

### Benefits of Riverbank Trees and Shrubs

- Prevent erosion
- Prevent runaway sediment from entering the river
- Lower water temperature necessary for healthy fish
- Provide food and shelter for land animals and birds
- Provide protective habitat for fish and invertebrates
- Filter contaminants



### Benefits of Native Michigan Plants and Grasses

- Protect our natural heritage from extinction
- Do not require herbicides, pesticides or fertilizers
- Do not require mowing or watering
- Roots absorb water runoff and stabilize the soil to prevent erosion
- Provide food and habitat for birds, insects and animals
- Increase biodiversity



*Last but not least, wildflowers, trees and shrubs are beautiful to look at and improve the quality of life.*

## PARK HISTORY

Launching a fishing boat at the Bagley Street Bridge has a long tradition. But over time, the area deteriorated: a stream cut across the road carving deep ruts and washing soil into the river. Whenever it rained, runoff from the street added chemicals to the mix. Entering Bagley Street with a boat in tow was dangerous. The landscape was barren and uninviting.

In 1985, members of the **Thunder Bay River Watershed Council** asked the City of Alpena and the Alpena County Road Commission for permission to improve the area. The Watershed Council goals are preserving the water quality of the river and making the beautiful Thunder Bay River available for recreation and enjoyment. The development of the park was under the supervision of Arthur E. Sytek.

The park is maintained by the County Road Commission, Watershed Council members and other interested folks. Call the Volunteer Center if you'd like to help, or drop by during the summer and talk with a volunteer.

This brochure and a slide collection of native plants found in the park are the result of the O. B. Eustis Award given to Elizabeth Littler by the Responsible Environmental Action Partnership (REAP). For a slide show of native plants found in the park, contact the Jesse Besser Museum (356-2202). For Wednesday Guided tours, contact Elizabeth Littler (356-4327)



P.O. Box 751, Alpena, MI



City of Alpena  
Wildlife Sanctuary Board  
208 N. First Avenue  
Alpena, MI 49707

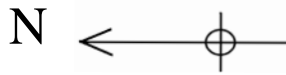
Arthur E.

# Sytek Park

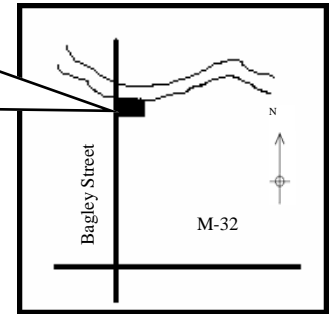


- Small boat launch
- Wheelchair-accessible fishing deck
- Picnic tables
- Access to Bike Path
- Tree and shrub greenbelt
- Native Great Lakes wildflowers

**City of Alpena**  
[www.alpena.mi.us](http://www.alpena.mi.us)



# Arthur E. Sytek Park



THUNDER BAY RIVER



Ostrich Fern  
Swamp Candles  
Canada Mayflower  
Spruce  
Oak

Turtlehead  
Jewelweed

Starry False Solomon's-Seal  
Large-leaved Aster

ELIZABETH CREEK

Horsemint  
Yellow Lady-slipper  
Riverbank Grape

CANOE LAUNCH

FISHING DECK

Tall Bluestem  
Little Blue Stem  
Switchgrass  
Beardtongue  
Butterfly Weed  
Grass-of-Pernassus

PICNIC AREA

Purple Coneflower  
Coreopsis  
New England Aster  
Black-eyed Susan

Marsh Milkweed  
Monarda  
Grey-headed Coneflower

Blue Vervain  
Boneset  
Willow-herb  
Marsh Marigold  
Water-Plantain

Blue Flag Iris  
Arrowroot  
Cattails

Red Osier Dogwood  
Cedar  
Tamarack  
Birch  
Willow

PARKING

Stiff Goldenrod  
New England Aster  
Monarda  
Common Milkweed  
Thimbleweed

Apple Tree  
Black-eyed Susan  
Silverweed  
Sumweed

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS  
Thunder Bay River Watershed Council  
Alpena Community College survey students  
Future Farmers of America  
Michigan Youth Corps  
Herron Boy Scout Troop #35  
U. S. Soil Conservation Service  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Bagley Street