

## **SEPTEMBER, 2014 WRITTEN REPORT OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTIVITIES EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR**

August was a fairly dry month (as usual) and that afforded us the opportunity to shut down mowing crews to work on other projects. We completed grubbing all the ash stumps from the trees we removed earlier this spring. We were able to grub, add topsoil, and seed over 100 stumps. While the grubbing was going on, we continued to preemptively remove ash trees. We removed 30 ash trees in August. We also worked on weeding garden beds, pruning trees and shrubs, performing field renovation work, and other projects to improve the aesthetics and quality of our parks.

The end of August also marks the time that our students leave us and go back to school. Seven students left at the end of the month and we want to thank them for the great work they performed this season. Overall, we had an exceptional crew this year. Several of our employees far exceeded the expectations we had for them. Now that the students have left, we have twelve seasonal employees left to finish out the rest of the season.

As we move into September we will be getting back on our mowing and trimming routes. We will be helping Parks Construction haul topsoil from Breese Stevens Field. And we will soon begin some softball diamond renovation work.

## **CENTRAL PARKS & MALL CONCOURSE – LISA LASCHINGER, SUPERVISOR**

### **Central Parks**

The month of August quickly passed. We were able to catch a tiny break in mowing operations, which allowed us to do a few projects including prep work at Leopold, stump grubbing and weeding at the pool. In addition, we did more extensive detailing at Olin Park and Orton Park in preparation for special events, which included Great Taste, Tug of War and Orton Fest. In addition, Central Park hosted the final Central Park Sessions for the season. As the month came to a close all of our students returned to school and we are left with approximately half the staff we had through the summer.

As we move into September, we are wrapping up our recycling program and will be returning the receptacles to the Streets Division. We are continuing to provide drivers for Construction to complete the Breese Stevens Project and to Forestry to assist in EAB efforts. In addition, mowing operations are back to full strength, as the grass quickly recovered from the short period of dormancy. We will also begin aerating and overseeding operations, starting with Orton Park. We are working with Tug of War and Great Taste organizers to repair the grounds of Olin Park following their events. We will be training hayride drivers and facilitating the hayrides themselves. We will install two additional football fields, one at Thut and one at Waunona Park by the first part of the month and continue to maintain these fields and Penn's in addition to continuing softball prep for the fall leagues. We will also be looking to hire a few more seasonal staff to get us through the fall season.

September looks to be another eventful month, as we still have a number of special events planned. We will see some activity with Iron Man in Law Park the first weekend. Central Park activities will wind down with Yum Yum Fest and Wurst Oktoberfest, which will allow us to complete some much needed repairs. As the month progresses we will adjust our weekend coverage as needed.

### **Mall Concourse**

We saw a little bit of everything throughout the month of August. In addition to our usual maintenance activities, we continued with the sidewalk washing program. We learned that the 500 and 600 blocks just took longer than the rest of the work we had done due to the amount of residue on the walks and the length of the blocks themselves. However, we will have the 600 block completed before we get too far into the month. We had a number of special events throughout the month, including a couple Live on King Concerts and Jazz at 5 series, and wrapped up the month with Taste of Madison. We adjusted schedules and brought in additional staff for Taste to ensure that the walks were as clean as possible prior to the start of activities. We also completed turf repairs and have seen great results with the help of Mother Nature and increased irrigation. We spent time repairing vandalized tree lights on several occasions, but that seems to have slowed for the time being.

Heading into September, we will have a busy couple of weeks of clean-up following Taste of Madison. We also anticipate a large crowd for Iron Man on the first weekend. We will continue with our regular operations (ie. trash, recycling, power washing, mowing, etc). We will have some set-up for the final Live on King Concert. In addition, we've noticed that leaves have begun falling, so by the end of the month, we will anticipate increasing leaf removal efforts.

We are excited to be at full staff for the first time in a few months! Tony Rosen has started with us as Operations Leadworker. In addition, we are welcoming Nate Smith as our newest Parks Maintenance Worker. We are doing our best to get them both familiarized with our operations and the service area as quickly as possible. Both are great additions to our team and we look forward to working with them.

## **WEST PARKS & FOREST HILL CEMETERY – LAURA BAUER, SUPERVISOR**

### **Cemetery**

After an unusually busy July, due to both a wet spring and a lot of burials, Forest Hill Cemetery is beginning to get back to normal. We've caught up on mowing and string trimming, and have gotten into a more regular maintenance mode. There were only 2 full-size burials in August, and 21 burials of cremains.

Staff has also been able to plot out some additional and much-needed ash urn spaces, and has proposed areas for enlargement of an existing section. The feasibility of this proposal will depend on the ability to re-route a section of underground electric service.

### **West Parks**

Meet & Eat on Raymond Road continued in August, with the last one scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup>. Fortunately, there has only been one cancellation due to bad weather. Hauling the tables and barrels in and out every week is a fair amount of work for us, but it seems to bring a lot of positive energy to the neighborhood. This is a good thing for everyone, including our parks maintenance section.

Mowing has picked up again after a mid-summer dry spell. We're back mowing on our routes, but we've lost seven of our 15 seasonals and until we're able to replace them we won't be getting through things as quickly as we'd prefer.

Softball is finished for the season, but we're still maintaining soccer fields.

The Elver splash pad was a popular feature for the few weeks it was open this year. The recirculating design (like Reindahl's) is new for Madison, and its operation is still being fine-tuned by Facilities Maintenance.

We still have our Equipment Operator on loan to the Construction section most days, to assist with hauling the soil out of Breese Stevens field. On days he's with us, he works on special mowing projects with the flail mower.

Coming up in September, we're looking forward to getting lots of stumps grubbed and aerating our athletic fields. We'll be taking a close look at our athletic field rotation and possibly making a few modifications – one of our soccer fields suffered some unexpected damage, and it's taking a while to recover.

## **CONSERVATION – RUSS HEFTY**

Staff worked on repairing trail damage caused by heavy rainfall in June. We repaired washouts and added water diversion bars at Owen and Elvehjem. The Operation Fresh Start crew added tons of gravel to fill gullies in the trails at Sandburg Woods.

At South Cherokee we installed pre-grown plant patches of river bulrush and pickerel weed in the storm water ponds along Wheeler Rd. We worked with city engineering to mow the sweet clover in the prairie restorations around the ponds on slopes too steep for our equipment. Staff also continued to manage hybrid cattails in the ponds by hand pulling them working out of kayaks.

We moved forward with park development at the 5<sup>th</sup> addition acquisition in North Cherokee Marsh. A contractor moved a 10,000 cubic yd pile of dirt (that was present when we acquired the property) to a nearby "borrow pit" to rebuild the hill. This area and the surrounding former agricultural cropland will be seeded to prairie in fall 2014. Park Planning is working on a design for a parking lot and trailhead where the dirt pile was removed. A contractor will clear the black locust grove along N. Sherman as part of our oak savanna landscape restoration process. Some of the larger trees to be cut will be "topped" to create future nest cavity sites for red-headed woodpeckers and other cavity nesting birds.

We worked with Motor Equipment to get our new fire control water pumpers wired for electricity. This greatly improves our fire control capabilities that are essential to conducting safe and efficient prescribed burns.

Operation Fresh Start completed another successful summer youth program in the conservation parks. Their work is vital to our invasive species management efforts working with garlic mustard, dames rocket, Japanese hedge parsley. They played a crucial part in the oak savanna restoration project at Cherokee Marsh hand girdling aspen trees using sharpened leaf springs. Girdling removes the outer conductive tissue of the trees blocking the flow of nutrients to the roots. The trees slowly die as standing trees creating future nest cavity sites. The "removal" of the aspen helps daylight young oak saplings and creates the open canopy conditions of an oak savanna.

Every year we try to engage the Operation Fresh Start youth in a construction type activity. This year they disassembled an old wood boardwalk at North Cherokee, designed the replacement structure, and installed the new belly boardwalk. A job well done that will be enjoyed by our park visitors!

**EVENTS COORDINATOR – KELLY LAMBERTY**

**2014 Permitted Activities - Street Use**

**Madison, WI**

	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	TOTAL
Events	1	1	2	19	38	35	96
Block Parties						8	8
Amp Permits				5	7	11	23
<b>Total</b>	1	1	2	24	45	54	127

**2013 Permitted Activities - Street Use**

**Madison, WI**

	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	TOTAL
Events	0	1	2	15	28	39	85
Block Parties	0	0	0	0	2	14	16
Amp Permits	0	0	0	3	3	13	19
<b>Total</b>	0	1	2	18	33	66	120

**OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY**

The summer flew by – it hardly seems possible to be at the end of August. However, poinsettia cuttings arrived a couple weeks ago which means that the long nights of fall (required for the formation of the colorful poinsettia bracts) aren't too far off. The summer weather was excellent for garden visitors and garden staff with very little of the devastating and dangerous heat experienced in recent summers. As usual, the gardens are flourishing.

Two Young Writers Camps were hosted at Olbrich for grades 3 – 8 and one session held for high school students. The Greater Madison Writing Project, a collaboration with the University of Wisconsin, also conducts a four week workshops for K-12 teachers' at the Gardens. The students' final program of readings were held on the Great Circle – a great showcase their writing

As staff prepare for fall, annuals and chrysanthemums are going out to freshen containers and planting beds. Fall is a great time to visit the Gardens.

**Visitor comment(s) from the past month :**

08/05/2014 *"It is cool! I like butterflies. I like the flowers. My favorite part was being in nature."* Ryan, age 6

08/28/2014 *"Only got to conservatory – but after 2 1/2 hours, need a break – splendiferous!!!! Will be back later to peruse more---"* Darci J, Bolinas, CA

**May Numbers**

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2014	2013	Previous 5 yrs average
July 1 - 31	41,086	38,786	38,623
YTD July 31	168,959	148,025	
<b>Total Member Households (individuals*) June 30</b>	6,471 (11,593)	6,594 (10,763)	

*\*based on the number of membership cards issued*

OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories (unaudited)	YTD 7/31/2014	YTD 7/31/2013
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$32,287**	\$47,506
Room Rentals YTD*	\$74,194	\$69,902
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$10,157	\$7,705
<b>TOTAL YTD</b>	<b>\$114,212</b>	<b>\$113,377</b>

*\*accrued at time of booking – up to 21 months before the rental date, \*\* accrued on a monthly basis following each catered rental*

*\*\*Blooming Butterfly Cons Admission payments not made before July 31 – will all be reflected in August numbers*

**September 2014 Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens** call **608-246-4550** for more information  
**TRAM Service – WEEKENDS ONLY through mid October**, 10 am – 5 pm  
**Guided Garden Strolls**, Sundays through Sept 28 @ 1:30 & 3 pm **FREE**  
**Book Discussion Group**, Sunday Sept 7 @ 1:30 Wicked Plants by Amy Stewart  
**Thai Fest**, Sunday, Sept 21, 11 am – 4 pm (rain date – Sun, Sept 28)  
**Crackle: Fire and Froth, Friday, Sept 26**, 7 – 10 pm featuring Wheel House  
**Bulk Leaf Mulch Sale**, Saturday, Sept 20 & 27, 9 am – 1 pm

**Education – September 2014** classes and programs 608/246-4550 for info/registration or visit [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org)  
**Garden Walks**

Putting Your Garden to Bed, Tues, Sept 23, 5:30 – 7 pm

**Wellness at the Gardens**

Yoga, Mondays 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm and Thursdays 7:30 – 8:45 am (drop in OK)

Tai Chi Meditation, Mondays, Sept 8 – Oct 13, 6 – 7 pm

**Classes & Workshops for Adults**

Bulbs for Spring Color, Wed, Sept 3, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Willow Furniture Workshop, Sat, Sept 6, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Wisconsin's Aquatic Plants: Identification and Ecology, Mon, Sept 8, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Gardens of Stone, Tues, Sept 9, 6:30 – 8 pm

A Health Lawn for a Healthy Community, Wed, Sept 10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Edible Landscape Plants, From Garden to Kitchen, Thurs, Sept 11, 6:30 – 8 pm

Forest Gardens, Tues, Sept 16, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

The Zero Energy House Workshop, Sun, Sept 21, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

**Learn & Play Together**

**Toddler Story & Stroll: Autumn Adventures with Lois Ehlert Stories** (ages 2 – 4 with adult)

Pie in the Sky, Tues, Sept 9, 10 – 11 am

Nuts to You, Tues, Sept 16, 10 – 11 am

Leaf Man, Tues, Sept 23, 10 – 11 am

**FORESTRY – MARLA EDDY**

Forestry Section	Total Trees	Total Hours
Cycle Pruning	0	0
Pruned by Request	128	224.5
Small Tree Pruning Cycle	0	0
Tree Removals (non EAB preemptive)	187	613
Storm Work/Hangers		125.75
Tree Watering		110

The Forestry Section is steadily working on Emerald Ash Borer treatments. Both the forestry forepersons and forestry specialists began the process of inspecting ash street trees to add to treatment this year and preparing for 2015.

Cycle tree pruning and small tree cycle pruning did not occur on either side of the city. Tree care operations mainly involved request work and removals. We didn't receive much rain in August therefore one person on each side of town spent time watering newly planted street trees.

Forestry specialists have been resolving issues on engineering projects, following up Building Inspection requests for inspections and assisting with the Sidewalk Repair Program as needed.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES – DAWN GROSDIDIER**

**The following report was submitted by Ranger Supervisor Josh Schmitt**

Attached in the monthly report of Park Ranger activities for July 2014. We are hitting our targets numbers for the priority assigned foot patrols of problem parks. As the busy summer season is drawing to a close we will be focusing on the yearly maintenance of Disc Golf courses and awaiting the start of the school year when things calm down a bit. Areas of largest concern during the month of July were Burrows park which had a spike in alcohol issues, Vilas Park issues mainly due to volume of use and the vast number of large special events Park Rangers monitor. We have been working with both Madison and Maple Bluff Police in Burrows park to quell the alcohol issues.

## 2014 Parks Ranger calls for service

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to date
Alcohol Related issues	5	3	3	8	24	18	22						83
Behavioral Ban	0	1	0	3	12	14	2						32
Check Area	32	21	25	41	105	55	61						340
Damage to property	2	2	0	12	12	14	9						51
Dog violation	6	4	24	100	62	38	30						264
Drugs	0	1	0	4	3	1	0						9
Graffiti	2	1	1	6	3	5	7						25
No permanent Address issue	7	5	2	19	28	15	23						99
Incident	2	5	4	3	9	2	5						30
Maintenance needed	0	0	0	26	31	23	23						103
Misc	1	1	0	2	2	37	5						48
Not open/ closed	8	6	5	17	27	26	27						116
Parking issue	12	2	6	26	54	24	34						158
Sport without reservation	0	0	8	18	1	2	0						29
<b>Total reports</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1387</b>

## 2013 Park Ranger calls for service- for comparison

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to date
Alcohol Related issues	6	3	2	10	18	23	23	8	11	8	0	0	112
Behavioral Ban	0	1	0	2	7	26	17	6	16	6	1	0	82
Check Area	26	13	10	29	55	82	152	104	66	51	41	28	657
Damage to property	4	4	0	5	4	4	6	4	4	5	3	1	44
Dog violation	6	4	18	37	34	21	11	13	4	4	7	1	160
Drugs	0	0	2	1	3	1	7	4	4	1	0	0	23
Graffiti	1	0	3	6	13	7	7	6	4	5	0	0	52
No permanent	11	19	9	12	10	38	28	21	21	9	2	3	183

Address issue														
Incident	13	11	2	4	3	7	10	3	10	8	0	0		71
Misc	1	0	1	2	6	23	2	10	6	1	4	2		58
Not open/ closed	1	8	8	18	18	21	15	22	23	25	7	12		178
Parking issue	9	20	11	12	69	50	67	41	23	19	5	0		326
Sport without reservation	0	0	1	29	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0		33
Total reports	78	83	67	167	241	303	345	243	192	143	70	47		1979

## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – KAY RUTLEDGE

### Highland Manor Park

Engineering decided to split the project up into 3 contracts (Utilities, Site work and Building), and re-bid over summer. The first contract for the water main installation has been completed. The second contract for grading has also been completed. Bids were received on the third contract for the storm shelter building and parking lot on July 2, 2014. Low bid was Miron Construction at \$1,323,045.58. The bid was accepted and the contract is going through the signing stage right now with actual construction anticipated to start around September 15th. The groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for September 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM.

### Droster Park Playground

Construction of the Droster Park playground was completed in June. Construction for all of the projects in the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 1 contract is anticipated to be completed by mid-October.

### Pilgrim Park Playground

Construction of the Pilgrim Park playground was completed in July. Construction for all of the projects in the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 1 contract is anticipated to be completed by mid-October.

### Haen Family Park Playground

Construction of Haen Family Park playground was completed in August. Construction for all of the projects in the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 1 contract is anticipated to be completed by mid-October.

### Everglade Park Playground

Construction of the Everglade Park playground was completed in August. Construction for all of the projects in the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 1 contract is anticipated to be completed by mid-October.

### Westport Meadows Park Playground

This playground will be replaced as part of the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 1 contract. Construction is anticipated to be completed in early October.

### Elver and Reindahl Splash Parks

Construction of the Elver and Reindahl Splash Park has been completed by Joe Daniels Construction. The Reindahl Splash Park opened on August 8<sup>th</sup> and the Elver Splash Park opened on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Operations staff will outfit the interior of the Reindahl concessions building this winter. Staff is also working with the City's IT department to provide wireless service at both facilities.

### Central Park

The park was opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 25<sup>th</sup>. The Central Park Phase 1B work is scheduled for construction in 2015. Phase 1B includes a new park entry plaza and pedestrian railroad crossing near the E. Wilson Street intersection with Few Street.

### Central Park Skate Park

On June 6th bids were opened and only one bid was received that was 40% higher than the consultant's cost estimate for the project. The bid was rejected and the project will be re-bid this October with a spring of 2015 construction start.

### **Huegel Park Playground**

Plans and specifications for the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 2 were rebid and opened on August 8th. The Contract was awarded to the low bidder Madison Commercial Landscapes for \$137,466.77. The Contract was approved by the Board of Public Works on August 20<sup>th</sup> and goes to the Common Council for approval on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Construction is anticipated to begin in October.

### **Lucy Lincoln Hiestand Park Playground**

This playground will be replaced as part of the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 2 contract. Please see Huegel Park Playground for additional details.

### **Fisher Street Park Playground**

This playground will be replaced as part of the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 2 contract. Please see Huegel Park Playground for additional details.

### **Burrows Park Playground**

This playground will be replaced as part of the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 2 contract. Please see Huegel Park Playground for additional details.

### **Aldo Leopold Park Shelter**

The contract to install the shelter is anticipated to be awarded Joe Daniels Construction, Inc. for \$36,659.95 at the Board of Public Works meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Two bids were received; the lowest bid was deemed non-responsive for the omission of one of the additional federal requirement forms. After the contract is approved by BPW and the Council, construction is anticipated to begin in October.

### **Bowman Field Lighting Phase Two**

Bids for Bowman Phase Two were opened on August 8<sup>th</sup> and Joe Daniels Construction was the only bid received at \$460,949. The bid was accepted and the contract is currently being routed for final approval. The work is scheduled to occur after October 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid conflicts with league play at the fields and will continue over the winter.

### **Forest Hill Cemetery**

Staff is working with cemetery staff and Feick Design – an irrigation design company - to replace the water line system at the cemetery. Staff is also working with City Engineering to address stormwater management issues and reconstruct the road system in the cemetery. We are presently putting in an application with the State Historical Society for permission to conduct soil borings in the cemetery in preparation for the proposed infrastructure improvements.

### **Tenney Park – Marston and Sherman Avenue Bridges**

The project was complete other than minor punch list items by the contract completion date of August 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Breese Stevens Field Artificial Turf**

The contract was awarded at the June 17<sup>th</sup> Common Council meeting to the low bidder, H&H Civil Construction at \$729,843.15. The Pre-construction meeting was held on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The contractor started work August 18<sup>th</sup>. Most of the topsoil has been stripped and is stockpiled awaiting removal to Yahara Hills Golf Course by our own crews. The contractor is installing the underdrain system.

### **Brittingham Park at Proudfit**

The project was advertised for bid on June 27<sup>th</sup> with bids received on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Speedway Sand and Gravel was the low bid at \$47,579. Construction is scheduled to begin soon. Staff continues to work with City Engineering to put together the applications needed to secure right-of-way access from WisDOT and railroad crossing improvements from Wisconsin Southern Railroad. The WSR will complete the path work at the railroad crossing, connecting to the work completed by Speedway Sand and Gravel.

### **Westside Dog Parks**

The construction crew mobilized to start Walnut Grove the last week of May. The concrete pad was installed in mid July. Grading and seeding was completed by the end of July. The asphalt path was installed the first week of August. We are waiting for the grass to grow before mobilizing to install the fence.

## **Park Paving – 2014**

Low bid was Badgerland Construction at \$252,289.00; the status of tasks under this contract is as follows:

- Installation of a new accessible asphalt path at Churchill Heights Park that will meander through the park connecting all of the park facilities. The project was started the third week of July and was completed by August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Installation of a culvert crossing and accessible asphalt path at Lucy Lincoln Heistand Park. The crossing and path will greatly improve the connectivity in the park. The project was started the first week of August and was completed by August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Re-construction of the asphalt path system at Kennedy Park. The project was completed as of August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Installation of an asphalt path connecting the existing asphalt path with the new dog park gate at Walnut Grove Park – completed August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Re-construction of the Tenney Park Beach parking lot. The existing lot was very inefficient as far as asphalt surfacing is concerned. Our reconstruction will lessen the amount of asphalt by 40% and we will only lose 5 parking stalls. Construction is scheduled to start the middle of September.
- Small connector asphalt paths to playgrounds in Spring Harbor, Olbrich, Glacier Hill, Valley Ridge, and Heritage Heights Parks. These paths will be paved in September.

## **2014 Spring Park Landscaping**

Landscaping as part of the 2014 Spring Parks Landscaping and Maintenance has been completed at all of the park properties, with the exception of seeding at Aldo Leopold Park. Forestry and Park Ops staff will continue to remove trees and clear in this area in early fall and seeding will occur in October 2014.

## **2014 Fall Park Landscaping**

Landscaping as part of the 2014 Fall Parks Landscaping and Maintenance Contract will begin in early August with the installation of perennials at Reindahl and Westport Meadows Parks – and will include tree plantings at Central, Elver, Hoyt, Mohican Pass and Tenney Parks.

## **2014 Managed Meadows / Natives Landscaping**

The contract for installation of native seeding at Hoyt Park and Rimrock Park as well as the installation of native plants at Filene Park, James Madison Park, Vilas Park and Warner Park was awarded to low-bidder Tallgrass Restoration LLC for \$24,851.81. Work on this project began at the end of August.

## **Fence Repair Projects**

After issuing a Request for Quotation staff received bids on April 24<sup>th</sup> for the removal/replacement of softball backstops that are in disrepair at Walnut Grove, Badger Indian Hills and Oak Park Heights Parks. Low bid was Qual-Line Fence Corp at \$1,908.00 each. The work was started the first week of August. All backstop work should be completed by the end of August.

## **2014 Athletic Field Improvements**

An irrigation consultant has been hired to size the water line system for the Elver Park softball diamonds; the system will be sized to ensure it is adequate for potential future irrigation of these ballfields. Construction of the water line system will be completed by Park Operations staff.

## **Yahara River Bank Stabilization**

Construction will begin July 15<sup>th</sup> and is anticipated to be completed by mid August. This project is managed by City Engineering in partnership with Parks staff.

## **Garver Mill**

The RFP was brought to the Park Commission in March for discussion. The Office of Real Estate Services and City Planning are also working on this project; a committee has been established to work on the RFP. A tour of Garver was held as part of the July 21<sup>st</sup> Committee meeting. The final meeting is scheduled for September 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **James Madison Park Shelter**

Last fall the public input meeting yielded a wide variety of opinions regarding improvements to the park and shelter. On August 27<sup>th</sup> a web-based park usage survey was released for visitor input. Notices of the online survey were posted in the park and hard copies are available at the Central Library. The survey will remain open until November 28<sup>th</sup>.



### **Yahara Hills Clubhouse**

Parks staff met with Facilities Management to begin initial design development for the improvements to the Yahara Hills Clubhouse. Potential improvements include replacement of the roof with additional insulation and other improvements to the building envelope to improve energy-efficiency for winter operations in the future. An evaluation of the HVAC system is also underway. The first contract will be to replace the roof on the clubhouse; the contract has been awarded and is scheduled to begin in September. This project is managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Lake Edge Shelter**

A kick-off meeting was held with the design consultant, Destree Architects, on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Site visits were held the following week. The consultant is working on development of the prototype shelter / restroom options during the design development stage. Construction drawings should be developed later this year with construction scheduled for 2015. This project is managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Other Projects**

- Staff is working with neighborhood representatives and volunteers to coordinate improvements for a variety of parks including Aldo Leopold Park, Reynolds Park, James Madison Park, Spring Harbor Park, Nakoma Park and Linden Grove Park.
- Participated in Neighborhood Resource Teams and/or Neighborhood Development Plans for Owls Creek, Arbor Hills/Leopold, and University/Hill Farms.
- Parks lighting projects are underway to replace lighting with more energy-efficient fixtures. Replacements have been completed at Olbrich Botanical Complex, Brittingham, and Goodman Building B. Parks Operations staff is replacing the fixtures as the new fixtures arrive.
- Working with AT&T on coming up with an acceptable plan and agreement that would allow them to remove and replace a light pole at the Warner Park football field with a new combination cell tower/light pole.
- Working on plans and specifications to repair winter heaving to the limestone steps along the shore line at Wingra Park. This area will be repaired after the boating season in October.
- Staff is working with the Hoyt Park ranger on a water diversion proposal to be installed in part with assistance from the Friends of Hoyt Park.
- Staff are updating park master plans as needed in response to inquiries from neighborhood associations and other constituents.
- Staff are researching replacement tree types for ash trees removed (or slated for removal) due to EAB infestation as well as trees that were lost in our parks due to storm damage from storms June 16<sup>th</sup> through June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Working with Purchasing on adding more storm sewer/gutters to the Tenney Park shelter to eliminate the freeze/thaw issues on the concrete around the shelter.

### **Projects Completed in 2014**

- Warner Boat Launch Dredging
- Breese Stevens Field Lighting/Sound System Improvements
- Reservoir Park Playground
- Central Park – Phase 1A
- Odana School Park Dog Park
- Elver Park Basketball Court Resurfacing
- Elver Park Tennis Court Resurfacing
- Reindahl Park Tennis Court Resurfacing
- Churchill Heights Park Asphalt Path
- Lucy Lincoln Heistand Culvert Crossing
- Kennedy Park Asphalt Path Reconstruction
- Marston and Sherman Ave Bridge Reconstruction
- 2014 Parking and Water Utility Landscaping
- Sauk Creek Park Playground
- Droster Park Playground
- Haen Family Park Playground
- Pilgrim Park Playground
- Everglade Park Playground
- Reindahl Park Splash Park
- Elver Park Splash Park

