main Street

Barry Spengler & Patricia Cleland
951 Holland Street

Philippe Quentel
421 Water Street

Caterpillar: Confidential Green