

Martha Hitler donated a tract of land to the Washington Township Trustees with the stipulation that it become a park for the community. Therefore, we have a park at 23126 Bolender-Pontius Road, aptly named **Martha Hitler Park**. Over the course of time the trustees have made improvements to the park. Several changes are the results of Eagle Scout Projects. These projects, done by Eagle Scout candidates, cost the township and community nothing. Projects done include the shelter house, the picnic tables, the frisbee golf course and, the flag pole. Girl scouts built a set of steps and put in a flower garden. We have used grant money from the Pickaway County Park District to put in the parking lot and place a fence around it. Also, a perimeter fence at the roadside and at viewing areas in the field was funded through grants. A solid concrete restroom facility was installed using funds from grant money. Grant money does not have to be paid back but, we have to provide a small percentage of the grant funding from our own resources. Perhaps 20% to 25% of the grant to be local money. It makes large project affordable.

A large project we are looking to undertake is to create a walking trail around the park and a playground for children. We have engaged a planning and design agency to look at our park and create a design for the creation of this using the natural elements of our park. This was paid for by a grant. The intent is to make the park more useable for a larger number of residents. For those coming to the park a playground would be great for children while the family picnics or for general exercise. For the adults the walking trail would provide outside air and exercise. Benches located at strategic point along the way provide for a sit and relax and/or in the instance of three of our viewing sites to observe some natural wildflowers and birds and other animals. An escape to nature.

On the area map the frisbee golf course is represented by pea green lines with arrow heads. The walking trail is gray and bench rest/observe points with a sunburst circle. This project will take time and grant money with local % contribution to complete. It may take more than one grant and more than one year to achieve the final outcome. The project may need to be done in steps.

The drawing is a proposed possibility and can be altered through public input. We are giving you opportunity to share your thoughts and recommendations. You may respond back to our website as one option, call or write to one of the trustees at their address or phone number as shown at the bottom of this page and/or attend a meeting at 7:00 pm on September 13, 2023 at the Washington Township building.

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