

## MICHIGAN STATE PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM

*Review of where we have been and what we have done to address financial challenges;*

**2004** \$9 Million removed from Park Improvement Fund

The portion of the \$10 Million from Trust Fund (Prop P) used to fund infrastructure was moved to fund operating expenses

**2004 – 2007** reduction of career staff to more dependency to non-career employees. Reduced approximately career employees by 12%, nearly 45 FTEs

**2005** fee increases

- MVPs \$1.00
- Camping fee increase - \$1.00

**2006** increased camping fee for ½ the parks - \$4.00

**2007** eliminated \$5.00 walk up camping registration fee

**2008** increased camping for other ½ of the parks - \$2.00

### **Imposed cuts:**

- loss of the Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps funding. \$1 Million operating cut from loss of \$20 Million endowment
- reduction of use of prison crews due to increased charges by Corrections
- reduced administrative staffing in Lansing by over \$600,000, including one administrative layer
- eliminated \$700,000 funding for 5 state park trails
- privatized Maybury State Park farm
- privatized the Porcupine Mountain Wilderness State Park ski area
- contracted out - 2 outdoor centers
- reduced preventative maintenance funding
- reduced and delayed purchase of maintenance equipment, rolling stock, radios, etc., which increased repair costs and reliability
- eliminated rolling stock to cut vehicle lease cost

- aggressively increased events to draw more people into Parks
- instituted Chiefs' Challenges to inspire efficiencies and energy conservation, other revenue opportunities, and sponsorships
- delayed filling needed staffing vacancies to save costs
- reduced infrastructure funding to only 5% of the documented \$40 million/year need (Note: infrastructure value exceeds \$1 Billion) park system operations, health and safety and environment are at risk due to potential breakdowns of sewer systems, water systems, buildings, roads, etc.

Michigan State Parks and Recreation system spends on average \$1.71 per visitor compared to a nation-wide average of \$2.73 per visitor.