

PARKS FRIENDS UPDATE



VOL. 2, ISSUE 3

OCTOBER 15, 2024

A quarterly newsletter brought to you by Sun Prairie Parks Friends, Inc. (501.c.3)

Third Quarter 2024—Celebrating, Anticipating, and Dreaming



Volunteer



Improve Our Parks



Improve Our World



Be a Park Friend

Celebrating—Westwynde Community Playground Build



In close collaboration with the Sun Prairie Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department and the Westwynde Homeowners Association, the Parks Friends completed its third community playground build in Westwynde Park. Volunteers from the Parks Friends, the local neighborhood, community, playground contractor, and as far away as Madison, gathered to construct the new playground equipment in the park. The work included unpacking, assembling, and securing the equipment in place with concrete. The crews worked tirelessly throughout the day to complete the project. Then city crews spread wood mulch and the contractor completed poured-in-place surfaces for accessibility. This partnership with the City has saved an estimated \$18,000 over three years that the city is able to reinvest in better equipment for the parks.



Many Thanks to all who participated in this community building event in our parks!

Celebrating—Disc Golf Practice Course

The practice disc golf course at Wyndham Hills continues to see use. As the city's Comprehensive Open Space and Recreation Plan (CORP) is being revised and updated, the more use the course sees the greater the chance that we will see a 9 or 18 hole course in Sun Prairie. You can record your use of the course on the Udisc website to help increase those chances. Here is the site address and a QR code:

<https://udisc.com/courses/wyndham-hills-park-7gUO>



Dreaming—Membership—Join Now The Parks Friends is supported by membership dues (\$15 individual, \$25 family) and the various fund raisers. We need you all to join/renew so we can provide support to the Parks in the way we have over the past four years. It is a reasonable price to pay for the efforts that impact all of the residents of Sun Prairie.

Join or Renew Now so we can continue our efforts!

Renew, Invite Others to Join, Volunteer, and Donate to Support Parks in Sun Prairie!

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<https://parksfriends.org/>

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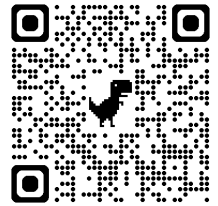


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Anticipating—Comprehensive Open Space and Parks Master Plan Update — 2024

The Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department is in the process of developing a new 5-year Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP). This important planning document uses community feedback, a thorough inventory of our park assets, and insights from related plans (such as the City's comprehensive plan and active transportation plan) to identify the department's priorities and investments for the next five years. The project timeline includes presenting a draft to the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission by December, gathering public feedback December/January, and aiming for Council adoption in February.



Here is the address and QR code for their site: <https://rec.cityofsunprairie.com/Default.aspx?id=152>



Dreaming – Changes in Organization to Better Support Our Parks

The Parks Friends is 4 years old now and we are looking at how we can better support our parks and community. We are looking at potentially creating a designated fund to create a foundation model to provide a more stable financial base to fund projects and provide continuing support in the future. If you have or know someone who has experience in non-profit work, please consider joining our board to help as we plan for the future and to expand our ability to support our parks and the people who use them.

Need information about joining the Board email a board member: <https://parksfriends.org/>



Celebrating —Where to find us

Throughout the year the Friends are visible and available at various events in the City. You can find us at the Farmers Market, National Night Out, Adult Recess, Night at the Ice Rink, and Sun Prairie Move Bike and Brats event. Join us and find out more about what we do and how we support the city and its parks.

Stop by our booth and pick up shirt, hat, and disc's!

Upcoming Activities

Volunteer Opportunity—Trunk or treat—October 26, 2024, Sign Up:<https://cityofsunprairie.volunteermatters.org/project-catalog/54>

Invasive Plant Removal from the Parks —Fall 2024/Winter 2025—Saturdays, starting November, watch our Facebook and Website.

Annual Meeting—January 21, 2025—TBA

Frozen Fest—January 26—February 2—Throughout the City

Earth Day Park Clean Up—April 26, 2025 (Tentative)

Pollinator Garden Installation—May 2025

Community Playground Build—Fall 2025, Park to be announced

Be an active supporter of the Parks in Sun Prairie!



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