

- 2 Friends of DW should remain that, the other city parks should be maintained & cared for by the city (Ann Arbor has a great deal of money available for parks). The focus of DW should first be its use as an outdoor classroom for Dicken's students and a pleasant natural setting for the rest of us. We should also focus on the natural wildlife that the woods can support.
- 4 I like the ideas of expanding the trails and adding bridges. I also put a high priority on working with Dicken school to make best use of DW. If the school is interested in the wood chip path to the school yard, and/or a classroom gathering space, I would list those as high priorities too. If they're not interested, I wouldn't push it. But I think we should get feedback from teachers as well as the principal. Finally, I think it would be worthwhile to investigate how to improve the wetlands and animal habitat. That might not lead anywhere, which would be fine, or it might lead to some interesting possibilities.
- 6 I think our mission was to save the woods. They're saved. The paths are very nice for a leisurely walk with family or friends, away from it all. (I would hate to see more trails on such a small lot, and more trails would further disturb the wildlife and might make the woods unsafe.) Slow work on changing the types of vegetation in parts of the woods would be good, but any major changes could disturb wildlife. Wildlife would benefit from us just not intruding on them - if you try to "improve" wildlife habitat, you end up changing the balance of nature, and I'm not convinced it would be for the good. I like the park the way it is.
- 7 How about labels for important/large or unusual trees/bushes/species/plants or something about the wetland area or wildlife and what to look for.
- 9 Beautiful trail network. I like the "stump" seating clusters; very cool. Rather than FODW planting flowers at the end of Dicken Drive, where only a small number of people would see & enjoy them, why not consider planting clumps of wildflowers and/or perennials around the perimeter of DW, so that your efforts are visible to everyone driving by. Daylillies, black-eyed susans, wild bergamot (bee balm), daisies, mums all come to mind as beautiful flowers that would be real eye catchers.
- 10 They are going to be improving/renovating Mushroom Park. They talked about planting shrubs/trees to prevent teenagers from driving cars into the park and ruining the turf. They also talked about doing a planter by the sign and painting the mushrooms with bright colors. Would we want to adopt this park instead? It's used much more, I think, than the others.
- 12 I believe that it is critical that DW be cleared of invasive species - ASAP. However, we all have to understand that this will be a multi-year project. The planting of trees is not necessary - there are plenty of native trees in place and, once invasives are removed, nature will take over. Also, until all of the invasives are removed, we won't know where to plant trees. As for the wetland restoration, we should get some advice as to whether or not it is restorable, and if so, how to do it. The expansion of the trails would have to be evaluated once invasives are removed. The expansion of the stewardship activities to Hanson and Dicken Parks may be too ambitious at this time. Let's see how much progress we make with DW before taking on any more work.
- 13 An entrance off of Pauline or Maple might increase the usage of the park and make it more open to the greater community.

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- 15 Attention should be given to the removal of buckthorn in area where new trees would be planted. Projects and activities that would encourage student participation/involvement/education from Dicken School could have a major impact on the long term success of Dicken Woods.
- 16 Re 1,2,&3 - there is a substantial population of desirable trees in DW. The priority should be to clear invasives and other nearby trees from competing with these and upgrading in this manner. Re 4 - the existing wetland in DW is seasonal and probably has very low potential for improvement. Except for limiting traffic and not expanding the trail system, there may be limited opportunity for improving wildlife habitat, except perhaps bird habitat. Re: 5&7 - after the bridge between Carol & Dicken is improved, there will be an all-weather access to DW from the school via Carol. If a gathering space is desired by the school, it should be located on the school property between Dicken & Carol. Re:6 - The existing trail loop was routed by the Trails Committee and NAP staff to stay away from Maple, Pauline, and private property, and is designed to appeal to adult recreational use (loop vs cut-through design) at the advice of the NAP staff. In addition, the Dicken Elementary Principal requested that the trails not create any direct access from Maple or Pauline to the back of the school property. Except for the poss
- 17 The "Use of Dicken Woods" question sure makes a jump from "Once or twice" all the way to "Twice a month". My answer would be more like once every other month on average. Although that's not a heck of a lot, it still added up to much more than "once or twice". That's all. Thanks for making this survey!!!
- 18 Back in the days when there was a Children's Garden Club, the City of Ann Arbor tried to get the parents interested in taking over stewardship of Hanson Park. This Hanm"offer" was turned down at that time. Hanson Park should remain as it is. Wild except for the playground area.
- 19 Saplings will have a much better chance of survival. I don't think very many of the trees we planted in the spring are doing well.
- 21 NAP has guided us well regarding trail placement, detours around large trees and the hickory-oak grove. I think we should continue following their lead. As buckthorn is cleared more and more small trees are being uncovered, there are actually a lot of trees on the property. I like the idea of some trees being added by groups able to take care of them (BoyScouts) or for special occasions. I'd like some serviceberries at the end of Dicken. Removing the buckthorn will lead to improved habitat, but currently it does serve as shelter, protection and should be replaced with other plants that do the same thing.(wildflower seeds) Ten acres is not a lot of space, there are enough trails for that area and I think a meeting area is a bad idea for various reasons. I just got back from picking up 25 beer cans, 9 wine bottles, and 1 vodka bottle from the current "meeting area". I would be in favor of a meeting place on school property perhaps near tbe wildflower garden(?)that seems to be abandoned. There could be a large area with many tree stumps for the kids, no poison ivy, mosquitoes, mucky mud, etc. The path from the school door is a perfect school project. The bridge from Carol is to be redone. I'm not sure the
- 24 Maybe give some tours of the trails to the public and give them a greater awareness of the true impact of having nice trails in Ann Arbor.

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- 25 1 and 2. There are plenty of quality trees in Dicken Woods. As undesirable species are removed, they should thrive. Planting additional trees of any size is expensive, labor intensive, and risky because survival rates are unpredictable. 5. The establishment of a meeting place is not a good idea because of the disruption it would cause to existing wildlife habitat. An established meeting place also has the potential to turn into an after hours "hangout." Dicken Woods should be a place to go for a brief and quiet walk. 6. The existing trails were carefully laid out to avoid private properties and existing streets. The small size of Dicken Woods does not lend itself to additional trails. 10 and 11. We should limit our activities to Dicken Woods.
- 28 Re question 12: NOT GARDEN FLOWERS!!! Re question 8: info about natural features / plants
- 31 Sorry; this applies to Q 14. I've been there several times and love it. I'm sorry I haven't been able to help out as much as I would like. No excuses, but it's been hard to coordinate. You folks have been doing a fantastic job; it's greatly appreciated. Many of the things I ranked as medium priority probably should be high priority, but I would feel bad if I couldn't help after pushing for them.
- 32 I would really like to see the entrance to dicken woods at the end of dicken Drive enhanced. A huge thanks to all of you who have donated countless hours when the rest of us are not able to do so. THANKS!!!
- 33 I would like this to be of the greatest benefit to the students at Dicken School. Also regarding 1 & 2. I marked both as high- I'd like to some large planted initially but then really go for the saplings that can grow up over the years.
- 34 Overall, I really enjoy Dicken Woods and am very pleased with the progress made with respect to trails, invasive species removal, clean up, etc. I believe we should focus on controlling/removing invasive species of plants/trees but should allow nature to take its course after that. Buying and planting larger trees is expensive, time consuming and labor intensive. I very much like the idea of getting the students of Dicken elementary involved with the preservation and enhancement of the woods but disagree with the idea of creating a larger space to accomodate student classroom sessions. In my opinion, there just isn't enough space in Dicken Woods to accomodate something like this, except maybe at the entrance on Dicken Drive. I like that people want to do alot of different things with DW but the I think we have to realize this really isn't a very large piece of property. Overall, I absolutley love spending time in Dicken Woods. I enjoy taking my dog for a walk through the woods, looking for deer and other small animals with my children or simply enjoying the serenity of the woods.
- 38 Consider an entrance off Pauline Blvd, thereby improving access to the park for users outside the neighborhood.

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- 40 GREAT idea to connect via woodchip path to Dicken. Then maybe we could do an annual springtime "Dicken Woods Day" at Dicken similar to Eberwhite where the kids bring their plastic sleds to school, the parents help shovel wood chips onto the sleds, and the kids schlep the chips throughout the trail. It gets the trails ready for the summer season, and gives the kids ownership. THANK YOU FoDW for your tireless efforts! Our 2nd grader learned so much in the short field trip through the woods. He was thrilled to be able to name and identify the trees and plants. We would love to see someone show some love to Dicken Park, which is near our home. We've asked the city to consider fencing in a play area like Hanson Park, but to no avail. Permanent informational/educational signs sound great, also. You can count on a small herd of cub scouts to help drag the felled buckthorn out to the wood chipper on Freedom from Buckthorn Day, whenever that is scheduled. I am so proud to live in the Dicken neighborhood!
- 41 Question 1, if saplings are planted there is a slight chance that some may not make it. Is it possible do a combination of Question 1 and Question 2?
- 43 I think our neighborhood has invested many hours to "preserve" Dicken Woods. It would not be in the best interest of our community effort to develop projects that would counter-act the "preservation". Trees and flowers that are added need to coincide with the natural environment of the woods. A meeting place would be better suited for the school property rather than depleting an area of the woods where we are attempting to "improve the wildlife habitat". I think Friends of Dicken Woods has done a marvelous job of keeping our neighborhood interests at the focus of our efforts. I hope the woods remain preserved and everyone can enjoy the area without significant modifications. Thank you for your efforts.
- 45 It's important to keep DW as natural as possible for the wildlife and plantlife. The size of open areas should be limited. Gradual elimination of the buckthorne and other changes will allow plants and animals to adjust to changes.
- 47 Due to the dead end nature of Dicken Drive, I don't think spending money on making that the "entrance" would be a good idea without surveying those who live on the street who would be most affected by cars parking in that location. I would be curious to hear other thoughts on this. It would be nice to introduce native wildflowers back into the area after the Buckthorn is gone!
- 48 The woods has been purchased for the reasons we originally intended--to save the land from development and keep a natural area. It is good to have projects that the school kids will be involved with through the trails, wildlife, etc. as part of the school system. However, we should not overextend ourselves by getting too many projects started within DW and certainly not extending to other park areas at this time. Many people who contributed monetarily may not have the time or inclination/motivation to put in a lot of physical effort to get the woods more than just a nature preserve.

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