

Bristol Parks

Hermance Park

River & Pavilion Park

Hermance was Bristol's first Park

The Park was presented to the Town in 1959 by the Bristol Conservation Park in time to hold that year's Bristol Homecoming. Profits from Homecomings were used to further develop the Park. It is located at the north end of Apollo Street next to the St. Joseph River Public Access Site. It is north of State Rd. 120 on the south side of the River, where it joins the Little Elkhart River. The five acre plot is low land and can flood at times.

Origin of the Name

The Park was named for Bud Hermance, a long-time Bristol resident and one-time Town Marshal.

Pavilion Rental available

Amenities

The Park includes a enclosed Pavilion that rents for events such as wedding receptions and family reunions. It is equipped with a kitchen, restrooms, tables and chairs to accommodate between 125-150. South and west of the Pavilion is an area with picnic tables, new playground equipment and park benches along the River. For Pavilion rental information, call 574-848-7007 M-F 8:30-1pm. The Park adjoins the I.D.N.R owned River access and they share a graveled parking lot. There are two boat ramps which were updated in Sept. 2004. A number of events are held here, including the yearly Bridge to Bridge race. The 2008 US Canoe Association National races were also held here. Kayakers and Canoe fans use the river access to paddle up the River to Michigan.

