



CITY OF MADISON PARKS DIVISION

MADISON PARKS

Friends Group Application

Name:	Friends of Olbrich Park (FOOP)				
Address:	3527 Atwood Ave				
City/Town:	Madison	State:	WI	ZIP:	53704
Phone Number:		Email Address:	olbrichfriends@gmail.com		
Park Name & Location:	Olbrich Park				
Number of Members:	196				

Please provide a Mission Statement:

The Friends of Olbrich Park works to improve and advocate for Olbrich Park by engaging the community and supporting initiatives that enhance its natural environment, recreational amenities, and accessibility for all.

Please provide a summary of your goals/objectives, frequency of volunteering and projected work plan:

See answer on next page.

Please provide a summary of your leadership structure and governance model (*this is a best practice and NOT a requirement*):

See answer on page 3.

Please fill out and return: 1.) Email: jweichelt@cityofmadison.com 2.) Mail: City of Madison Parks Division c/o John Weichelt, 330 E. Lakeside St., Madison, WI 53715

Please provide a summary of goals/objectives, frequency of volunteering and projected work plan:

1. Goals and Objectives

- Enhance and Preserve Olbrich Park:
 - Improve park infrastructure (trails, benches, signage, playgrounds, etc.).
 - Support ecological restoration (removing invasives, planting natives).
 - Advocate for sustainable park management practices.
- Promote Community Engagement:
 - Organize volunteer workdays and events.
 - Host educational programs about the park's ecology and history.
 - Encourage community involvement in park planning and decision-making.
- Raise Awareness and Support:
 - Increase visibility of the park and its importance to the community.
 - Grow and develop the FOOP social media accounts (Facebook/Instagram)
 - Develop fundraising strategies to support park improvements.
 - Build relationships with local businesses and organizations, especially those within the park (ie Biergarten, Rutabaga, Olbrich Botanical Society, Garver Feed Mill, etc.)

2. Frequency of Volunteering

- Special Events:
 - Organize larger-scale events (e.g., Earth Day cleanups, planting days).
 - Offer opportunities for volunteers to help with event setup and execution.
- Flexible Options:
 - Provide opportunities for volunteers to participate based on their availability.
 - Allow for both short-term and long-term volunteer commitments.

3. Projected Work Plan

- Phase 1: Assessment and Planning (First 3-6 Months)
 - Conduct a needs assessment to identify FOOP priorities.
 - Develop a strategic plan with measurable goals and timelines.
 - Establish volunteer recruitment and management processes.
- Phase 2: Initial Implementation (6-12 Months)
 - Organize regular volunteer workdays focusing on initial priorities (e.g., invasive removal).
 - Host a fundraising event to secure initial funding.
 - Develop partnerships with local businesses and organizations.
- Phase 3: Continued Development (Ongoing)
 - Expand volunteer opportunities to address various park needs.
 - Host educational workshops and programs.
 - Monitor progress and adjust the work plan as needed.

Potential Projects:

- Invasive Species Removal: Removing unwanted plants and replanting with natives.
- Gardening and Landscaping: Planting flowers, shrubs, and trees to beautify the park.
- Litter Removal and Cleanup: Regular cleanup sessions to keep the park clean and safe.
- Community Events: Organizing picnics, nature walks, and other community-building activities.

Important Notes:

- Communication: Regularly communicate with volunteers about opportunities and progress.
- Training: Provide volunteers with necessary training and tools.
- Recognition: Acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of volunteers.
- Collaboration: Work closely with the City of Madison Parks Department to align efforts. Also coordinate with other Friends groups (Starkweather Creek, Hudson Park) and government entities (Dane County, State DNR) that have involvement in the park.

Please provide a summary of your leadership structure:

Friends of Olbrich Park will be instituting a governance structure that will include a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary with terms of 2 years.