



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Adam Smith, City Manager

Phone: (517) 627-2149

E-mail: asmith@cityofgrandledge.com

Website: www.cityofgrandledge.com



Ribbon-Cutting for New Amenities and Events along Riverwalk Trail

GRAND LEDGE, MI, June 20, 2022 — The City of Grand Ledge will hold a special ribbon-cutting on Monday, June 27 at 10:00 AM to mark the completion of new amenities geared towards fishing and fun along the Riverwalk Trail near Fitzgerald Memorial Field and Island Park, 206 W. River Street in downtown Grand Ledge. Visitors can now enjoy more of the Grand River from a floating fishing dock accessible by steps off of the Riverwalk Trail. The 144-square-foot dock is accompanied by a colorful sign highlighting the most common fish to be caught in the river. The Tyler Lee Murphy Memorial Fishing Dock was made possible by a generous donation from Mr. Murphy's family and friends to honor his Grand Ledge roots and a lifelong love of fishing the Grand River while visiting Grand Ledge parks. Additionally, the east side of the public restroom building at Fitzgerald Memorial Field is home to a new, 10' tall and 16' wide, interactive mural by local artist, Art of Adrienne. This strikingly colorful mural will allow visitors to snap photos of them "catching" a mighty Steelhead Trout, regardless if they were successful on the fishing dock. The public is invited to attend the ribbon-cutting for brief remarks and is encouraged to bring their fishing poles, bait, and camera to enjoy the new fishing dock and fish mural.

To capitalize on the new fishing amenities, the Grand Ledge Police Department (GLPD) is planning two events this summer called, "Fish with a Cop". The events will be held at the Tyler Lee Murphy Fishing Dock on Wednesday, June 29, and Wednesday, July 13 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM offering kids an opportunity to fish alongside members of the GLPD. While fishing poles and bait will be provided at the events, participants are welcome to bring their equipment. "Fishing is a great opportunity to make friends," stated GLPD Chief Osterholzer, "Our department is looking forward to meeting young people with varying levels of fishing experience and seeing who can catch the biggest fish!" Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Additional information on Fishing with a Cop events, including alternate days for inclement weather, can be found at <https://www.cityofgrandledge.com/406/Fish-with-a-Cop>.

"All four of these special projects, the fishing dock, informational sign, fish mural, and fishing with GLPD events, have come together beautifully. It speaks to the good we can do when we all work together," stated Mayor Thom Sowle. An informational sign at the fishing dock includes six hand-painted fish images donated by a local painter, Councilmember, and community advocate, Mr. Tom Jancek. The "Caught in GL" fish mural was commissioned by the Grand Ledge Downtown Development Authority who were pleased to bring the Art of Adrienne's vibrant work to the downtown.

The Riverwalk Trail is over 2,280 feet of paved trail and boardwalk along the picturesque Grand River. The trail is an active area used daily by visitors who enjoy walking, jogging, fishing, or just taking in the abundance of nature. The Riverwalk Trail connects Island Park, Fitzgerald Memorial Field, Jaycee Park, and the Wide Walk for nearly 3 miles of accessible trail within the City of Grand Ledge. The Riverwalk Trail also connects to an unimproved trail that continues along the Grand River from Island Park to Fitzgerald Park.

For additional information on amenities at 15 parks and open spaces in Grand Ledge, visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/226/Parks-in-Grand-Ledge and follow [@CityofGrandLedgeGovernment](https://www.facebook.com/CityofGrandLedgeGovernment) and [@GrandLedgePD](https://www.facebook.com/GrandLedgePD) on Facebook for updates.

###