



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

2nd Quarter of 2025 — Celebrating, Anticipating, and Dreaming



Celebrating – Earth Day 2025

Once the community of Sun Prairie turned out for the signature community involvement event, the Earth Day Park clean-up. Over 150 people including individuals, community groups, churches, businesses, elected officials and city staff joined together to clean up every park in the City of Sun Prairie. This event showcases the spirit of the community and prepares our parks for the new season of enjoyment. One impression that was shared by the volunteers this year was that it appeared that they were picking up less trash than in previous years. The combination of community ownership of the parks fostered by this event and the city's Park Steward program contributed to the condition of our parks.

Join us next year for this event or participate in the Park Steward program through the City.

<https://cityofsunprairie.volunteermatters.org/project-catalog/20>



Celebrating – Practice Disc Golf Improvements and Master Plan

Disc Golf is seeing progress in providing facilities for those who participate in the sport in the area. Recently three additional tee boxes were added to the existing practice course in Wyndham Hills Park. This uses the existing baskets to create three additional holes that allows for a variety of playing experiences on the existing course. All this is in anticipation of a larger course in the City in the future.

The first steps towards a new disc golf course are underway. Sun Prairie Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department is working with a consultant to do a masterplan for a course in Sun Prairie. The master plan will site and provide a recommended layout for the course. Watch our website for updates on the plan and any fund-raising efforts to assist the city in the construction and installation of the course. We are still selling individual discs or sets as part of our effort to improve the disc golf facilities in Sun Prairie.

Here is a link to our disc golf page: <https://parksfriends.org/discgolf.html>



Parks Friends Update



Anticipating – Wyndham Hills Pickleball Sunshades

The Fund raising is complete and we are awaiting delivery and installation of the sunshades in Wyndham Hills Park for the Pickleball Courts. Thanks to all that contributed to the project to have these much-needed shades provided and installed. The courts continue to see increased use and more tournaments, attracting visitors from all over the state to Sun Prairie and our parks. This combined effort of the Sun Prairie Pickleball Advisory Group, the City, and the Friends is an example of what is possible through collaboration. More information at:

<https://parksfriends.org/pickle.html>

Celebrating and Anticipating – Native Plantings

The Friends planted native plantings in Wyndham Hills Park this spring in the area that was control burned earlier in the year. This native planting area was done in coordination with the City Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department to create a native flower bed in the park. The plants were obtained through Dane County to support the effort to restore native plants in parks and open spaces.

The Friends will be planting additional plants this year in Thoreau Park on September 13th at 1:30 pm. Watch Facebook event site for the details and updates for the planting day and join us in restoring our open spaces with native plantings.

Interested in helping or would like more information? Go to our Facebook site:

<https://www.facebook.com/ParksFriends>



Dreaming – Upcoming Events and Initiatives

The Friends are continuing work to establish a fund to finance our operations and fund projects for the city parks. If you have experience or expertise in foundation work, consider joining the new investment committee.

Our major events for the year are:

- Native Plantings Installation – September 13th at 1:30 pm watch our Facebook site for updates and to register for the event. <https://www.facebook.com/ParksFriends>
- Invasive Warriors – 3rd Saturdays, Sheehan Park in September (9:00am start), then Smith's Crossing Park October through December. (10:00 am start)
- Community Playground Builds – (watch our Facebook site for details)
 - Carriage Hills/Turkey Run – October 14
 - Glacier Crossing – October 16
 - Schey – October 21
- Annual Meeting – January 2026