

# HIC Project - Final Report

## Team Members

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## I. Brief Description of Platform

Application Name: Explore Ohio

### Purpose

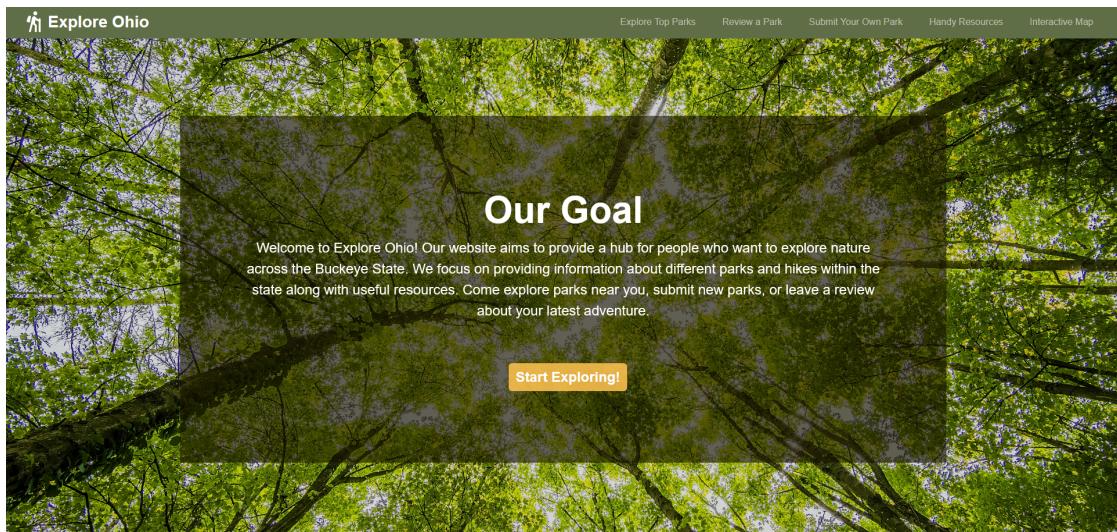
Our application aims to provide a hub for people who want to explore nature around Ohio. This would help ensure that users don't have to visit multiple websites or use multiple applications when searching for a spot for their next hike or other outdoor excursion. Our website would be a one-stop location for anything they would like to know about the park. The website also has the purpose of compiling information about these parks from those in the community.

### Functionality

The website focuses on providing information about different parks and hiking trails across the state. This information includes things such as park locations (coordinates), features, photos, ratings, and comments from other visitors. All of these are provided via a "Park Page" for each park documented on the site. Users can also contribute by adding new parks and reviewing existing parks. Lastly, the website also lists useful external resources for those planning a visit to these different locations.

## II. Page Descriptions, Golden Rules, and Functionality

### Page 1: Home Page



#### **Purpose**

Meant to be an introduction to “Explore Ohio.” This page explains what the website is for, what it hopes to achieve, and how the user can utilize it.

#### **User Interaction and Function**

Users can access the website’s features by clicking the ‘Start Exploring’ button (which takes you to the “Explore Top Parks” page). Alternatively, users can navigate to the page they desire by clicking the links in the navigation bar.

#### **Applicable Golden Rules**

##### **1. Strive for Consistency**

- All parts of this page use the same 4-color color scheme and font.
- The top navigation bar, which is available on all pages, is also available here.
- The interactable button is yellow with white text, like other interactable buttons across the website.

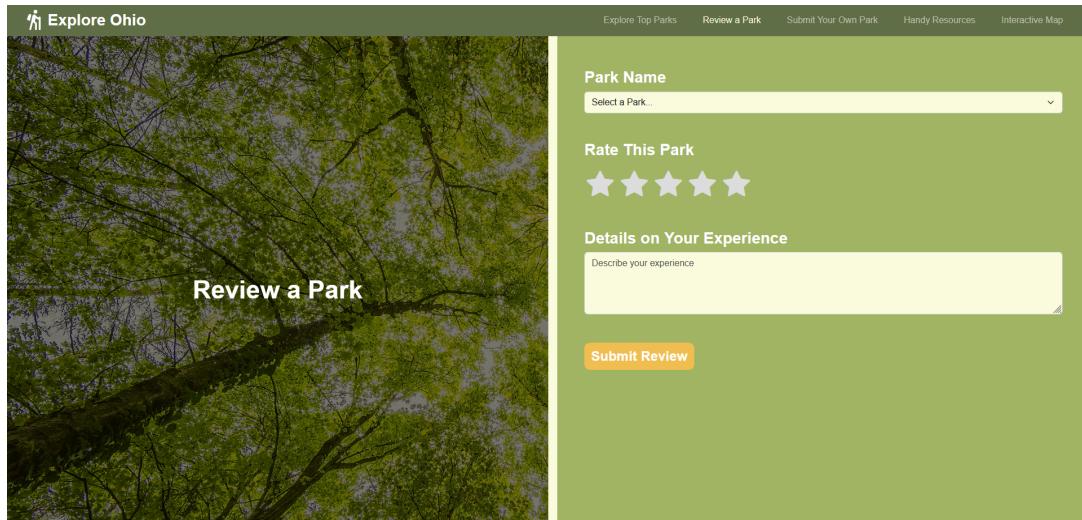
##### **2. Enable Frequent Users to Use Shortcuts**

- The top navigation bar leads to most of the pages throughout the website.

##### **3. Offer Informative Feedback**

- When selecting a page in the navigation bar, its text highlights yellow.
- The “Start Exploring!” button is highlighted when hovered over.

## Page #2: Review a Park



### **Purpose**

This page is meant to allow users to share their opinions and experiences via reviews of different parks on the website. It aims to provide other users, who may not have been to the park, with further information.

### **User Interaction and Function**

Users can select a park to review from the drop-down menu under "Park Name" and can select how many stars they wish to give the park. They can also include additional details about their experience through the text box. Once the user has completed their review, they can hit the "Submit Review" button. This will add their review to our file system and will redirect the user to the park's page where they will be able to see their new review (and its impact on the park's rating).

### **Applicable Golden Rules**

#### **1. Strive For Consistency**

- All parts of this page use the same 4-color color scheme and font.
- The navigation bar is the same as it appears on all pages.
- Has a setup similar to the page for submitting new parks.
- Interactable buttons ("Submit Review") are yellow with white text, like on the rest of the interactable buttons on the site.

#### **2. Enable Frequent Users to Use Shortcuts**

- The review page for a page can be reached through its corresponding park page, through the "Leave a Review" button.
- The top navigation bar leads to the main pages on the website.

**3. Offer Informative Feedback**

- The stars fill in when you hover over or click on them.
- “Park Name” becomes populated when the user selects a park or automatically filled when the user comes from a specific park's page.
- The “Submit Review” button becomes highlighted when hovered over.

**4. Design Dialogs to Yield Closure**

- The user's review is immediately visible on the park's page and immediately affects the park's rating.
- The user is taken to the park's page once they hit “Submit Review.”

**5. Offer Simple Error Handling**

- Selection of the Park Name from existing parks on the website ensures that the file system has a proper location to store the review and that it can always be displayed to users.

**6. Permit Easy Reversal of Actions**

- Star ratings and text boxes can easily be changed or unselected by the user while they are on this page.

**7. Keep the User in Control (Support Internal Locus of Control)**

- The user can customize their review that will show up on the website (how many stars, text about their experience).

**8. Reduce Short-term Memory Load**

- The form is only one page long, reducing back and forth movements.
- The user doesn't have to remember information from previous pages to fill out the form.
  - For example, the park name autofills.

## Page #3: Submit a Park

The screenshot shows the 'Submit New Park' page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: 'Explore Top Parks', 'Review a Park', 'Submit Your Own Park', 'Handy Resources', and 'Interactive Map'. The main area has a large background image of a forest. On the left, a button says 'Submit New Park'. The right side has form fields: 'Park Name' (text input), 'Latitude, Longitude' (text input), 'Is this a Park or Hiking Trail?' (checkboxes for 'Park' and 'Hiking Trail'), 'Select Tags' (dropdown menu with placeholder 'Select Tags...'), and two buttons: 'Upload Photos' and 'Submit Park'.

### Purpose

This page allows users to add new parks to the site. These additions help the community contribute and allows the amount of information that can be accessed on the website to expand. As more users submit more parks, the website will become even more useful for future users.

### User Interaction and Function

Users can choose the name of the park they are adding via the "Park Name" field and specify its location in the Latitude, Longitude section. The user can also select what type of location they are adding, such as a park, a hiking trail, or both. Next, the user can choose up to six existing tags (features) to further describe the park. Lastly, they can upload photos of the park before they hit submit. They are then redirected to their newly created park page.

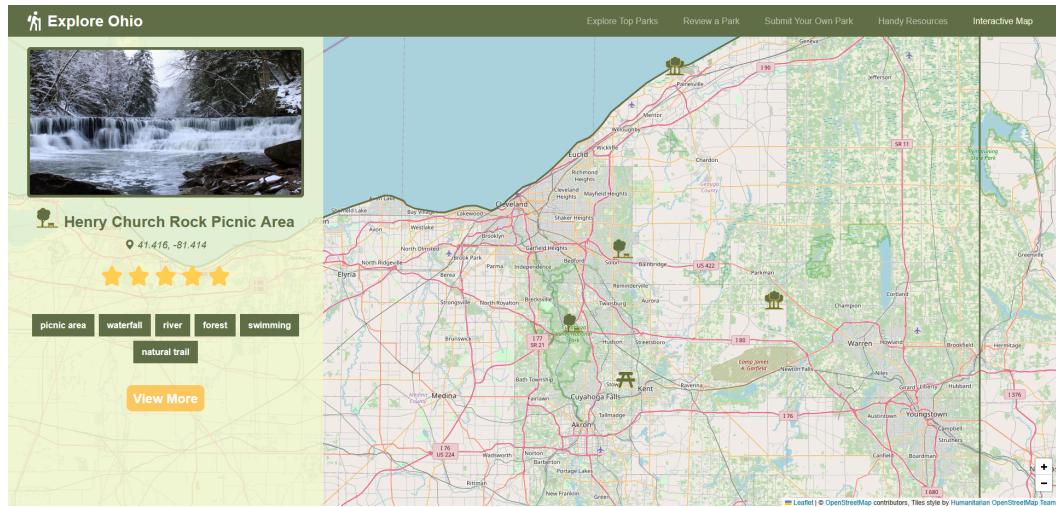
### Applicable Golden Rules

#### 1. Strive for Consistency

- All parts of this page use the same 4-color color scheme and font.
- The navigation bar is the same as it appears on all pages.
- Has a setup similar to the page for reviewing parks.
- Interactable buttons ("Submit Review", "Upload Photos") are yellow with white text, the same as the rest of the site.
- The selection buttons highlight yellow with a dark green outline, like other selection/filter buttons across the website.
- The tags appear in the same style as on other pages (dark green boxes).

2. Enable Frequent Users to Use Shortcuts
  - The top navigation bar leads to the more important pages on the website.
3. Offer Informative Feedback
  - The “Upload Photos” and “Submit Park” buttons become highlighted when hovered over.
  - The “type” buttons (Park, Hike) highlight yellow when selected.
4. Design Dialog to Yield Closure
  - Upon submitting the form, the user will be redirected to their newly created park page.
5. Offer Simple Error Handling
  - An internal filter ensures that the Latitude and Longitude entered by the user is in the correct format to enter our file system correctly.
6. Permit Easy Reversal of Actions
  - Text inputs and selections can easily be changed/unselected by the user while they are on the page.
  - Each tag includes an “x” that allows it to be removed.
7. Keep the User in Control (Support Internal Locus of Control)
  - Users can customize how their park will show up on the website (name, tags about features, etc).
8. Reduce Short-term Memory Load
  - The form is kept to one page only, which removes the need to go back to a previous page to fix things.
  - The user doesn’t have to remember info from previous pages to fill out the form.
    - For example, all possible tags are available in the drop-down.

## Page #4: Map



### Purpose

This map is meant to allow users to explore existing parks in a more hands-on and visual manner than simply looking through a filtered list. Additionally, it is intended to make it easier for users to find parks closer to them.

### User Interaction and Function

Users can zoom in and out to view the entire state of Ohio, which is indicated with a green outline. Users can also click on various park icons scattered across the map to view the corresponding information. This causes basic information about their corresponding park, such as name, precise location, rating, and tags, to be viewed in the left panel. From here, the user can click "View More" to navigate to that park's page or they can click on another park's icon.

### Applicable Golden Rules

#### 1. Strive for Consistency

- All parts of this page use the same 4-color color scheme and font.
- The navigation bar is the same as it appears on all pages.
- Interactable buttons ("View More") are yellow with white text, like on the rest of the site.
- The tags appear in the same style as on other pages (dark green boxes).

#### 2. Enable Frequent Users to Use Shortcuts

- Users can easily access specific parks' pages from this map.
- The top navigation bar grants easy access to many pages throughout the website.

**3. Offer Informative Feedback**

- A menu page pops up which corresponds to the park that the user clicked on.
- The “View More” button becomes highlighted when selected.

**4. Keep the User in Control (Support Internal Locus of Control)**

- Users can choose which parts of the map to view, how zoomed in or out they are, and which park menus to view.

## Page #5: Explore Top Parks

The screenshot shows a two-column layout. The left column is titled 'Filters' and contains options for 'Choose Minimum Star Rating' (5 stars), 'Type' (with 'Park' and 'Hiking Trail' buttons, where 'Hiking Trail' is highlighted in orange), and 'Filter by Tag' (with a dropdown menu labeled 'Select Tags...'). Below these is a yellow button labeled 'Give Me Something Random!'. The right column is titled 'Top Rated Parks' and lists four locations: 1. Henry Church Rock Picnic Area (5.0 stars, waterfall photo), 2. Buckeye Trail - Northern Terminus (5.0 stars, trailhead photo), 3. Nelson Ledges (3.8 stars, cliff face photo), and 4. Brandywine Falls (4.5 stars, waterfall photo). Each listing includes a small tree icon.

### Purpose

This page is intended to allow users to explore existing parks in a more precise way than through the map. The addition of filters intends to help users find parks that fit what they're looking for. The ranking of parks from highest rated to lowest rated helps users find the best locations first. The "Give Me Something Random!" button is there to help users who aren't quite sure what they're looking for.

### User Interaction and Function

Users can filter the parks that appear on the right using the options on the left. They can select a minimum star rating that parks must be, which Type the location must be ("Park", "Hiking Trail", or both), and which tags the locations must have. The user can click anywhere on the visible parks' cards to be taken to the respective park page. Lastly, the user can click the "Give Me Something Random!" button to be taken to a random park's page on the website.

### Applicable 8-Golden Rules

#### 1. Strive for Consistency

- All parts of this page use the same 4-color color scheme and font.
- The navigation bar is the same as it appears throughout the website.
- Interactable buttons ("Give Me Something Random!") are yellow with white text, like on the rest of the site.
- The tags appear in the same style as on other pages (dark green boxes).

- The Type filter buttons highlight yellow with a dark green outline, like other selection/filter buttons across the website.

2. Enable Frequent Users to Use Shortcuts

- The “Give Me Something Random!” button provides a shortcut to a random park’s page.
- The top navigation bar leads to the frequently used pages throughout the website.

3. Offer Informative Feedback

- Filtering by any of the available options will immediately change the parks the user sees on the right.
- Minimum Rating stars fill in when selected or hovered over.
- The “Give Me Something Random!” button becomes highlighted when hovered over.
- The selection buttons (Park, Hike) highlight yellow when selected.

4. Permit Easy Reversal of Actions

- Each tag includes an “x” that allows it to be removed.
- Users can easily deselect all filters.

5. Keep the User in Control (Support Internal Locus of Control)

- Users can adjust the parks they are being shown by choosing different filters.

6. Reduce Short-term Memory Load

- All selected filters are always displayed, including the tags, so the user does not need to remember what they have selected.
- The user doesn’t have to remember info from previous pages to fill out the form.
  - For example, all possible tags are available in the drop-down.

## Page #6: Park Page

The screenshot shows the 'Explore Ohio' website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Explore Top Parks', 'Review a Park', 'Submit Your Own Park', 'Handy Resources', and 'Interactive Map'. Below the navigation is a search bar with the placeholder 'Search Parks & Locations'. The main content area features a green header for 'Nelson Ledges' with a tree icon, a rating of 3.8 stars, and coordinates 41.319, -81.035. It includes sections for 'Tags' (waterfall, cave, difficult, natural trail), 'Reviews (4)', and a 'Leave a Review!' button. The reviews section contains four entries with star ratings and short descriptions. To the right, there's a 'Gallary' section with two images: one of a waterfall cascading down rocks and another showing large, layered rock formations in a forest.

### Purpose

The Park Page is intended to allow users to find specific information about a park they wish to learn more about or explore themselves. It aims to help them choose whether it's a location they should visit or not. It also provides a place for users to see images of a location that they may be unable to physically visit.

### User Interaction and Function

Users can scroll through photos and reviews corresponding to the park they are viewing. They can find a lot of information about the park including its name, rating, location, tags, reviews, and photos. The user can also rate the park by using the "Leave a Review!" button, which takes them to the "Rate a Park" page.

### Applicable Golden Rules

#### 1. Strive for Consistency

- All parts of this page use the same 4-color color scheme and font.
- The navigation bar is the same as it appears on all pages.
- Interactable buttons ("Leave a Review!") are yellow with white text, like on the rest of the site.
- The tags appear in the same style as on other pages (dark green boxes).

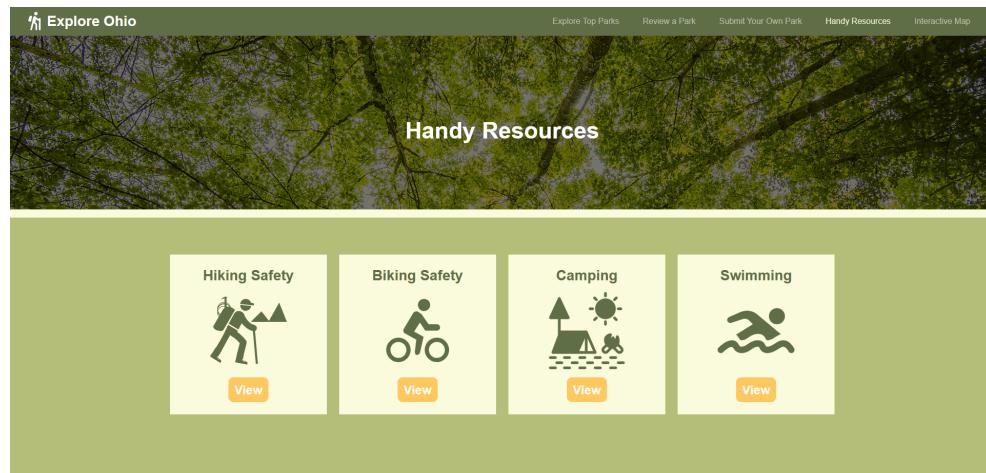
#### 2. Enable Frequent Users to Use Shortcuts

- The "Leave a Review!" button provides a shortcut to the "Review a Park" page for this particular park.
- The top navigation bar leads to most of the pages throughout the website.

3. Offer Informative Feedback

- The “Leave a Review!” button becomes highlighted when hovered over.

## Page #7: Handy Resources



### **Purpose**

The Handy Resources are intended to allow users to find information relevant to their visits to different parks. It encourages users of this website to be better informed about their activities, common safety practices, and relevant regulations in the state of Ohio.

### **User Interaction and Function**

Users can click on the individual “View” buttons within each info card to find more information about these various activities. From here, the user is directed to external, educational sites selected by us.

### **Applicable Golden Rules**

1. Strive for Consistency
  - All parts of this page use the same 4-color color scheme and font.
  - The navigation bar is the same as it appears on all pages.
  - Interactable buttons (“View”) are yellow with white text, like on the rest of the site.
2. Enable Frequent Users to Use Shortcuts
  - The top navigation bar leads to most of the pages throughout the website.
3. Offer Informative Feedback
  - When selecting the links in the navigation bar, they highlight yellow.
  - The “View” buttons will be highlighted when hovering over them.