

# Parks & Recreation Monthly Update

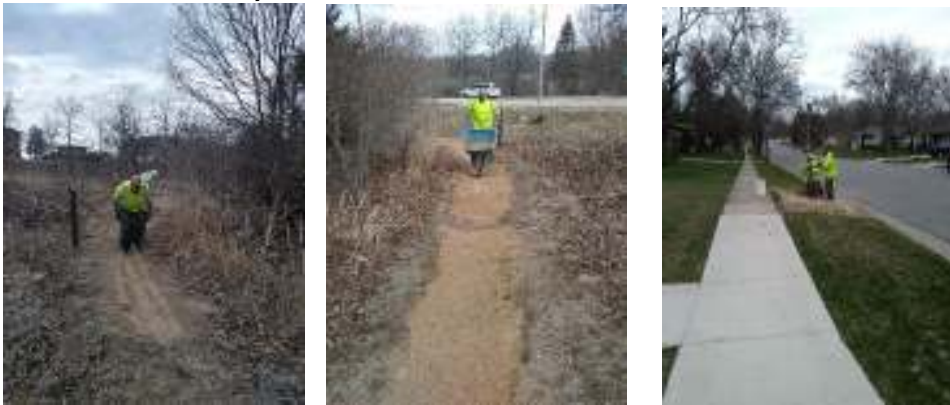


**April 2022**

Date: April 29, 2022

There will be extended office hours at the Parks & Recreation office to facilitate purchasing aquatic center season passes, program registrations, and shelter reservations: Wednesday, May 24 open until 6:30pm & Saturday, June 4 open from 9am -12pm.

## Park & Conservancy Maintenance



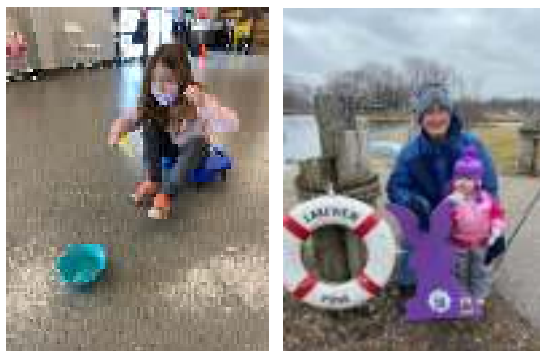
- Staff have been working on typical spring work over the past month including trail repair, tree planting in street terraces, preparing parks and restrooms for the upcoming busy season.
- Progress continues on the FEMA environmental assessment of the Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor reconstruction project. This document is anticipated to be completed in June with streambank stabilization work to follow shortly thereafter.
- The wet weather of March and April has had a significant negative impact on the amount of prescribed burning conducted in the conservancy lands system. Given the need for precipitation however, we aren't too upset by this. Burning will now be suspended for the season due to avian nesting commencing, we hope to be able to conduct burns this fall with favorable weather conditions.

## Youth Center Holds Cultural Showcase Event



The Youth Center held our first Cultural Showcase event which was a huge success, with many students and families participating and sharing cultural food, music, clothing, etc! The Youth Center is in the midst of summer enrollment and already have 32 returning students enrolled and 25 new students who will enter the lottery. Three wonderful MSW interns are finishing their internships this month at the Youth Center, two will stay on as PASS AmeriCorps members co-leading the Summer Day Camp program.

## Recreation Corner



- The Bunny Hop Returned to Middleton during the Months of April and May. We had over 250 participants get out to find all the bunnies and then unscramble the letters. 3 winners were drawn winning gift certificates from Barriques Coffee, Hubbard Diner & I'm Board Games & Family Fun.
- Adult Badminton, Youth Soccer & Tennis kicked off in April. Badminton registration and attendance continues to increase each session as we near pre-pandemic levels of participation.
- We also had a number of enrichment classes that our participants enjoyed including a Step into Spring Cooking Program, 61 Seconds to Complete It.
- Summer registration started with a bang on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Nearly 1800 program registrations were processed in the first 24 hours generating total revenue of \$85,370.
- Staff has been busy with the seasonal interview and hiring process, onboarding nearly 40 new staff members.
- Pool passes and 10 punch cards are available for sale for the outdoor pool for the first time since 2019.
- Preparation for the 2022 West Middleton Baseball and Softball season is underway. Three of the Four leagues have reached maximum enrollment.

## Market Street Playground



The future site of this new playground has been prepped with construction anticipated to start the week of May 2<sup>nd</sup>. It is anticipated that the construction process will take 4-6 weeks. The playground is being custom built on-site by GRG Playscapes.

## MBSC Donates Shed

On April 4<sup>th</sup> the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission accepted a donation of a new shed to serve the baseball/softball complex. The new shed will include housing most of the electrical infrastructure for the complex and provide greater weather prevention for this equipment in addition to increasing storage for both the City and MBSC.

## Penni Klein Park

On April 18<sup>th</sup> the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission approved an updated concept plan for ADA improvements to Penni Klein Park which will bring the soccer fields and baseball field into compliance. The plan also implements a series of berms to prevent vehicle access to the fields. Implementation of the plan will go through the budget process with hopes of construction in 2023.

Make Plans Now to Attend National Trails Day on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. The City of Middleton has partnered with the Friends of Pheasant Branch, and Dane County Parks on this year's event. A full listing of activities will be made available soon.



# National Trails Day Celebrating the Outdoors

Saturday, June 4, 2022 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Orchid Heights Park in Middleton and Pheasant Branch Conservancy

Join us for a community-wide, inclusive, family event with interactive activities and short talks throughout the open lands of the Pheasant Branch Conservancy. We will have many stations and learn-as-you-go activities for all ages and abilities.

Hosted by the Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy, the City of Middleton Parks & Recreation and the Dane County Parks.

This is a free event and an open house concept - Come for the entire afternoon or parts of the program schedule. A full program schedule will be posted on host social media websites and in the local media sources several weeks prior to the event.

Come dressed for the weather.

Parking is limited. Consider car pools, biking or walking to the event.



Thanks to Foundation for Dane County Parks and Bader Philanthropies

## Important Upcoming Dates

May 16, 2022: Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission Meeting

May 27, 2022: Lakeview Park Splashpad Opens

June 4, 2022: National Trails Day

June 9, 2022: Walter Bauman Aquatic Center Opens

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