

The Planning Commission has completed a landscape design plan for the Ten Mile Road corridor, as a result of increased development along Ten Mile Road, both from outside and within the Township. The plan prescribes a general layout for landscaping along the road and identifies specific types of trees, shrubs, and grasses associated with the more rural landscape.

### Vacant Land Use

Vacant land, which is any land not developed and not farmed, occupies 6,087.5 acres or 29.97 percent of the total land area of the Township, and is the second largest land use category behind residential land use. The loss of vacant land is often felt even more strongly than the loss of agricultural land since vacant land is generally found in a natural state.

### Rights-of-Way

Road rights-of-way occupy 739.3 acres or 3.64 percent of the total land area of the Township. This figure does not include rights-of-way where the adjacent parcels are measured to the center of the road. The I-96 freeway, with a 300-foot wide right-of-way, comprises the biggest piece of right-of-way acreage in the Township. Railroad right-of-way is also included in the right-of-way. As the Township develops, the amount of land area for rights-of-way will increase.

### Other Land Uses

**Airport.** The Oakland/Southwest Airport occupies 77 acres, or 0.4 percent of the total land area of the Township. Hangars and other support facilities have been upgraded in recent years, and a master plan is being prepared to address future improvements and expansion.

The 1991 Southeast Michigan Regional Aviation System Plan prepared for SEMCOG indicated that the Oakland/Southwest Airport is a general utility airport, with a 3,128-foot runway. Precision instrument approach operations are not available. The majority of aircraft operating at the airport, according to a 2005 study, are of the single engine and small, twin-engine variety.

**Landfill.** One of the most prominent land uses in the Township in 1991 was the landfill, which occupied about 124 acres of land on the south side of I-96 west of Milford Road. As noted previously, the landfill is now closed and a community park has been developed on its surface.

**Water Bodies.** Water bodies occupy 675.8 acres or 3.33 percent of the total land area of the Township. Water bodies include Lake Angela, Haas Lake, part of Kent Lake, Huron River, and the lakes created by gravel extraction.

### Natural Areas

In 2004, Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services contracted with Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) to update previously collected data regarding