



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Huron-Manistee National Forests  
Manistee Ranger Station  
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Date: March 20, 2008

Dear Forest Visitor,

Visitor use at some campgrounds on the Huron-Manistee National Forest has been declining for several years. Udell Rollways Campground in Manistee County, Michigan has very low use and generates low revenues. Continuing to operate this site has become cost prohibitive due to rising maintenance and operational costs. As a result, the Forest Service is considering creative ways to utilize this site to meet current and future recreational demands. Manistee County recently completed an analysis called Envision Manistee. This project recommended development of a disc golf course in Manistee County. The intent of this project is to consider development of a disc golf course at Udell Rollways Campground. For more information about disc golf, see the attachment enclosed with this letter.

The Manistee Ranger Station is proposing to work, in partnership with Casman Academy of Manistee, to develop a **disc golf course** at the Udell Rollways Campground and Day Use Area. The first year would include planning of an **18-hole** disc golf course at the site. In the summer and late fall of 2008, the campground facilities including the campground loop road, a toilet, 16 picnic tables, 16 fire rings, and 22 parking spurs will be decommissioned and/or removed. In addition, the first 9 holes of the course would be constructed. Resource modification of the area to accommodate the disc golf fairways would include the removal or trimming of up to 150 trees, as well as brush clearing and mowing of the area around the tees and holes. Plant removal will be kept to a minimum by planning routes to reduce tree and brush removal. Signs would be installed along the course directing players to the tees and holes. In 2009, the remaining 9 holes would be constructed. Facilities that will be added or modified for the disc golf course include; 8 picnic tables 2 fire rings, 2 grills, 18 disc golf baskets, tees, benches and fairways. The current CCC (Civil Conservation Corps) picnic shelter would remain and a new accessible toilet would be installed. This project would retain the natural character of the site.

Other interested volunteers and groups would also be invited to participate in this project. Once the disc golf course is built, the area may be included in the **Recreation Enhancement Act (REA)** as a fee site. REA fees would cover most of site maintenance costs, including toilet maintenance and trash removal.

The Forest Service believes designing and implementing a disc golf course at this site is an appropriate recreational use of National Forest System lands and **helps** meet public recreational use demands. A partnership involving local students would help the project's success while involving young people in management of their national forest. Disc golf will provide a venue for young people and family groups to connect to their environment and promote continued enjoyment of the beautiful Udell Rollways area.



The Forest Service is interested in receiving comments from you, the forest visitor, concerning this planned alternative use. We will include your responses in our evaluation process. We appreciate your interest, input, and information. If you have any questions or you need further information, please contact Ramona DeGeorgio-Venegas at the Manistee Ranger Station at (231) 723-2211 extension 3108.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Jim Thompson*

JIM A. THOMPSON  
District Ranger

enclosure