



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE ORDER
No. 2011 - 10**

**MICHIGAN STATE PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
BLUE RIBBON PANEL**

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 vests the executive power of the state of Michigan in the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan state parks system recently celebrated the 90th anniversary of its formation; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan state parks system contains 100 state parks and recreation areas that preserve and protect some of the state's most significant natural and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan state parks system welcomes over 25 million visitors annually to its 900 miles of trails, 20 visitor centers, museums, and historic facilities, including overnight stays at 13,817 campsites, mini cabins, lodges, yurts, and teepees, and visits to great lake and inland lake beaches, disc golf courses, shooting ranges, and a wide range of outdoor recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan state parks system has for the past decade relied on its users to pay for the cost of running the system but now has several new funding sources that have the potential to provide significant new revenue to support the system; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan state parks system has grown and changed throughout its history to reflect the changing interests and recreational needs of Michigan's citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the public's interest in participating in the out-of-doors is changing once again, especially by those born after 1980, and the Michigan state parks system must adapt to meet the recreational interests of this generation and future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard D. Snyder, Governor of the state of Michigan, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the constitution of the state of Michigan of 1963 and the laws of the state of Michigan, order the establishment of the Michigan State Parks and Outdoor Recreation Blue Ribbon Panel (the "Blue Ribbon Panel").

A. The Blue Ribbon Panel is charged with the following responsibilities:

- Identify the role of state parks and the importance of outdoor recreation activities.
- Provide a vision for the future of state parks.
- Recommend a strategy for the expansion and proper allocation of expected resources in order to meet the new vision of state parks.
- Propose a vision and strategy for future consideration aimed at creating stronger linkages between the state park system and county and local parks to maximize use and cost efficiencies.

B. The Governor shall appoint 16 members to the Blue Ribbon Panel and the members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor shall appoint two members of the Blue Ribbon Panel who shall serve as co-chairpersons, at the pleasure of the Governor.

C. All state departments, agencies, boards, commissions or officers of the state shall cooperate and provide necessary assistance required by the Blue Ribbon Panel, or any member or representative thereof, in the performance of its duties. This shall include free access to any books, records, or documents in the custody of the department, agency, board, commission, or officer that is within the scope of the inquiry, study, or review of the Blue Ribbon Panel.

D. No compensation shall be provided to members of the Blue Ribbon Panel for their services to the Panel.

E. The Blue Ribbon Panel shall complete its work and issue a final report and recommendations to the Governor one year from date of this Executive Order.

The provisions of this Executive Order shall become effective upon filing.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the state of Michigan this _____ day of September in the year of our Lord, two thousand eleven.

RICHARD D. SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:

SECRETARY OF STATE