



# Millage Q&A

## Answers to a few of the frequently asked questions about the Charlton Park Millage:

**How long has Charlton Park been owned by Barry County?**

Charlton Park was given to Barry County by Mr. Irving Charlton in 1936. This year the Park is marking 80 years, 1936—2016.

**What are some ways that the funds from the Charlton Park Millage will be spent?**

Millage funds are used for every part of operating Charlton Park. The funds are used to provide educational programs, provide historical exhibits, preserve and protect historic artifacts and buildings, improve and maintain natural and recreational areas, hiring of staff, and provide opportunities like fishing, picnicking, walking, biking, hiking.

**How does the public know how the Millage funds are spent each year?**

A Board of Directors made up of Citizens-at-Large from Barry County (your neighbor's) are appointed to oversee the operation of Charlton Park. A yearly budget is approved and available for review at the Park office or on our website and a County audit is conducted yearly.

**What will the Charlton Park Millage cost an average homeowner in Barry County?**

The Historic Charlton Park Village, Museum & Recreation Area Millage will cost the homeowner of a \$100,000 dollar home in Barry County about \$1.56 per month, a total of \$18.75 per year.

**Is the \$18.75 per year in addition to what a homeowner is paying now for Charlton Park?**

No. That is the total amount that a \$100,000 dollar Barry County homeowner will pay per year if the Charlton Park Millage is approved.

**How can I figure out how much I will pay per year if the Charlton Park Millage is approved?**

Divide the taxable value of your home by 1000, then multiply that number by 0.375. The taxable value of your home may be different than its selling price. You can find the taxable value of your home by looking at your current tax bill.

Market Value \$100,000 = Taxable Value \$50,000

$\$50,000 \text{ (taxable value)} \div 1,000 \times 0.3750 = \$18.75$

**Vote Tuesday, August 2, 2016**

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# Millage Q&A Historic Charlton Park

## What does all that language mean about DDA and LDFA?

This language is required by the State of Michigan. Barry County is like most counties in Michigan where cities and other smaller communities that have Downtown Development Authorities (DDA) are allowed to capture taxes within the boundaries of that DDA to spend on improvements within their own boundaries. These boundaries do not apply to the whole county.

## Who benefits from Historic Charlton Park?

Everyone. Charlton Park is available for the citizens of Barry County year round. Local Scout Troops, County Youth groups, Veteran groups, Antique Tractor clubs, local companies and businesses, reenactors, artisans, craftsmen, fishing tournaments, family reunions, and many others.

## Why is there a fee for entry during Special Events?

Special events are one of the many ways we generate additional revenue for our many projects and functions at the park.

## Where can I learn more about Charlton Park?

You can call the Historic Charlton Park office at (269) 945-3775 or visit the Historic Charlton Park website at [www.charltonpark.org](http://www.charltonpark.org) or "Like Us" on Facebook, or connect on Twitter.

## BALLOT PROPOSAL

### BARRY COUNTY

#### MILLAGE PROPOSITION NEW ADDITIONAL MILLAGE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF HISTORIC CHARLTON PARK VILLAGE, MUSEUM AND RECREATION AREA

Shall the limitation on general ad valorem taxes that may be assessed against all taxable real and personal property in Barry County, Michigan be increased as provided by Section 6, Article IX of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, by 0.3750 mill (\$0.3750 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of ten (10) years, 2017 through 2026, both inclusive, to provide funding for operation and maintenance of Historic Charlton Park Village, Museum and Recreation Area, subject to reduction as provided by law?

The purpose of this levy is to provide funding for operation and maintenance of Historic Charlton Park Village, Museum and Recreation Area, and related recreation facilities and programs including, but not limited to, educational programs, preservation of historic artifacts, conserving of historic structures, and maintaining recreational resources, trails, and park safety.

If approved, it is estimated that the levy of 0.3750 mill will provide revenue of \$767,476 in the first calendar year of the levy of which \$755,298 will be disbursed to Barry County for the operation and maintenance of Historic Charlton Park Village, Museum and Recreation Area. It is estimated that \$12,178 will be disbursed among the City of Hastings DDA and LDFA, and Village of Middleville DDA. The estimated \$12,178 is levied within a predefined area in the City of Hastings and Village of Middleville only.

Yes (\_\_\_\_)

No (\_\_\_\_)

## Vote Tuesday, August 2, 2016

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