

## **SEPTEMBER 2013 WRITTEN REPORT OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTIVITIES EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR**

Although we still have more rainfall than average for the year, August has been a particularly dry month. Grass, in many locations, is going dormant. As a result of the dry conditions, we have shut down mowing operations in many areas and reduced it in others. What we look out for with these hot and dry conditions are weed growth. Weeds can become eyesores, particularly on boulevards where they will grow over the side of the curb and really stick out. These weeds are what we try to control when grass growth slows.

Because we were able to significantly reduce mowing this month, we have been working on a wide variety of other projects. We cleared fence lines at Windom Way, Wirth Ct, and Ontario. We (with the aid of Parks Construction) removed the beat up fence at Worthington. We cleared the understory at Reindahl woods again. We removed unsightly and dated yews at Elvehjem. We performed sod work and aerated athletic fields that have irrigation. We've also been busy removing dead trees and grubbing stumps. Finally, we are still lining soccer fields and are now preparing diamonds for MSCR's Fall Ball League.

This is also the time of the year that our students go back to school. Over the last few weeks we said goodbye to six seasonal laborers. It has been a great summer and I really can't say enough good things about our seasonal staff this year. They are great employees and we wish them the best.

We would like to welcome Shane Elder as our newest Parks Maintenance Worker. Shane has been working as a seasonal for Parks for the last three seasons. We are happy to have a great employee working for us fulltime. However, we still have one vacant PMW position to fill. We are interviewing again on 8/29 and hope to have another person on board soon.

## **WEST PARKS – LISA LASCHINGER, SUPERVISOR**

August was a very productive month with a variety of projects. As mowing operations slowed, crews were able to focus efforts on weeding and pruning throughout the parks. West Parks hosted Ride The Drive, and crews spent a great deal of time detailing at Rennebohm and Garner Parks prior to the event as well as setting up and cleaning up for the event the day of. We hosted Days of Caring projects at Elver, Vilas, Brittingham and Olin, where a total of 52 volunteers did a number of projects including weeding and pruning throughout the parks and removing invasive species from no mow areas. The summer softball season came to an end mid-month, and the athletic crew switched gears to begin working on football and soccer fields for the fall season. Operation Fresh Start concluded their services at the end of the month after an additional two and a half weeks with us that consisted of them weeding at Goodman Pool, painting picnic tables, replacing rotted bench boards, removing invasive species from the no mows at Olin and Vilas, as well as assisting with clearing brush to gain vehicular access through Quarry Park. Meadowood Meet and Eat's also concluded at the end of the month. As the month drew to a close, all of our students returned to school, reducing our seasonal staff to about half.

Going into September, we will be wrapping up our recycling program and returning the containers to Streets. We will also be working on athletic field renovations at Vilas, Rennebohm and Wingra in particular, as well as beginning broader scale fall aeration towards the end of the month. Mid month, we will be renting a forestry mower to expand on the work we started at Walnut Grove's dog park in July. As the Goldenrod begins to fade, our field mowing operations will move into full swing. Hayrides begin early in the month, so we are preparing current seasonal staff for the early rides, and we will be training new seasonal staff for later in the season. Avant Gardening will be working at Olin to aerate and oversee areas affected by Great Taste of the Midwest. Staff will continue to work on detailing projects throughout the parks, including continuing with the Marshall Park project we started earlier this summer and keeping up with the Leopold clearing we had done last fall. Going into fall, it looks to be another fast-paced month.

## **CONSERVATION – RUSS HEFTY**

The trend for below normal precipitation continued in August. Staff watered the 300+ trees and shrubs planted around the Wheeler Rd. ponds at South Cherokee. The prairie plantings around the ponds are developing well because of all the rain earlier in the season. The aquatic plantings installed in April by volunteers are spreading into the pond creating great habitat. We worked on completing trail development through the grove of large oaks near the East Pond. Staff also spent a lot of time controlling invasives around and in the ponds. Unfortunately a large amount of invasive cattail appeared via air blown seeds. We hope that with pulling and cutting we can stop the cattails from dominating the aquatic habitat.

Day of Caring volunteers helped rebuild nearly 400 ft of trail at Sandburg Woods. They hauled several tons of crushed limestone one wheel barrow full at a time. Thanks for the help!!

Operation Fresh Start completed another very productive term working in the conservation parks. As their final project they dismantled and reconstructed the observation platform at North Cherokee in the marsh east of the parking lot. The public will enjoy this feature in the park for many years to come. A job well done!

At Heritage Sanctuary the parks construction crew removed the old wood foot bridge replacing it with a culvert. This will enable park staff to access this part of the park with small equipment to facilitate restoration projects. We thank the construction crew for their skillful use of the mini-excavator to complete this project.

### **MALL CONCOURSE – TOM SKAIFE, SUPERVISOR; LAURA BAUER, LEADSWORKER**

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### **FOREST HILL CEMETERY – KEVIN SORENSEN**

The grass finally slowed down in August which allowed for some special projects to be completed. We were able to grub a number of stumps and also topdress areas that had poor turf. With diligent watering, we have new seed coming in nicely in many problem areas. We were also able to straighten many markers that had sunken over the years. Along with some tree trimming, August was a very productive month. Thanks to Forestry and Facilities for tree and irrigation work.

August staffing levels are at 5.5 permanent employees with one more on light duty in the Parks Office. We currently have 3 seasonal employees.

August burial numbers, lot sales and total revenue are as follows:

Interments: 25	Lots Sold: 11	Total Revenue: \$29,665.00
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### **OLBRICH GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY**

Olbrich's Visitor Center new roof is completed – except for some minor punch list items. The new restrooms should be in use the first week in September. Both capital projects will provide welcome relief from the kind of problems no one wants to have in a public building – roof leaks during rain and snow melt, and lack of fully ADA restroom facilities. Staff appreciates the hard work of everyone who helped make these projects a reality especially the financing (City of Madison CPI) and Project Management (City Engineering).

#### **Visitor comment from the past month:**

*"The gardens were magnificent! I loved the fragrant lilies (sic). The grounds are so well kept & the markers were so appreciated. The staff were friendly & so helpful. Thank you." (8.15.13)*

## Numbers

<b>OBG Attendance</b> (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Previous 5yrs ave.</b>
July 1 - 30			
YTD July 30			
<b>Total Member Households (individuals*) July 31</b>			

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

<b>OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories</b> (unaudited)	<b>YTD 7/31/13</b>	<b>YTD 7/31/12</b>
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD		
Room Rentals YTD*		
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**		
<b>TOTAL YTD</b>		

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

**September Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens** call **608-246-4550** for more info

**Wisconsin Visual Artists Exhibit** of Botanical Art, Sundays, 11 am – 5 pm, through Oct 27

**Leaf Mulch Sale – Load Your Own Bags ½ Price Sale:** ongoing 10 am - 4 pm daily while supplies last

**NEW!** Member Appreciation Event – outdoor screening of Little Rascals – Sept 6 @ 7 pm

**Bulk Leaf Mulch: Saturdays, Sept 21 & 28; Oct 5 & 12, 9 am – 1 pm**

**Conservatory Exhibit: Integrated Pest Management**, through – Oct 27

**Crackle – Fire & Froth in the Gardens**, Friday, Sept 27, 7 – 10 pm (tickets on sale Sept 3)

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

**Guided Garden Strolls – every Sunday, through September 20 @ 1:30 and 3:30 pm**, a drop-in casual overview by Olbrich's expert volunteer guides. Each stroll is 45 – 60 minutes in length and varies by season, peak interest and bloom. Meet near the outdoor garden entrance – rain or shine. (cancelled only in the event of dangerous lightning)

### **NEW! Book Discussion Group:**

Sun, Sept 15, 1:30 – 3:30, book - Second Nature: A Gardener's Education by Michael Pollan

Sun, Nov 17, 1:30 – 3:30 pm, book – The Brother Gardeners by Andrea Wulf

### **Wisconsin Science Festival – Curiosity Unleashed, 2013**

The Wisconsin Science Festival is a multiday (Sept 26 – 29, 2013) public event presented by the UW – Madison and the WI Alumni Research Foundation in partnership with various organizations including Olbrich Botanical Gardens. For a schedule and more information, visit [www.wisconsinfestival.org](http://www.wisconsinfestival.org).

**What is a Rainforest?** Family Drop-in Program @ Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Sun, Sept 29, 1:30 – 3 pm

**Tropical Garden Strolls of Olbrich's Bolz Conservatory**, Sat and Sun, Sept 28 & 29, 10 am – 4 pm, Self-guided tour with docents available to answer questions and lead impromptu strolls.

### **Wellness at the Gardens**

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

Yogalates, Wednesdays, Sept 4 – Dec 18 (no class Nov 27), 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Tai Chi Meditation, Mondays, Sept 9 – Oct 14, 6 – 7 pm

### **Garden Walks**

Small Trees and Shrubs – Big Impact! Walk, Thu, Sept 12, 5:30 – 7 pm

Putting Your Garden to Bed, Tues, Sept 24, 5 – 6:30 pm

Great Plants for the Autumn Garden Walk, Wed, Sept 25, 5 – 6:30 pm

### **Classes & Workshops for Adults**

Trees as Teachers: Studio Day to Explore Trees and Creativity, Sun, Sept 8, 10 am – 4 pm

Fall Herbal Series: Roots, Seeds, Berries, and More!, Tuesdays, Sept 10 & 17 and Oct 1 & 8, 6 – 9 pm

The Invasive Garden, Tues, Sept 10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Bulbs for Spring Color, Wed, Sept 11, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

The Good, the Bad, and the Hungry – Wildlife in Your Garden, Wed, Sept 11, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Tropical Gardens of Thailand, Tues, Sept 24, 6:30 – 8 pm

Introduction to Painting in Soft Pastel, Sun, Sept 29, 9:30 am – 4 pm

Save Your Own Seeds, Tues, Oct 1, 6 – 9 m

## Learn & Play Together

### Toddler Story & Stroll: Autumn Adventures with Lois Ehlert Stories

Pie in the Sky, Tues, Sept 17, 10 – 11 am

Nuts to You, Tues, Sept 24, 10 – 11 am

Leaf Man, Tues, Oct 1, 10 – 11 am

## FORESTRY – MARLA EDDY

Forestry Section	Total Trees	Total Hours
Cycle Pruning	354	479
Pruned by Request	316	293
Small Tree Pruning Cycle	817	256
Tree Removal	312	438
Storm Work/Hangers		114.5
Unfilled Vacancy		56
Watering		423

We are happy to report that the Forestry Section is at full staff. On August 12 Anderw Gollnick, Arborist 1 filled the last unfilled vacancy. He has experience from a local Madison area tree care company and has an associate's degree in Landscape Horticulture from Milwaukee Area Technical College. This month both east and west were able to complete some District cycle pruning and small tree cycle pruning. The rainfall has been minimal this month so we did send out four crews watering newly planted street trees (fall 2012 and spring 2013 planting seasons).

The Forestry Specialists have been heavily involved in engineering street reconstruction projects and sidewalk replacement program and enforcing the tree protection standards. They are responding to complaints regarding Dutch Elm Disease (in elms) and Oak Wilt (in oaks) trees on private property. Then two arborists are assigned to obtain samples from the diseased trees which then are turned into the U. W. –Madison Pathology Lab for confirmation of the disease. This time of year is when the Forestry Specialists are finalizing the fall nursery order. Both Forestry Specialists made a day trip to visit Johnson's Tree Nursery to review tree stock and identify potentially new additions (tree cultivars) to the Street Tree Approval list. And they continue to review sites for street tree replacement after street trees have been removed.

*Special projects for the month include:*

- *School Zone Pruning*
- *DED/OW code enforcement*
- *Tree removals at Forest Hill Cemetery*
- *Pruning for the Cross Country Track at Yahara*
- *Tree removals at Orton Park*

## GOLF – RAY SHANE

This report is being written prior to the end of the month so exact figures are not available. Despite the recent few days of above average temperatures, play and revenues have been very good and I expect that the positive numbers that we had in July will continue for August.

August is the month that several of our leagues finalize play, the various associations hold their Championship Tournaments and the annual City Public Links Championship was held and won by Matt Pagel. Promotional activities include special pricing, invitations to all leagues for extending play and the opportunity for players to join new fall golf leagues.

Both Clubhouse operations and maintenance will feel the pinch of having our student employees return to their studies and academic life. Golf is fortunate to have had excellent customer service and maintenance staff again this year.

Projects continue to move forward with the Monona Drive construction, ATC Beltline landscaping and sod projects. The Verona Road interchange project provided us the opportunity to construct berms along Odana's Hole #3 with minimal disruption or cost to the City.

Golfers and Staff hope for a long and warm fall to make up for the late, cold and wet spring that we all had to endure.

## **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – KAY RUTLEDGE**

### **Highland Manor Park**

Assemblage Architects out of Middleton was hired to develop plans and specifications for the storm shelter. A public meeting was held at Highland Manor on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The architect is working on schematic designs incorporating input from that meeting and from staff. Discussions are underway regarding materials and budget, as well as City approvals needed for the project.

### **Blackhawk Park**

Madison Commercial Landscapes completed the Blackhawk Park playground improvements on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Madison Commercial Landscapes was also the only bidder for the new shelter project at \$46,159.75. The shelter installation work is anticipated to start at the end of September.

### **Central Park**

Joe Daniels Construction was the low bidder for Phase 1A of Central Park at \$2,656,361.29. All design alternates were within the project's budget and have been accepted. Real Estate has completed the acquisition of the necessary ROW easements for the construction of the Few Street Crossing; construction drawings for Phase 1B (including the transportation/bike path improvements along Wilson Street) are under review. Construction of Phase 1B will not occur until 2014 due to delays from the railroad and the Federal/DOT requirements. A supplemental order was issued by the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads to require the railroad to submit the signal cost estimate by Sept. 1, and complete the installation of the signals and other associated work by Oct. 30.

### **Central Park Skatepark**

A draft Request for Proposals for consultant services for the skatepark addition to Central Park is being reviewed by staff, the anticipated RFP release date is early to mid-September.

### **Reindahl Park Splash Pad**

Bids were received for the Reindahl Park Splash Pad on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Only one contractor submitted a bid, and the bid was 30% higher than the estimate. The bid was rejected and the Reindahl Park Splash Pad will be rebid for Spring 2014 construction.

### **Tenney Park/Yahara River Parkway**

Tallgrass Restoration will continue to treat reed canary grass throughout the season and will do a fall seeding of native grasses. Tallgrass Restoration will be replanting areas that were damaged from significant flooding early this summer.

### **Park Native Plantings**

Herbicide applications, native seeding and planting have been completed by Tallgrass Restoration at Baxter Park, Giddings Park, Hoyt Park, James Madison Park, and Mayfair Park.

### **Hoyt Park**

The plans and specifications for repairs to the Hoyt Park fence was approved by the Board of Public Works on July 3, 2013. Bids were opened on August 9<sup>th</sup>; the bids were significantly higher than the estimate, so the bids were rejected and staff is looking into packaging the contract differently to hopefully get more competitive bidding results.

### **Odana Golf Course**

In an attempt to remediate the elimination of a good portion of the existing landscape screening along the Beltline caused by the installation of power poles by ATC, the Parks Division is installing a combination of landscaping, fencing and berms at Odana Golf Course. Some of the landscaping is already complete; construction of fencing will occur later this year. Speedway Sand and Gravel presently is building a series of berms for us along the beltline with fill material excavated from a proposed retention pond at the intersection of the golf course and the Beltline. Speedway should be done with building the berms by mid September, then our Construction crew will be topsoiling and seeding the berms this fall.

### **Door Creek Park**

Quotes were received for the Door Creek wetland delineation and RA Smith was awarded the contract for the low bid price of \$4,800. The delineation was completed in August.

### **Reservoir Park**

The 2013 Park Playground Contract which includes playground improvements and an accessible path at Reservoir Park was awarded to the lowest bidder, Madison Commercial Landscapes for \$99,846.60. Staff is also working with the Water Utility on the design and plans for slope stabilization along the reservoir in conjunction with the construction of the new Booster Pump Station at Reservoir Park. Equipment has been ordered and the old playground equipment is scheduled to be removed in early September.

### **Reynolds Park Playground**

The 2013 Park Playground Contract which includes playground improvements and an accessible path at Reynolds Park was awarded to the lowest bidder, Madison Commercial Landscapes for \$99,846.60. Equipment has been ordered and the old playground equipment was removed at the end of August.

### **Park Landscaping**

Installation of landscaping is complete at BB Clarke Park, Burrows Park, Glenway Golf Course, Glenwood Park, Hammersley Park, Hiestand Park, James Madison Park, Lost Creek Park, Marshall Park, Odana Golf Course, Olive Jones Park, Reindahl Park, Tenney Park, Thut Park, Warner Park, Water Utility sites, and Westmorland Park. Additional landscaping will be completed this fall at Tenney Park, Baxter Park and Linden Grove Park.

### **Playgrounds**

The installation of a new swing set at James Madison Park is complete; improvements to the playground at Goodman Park have also been completed. Staff attended the Eastmorland Neighborhood Association meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the improvements to be completed this fall on the playground installed in 2007 (modifications to both playground areas in response to input from the neighborhood as well as the addition of a double-bay swing set). Removal of one of the older small playground areas at Richard Street (play equipment has reached the end of its useful life) was also discussed and affirmed by the neighborhood association.

### **Nakoma Park Playground**

Madison Commercial Landscapes was the low bidder for the Nakoma Park Playground project which is part of the 2013 Playground Contract. Parks maintenance crews started removing the existing playground equipment on August 28<sup>th</sup>. A pre-construction meeting was also held on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Work is anticipated to start on this playground September 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Worthington Park Playground**

Madison Commercial Landscapes was the winning contractor for the Worthington Park project which is part of the 2013 Playground Contract. Work is anticipated to start in early October. The existing play equipment has been removed by Parks maintenance staff along with the fencing around the park.

### **Basketball Court Reconstruction 2013**

Staff packaged the reconstruction of 3 basketball courts (Acewood, Droster and Worthington Parks) into one public works contract for fall construction. The low bid was Raymond P. Cattell Inc at \$120,000.00. The bid was accepted and work is to start at the end of September with completion scheduled for November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Warner Park Boat Launch Dredging**

Bids for this contract were opened March 1<sup>st</sup>, low bid was Raymond P. Cattell, Inc., at \$95,788.50. The DNR permit was received on May 31. The dredging is scheduled to start after the boating season in October, 2013.

### **Breese Stevens Field Lighting/Sound System Improvements**

Bids were received on June 21st. Two bids were received; one was rejected for not having an updated Affirmative Action Plan, and the other bid was \$40,000 over budget. The project has been revised and is out for bid with bids due September 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Breese Stevens Field Concrete Deck Repairs**

Joe Daniels Construction Company was the low bid at \$93,228.00. Work started on July 29<sup>th</sup>. The project was 90% complete as of August 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Tenney Park Lagoon Control Structure**

Bids for the project were opened on May 3<sup>rd</sup> with R.G. Huston Company the apparent low bidder at \$59,365.00. Work is scheduled to start around October 14<sup>th</sup> with a November 8<sup>th</sup> completion date. The delayed start is due to the long lead-time to fabricate the outlet gate assembly.

### **Rennebohm Park Tennis Court Lighting Improvements**

Two bids were received on June 21, 2013. The low bid was Forward Electric at \$84,000 which is within budget for the project. Council approved contract award on July 16<sup>th</sup>. The lights will be replaced after the tennis season is over (October/November 2013).

### **Bowman Field**

The project's first phase includes the installation of a new transformer, lighting control panel and conduit to the existing light poles. The second phase in 2014 will include new light fixtures and refurbishing the existing poles. During the interim between phases the field lights will continue to be served by the existing electrical system. Bids for the first phase were received on August 9<sup>th</sup> and the low bid was Forward Electric at \$198,762. The BPW contract is being routed for approvals and work is anticipated to start at the end of September.

### **Wingra Park**

Working with our Construction crew on a minor re-grading plan and a new backstop for the softball diamond at Wingra Park. Plans are to replace the old backstop and feather topsoil onto the softball diamond outfield to remove the "humps/dips" that have appeared over the years.

### **Brittingham Park at Proudfit**

Staff presented the final design to the Brittingham Neighborhood Association on June 10<sup>th</sup> and they were supportive. Construction was originally scheduled to occur this fall, but City Engineering and the Wisconsin Southern Railroad have raised concerns regarding the existing site drainage. Given the additional study required, it's anticipated the project will be constructed in early spring 2014 once the drainage issues are resolved.

### **Athletic Field Lighting Upgrades**

Working with maintenance staff on a way to retrofit some of our athletic field lighting with "Control Link" – a program that will allow us to control (turn on/off) the lights from a computer terminal. To start we will be retrofitting the lighting systems for Elver softball and Demetral softball. According to our facilities maintenance staff, we will be purchasing the equipment and they hope to install late this year.

### **Warner Park Bike Path**

The low bid was Parisi Construction at \$844,562.65. Construction started August 23<sup>rd</sup> and will continue through November, 2013. This project is being managed by City Engineering in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Park Paving**

Bids were opened on August 9<sup>th</sup> for the 2013 Park Paving Contract. Low bidder was Poblocki Paving Corporation with the bid of \$92,561.00. This contract includes a new path system at Washington Manor Park and resurfacing and improvements to the path system at Westmorland Park. Contract award has been approved by the Board of Public Works and will go to Council for approval on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Olbrich Botanical Complex Roofing Project**

Replacement of the roof has been completed; punchlist items are still being resolved. This project is managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Olbrich Botanical Complex Bathroom Addition**

Construction is underway with an expected completion date in early September. This project is managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Olbrich Botanical Complex Facility Planning**

At the June 20th core team meeting the consultant team gave a brief summary of the public input process and presented a draft of the final report. The design has a preliminary cost estimate range of \$14,300,000 to \$17,300,000. The final report has been submitted to City staff. This project is managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Forest Hill Cemetery**

Masonry repairs will continue in 2013 for the buildings at Forest Hill Cemetery. Work has started on the work on the Chapel. The south foundations have been repaired to date and replacement and redressing of stone has begun on the north wall. This project is managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Garver Mill**

The final report on the condition of the structure has been issued. This project is managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Northland Manor Storm Sewer Replacement**

Staff is working with City Engineering on a storm sewer replacement project in Northland Manor Park. The existing corrugated metal pipe running southwest to northeast through the park is failing and needs replacement this year. Engineering would also like to install an additional connection from this line south to address some of the flooding and icing issues experienced on Northland Drive as part of the reconstruction of the road this summer. The storm sewer project will be completed by Engineering staff, and the work will be scheduled to minimize impacts to park reservations and activities to the extent possible; construction is anticipated in the fall. This project has been approved administratively by the Parks Superintendent.

### **Booster Pump Station 106 Reconstruction in Reservoir Park**

Staff has been working with the Water Utility regarding the booster pump station reconstruction project at Reservoir Park. Reservoir Park is owned by the Water Utility but used and maintained as a neighborhood park. Staff is coordinating with the Water Utility and assisting in the development of landscape plans that will address the disturbed areas from the construction, but also stabilize the existing slopes around the reservoir. Legislative File ID 28906, 29228, 29498, and 29570 can provide additional details on this project.

### **UW Temperature Sensors**

The Council approved an agreement with the University of Wisconsin System to install and maintain temperature/humidity sensors on City facilities. Installations were completed in 2012. After a year's worth of data, the UW would like to add some additional installations in Kennedy and Hiestand Parks. The sensors will be installed on existing light poles in the park. The agreement has been amended.

### **Bill Kettle Field**

City staff have been working with Dane County regarding the expansion of the landfill (Bill Kettle Field is located along the northeastern edge of the landfill). Due to the expansion, additional land is needed and Dane County would like to purchase Bill Kettle Field to expand the landfill to the east and relocate their stormwater ponds to the north and south. Dane County will also purchase a portion of the property owned by the Streets Division along the southeastern edge of the landfill, along with easements needed to complete the landfill expansion and stormwater-related improvements. Real Estate is currently preparing a Letter of Intent regarding the potential purchase of both properties. This action will come before the Park Commission for review at a future date; Real Estate is exploring the best way to value the property for potential purchase by Dane County. Parks staff have begun discussions with user groups regarding potential opportunities to move their activity to other locations.

### **Westside Dog Parks**

New dog parks have been approved for both Walnut Grove Park (the old skating area), and Odana School Park. The design work for the Odana School Dog Park has been completed and currently being bid. The project should be finished late this fall. It is anticipated that plans and specs will be completed for Walnut Grove late this fall and bid out for Spring 2014 completion.

### **James Madison Park Shelter**

Destree Design was hired to perform an assessment of the existing shelter at James Madison Park. The final report will include recommendations for three levels of improvements; shelter stabilization, current code requirements, and potential build-out improvements. This information will be presented at a neighborhood meeting in October. The neighborhood meeting will also provide an opportunity for input on other desired improvements to the park.

### **Other Projects**

- Working on designing improvements for Sycamore Dog Park and Quann Dog Park.
- Worked with City Engineering on a shoreline restoration project at Paunack Park. Construction is anticipated in fall.
- Staff is working with neighborhood representatives and volunteers to coordinate improvements for a variety of parks including Reynolds Park, James Madison Park, Spring Harbor Park and Linden Grove Park.
- Participated in Neighborhood Resource Teams and/or Neighborhood Plans for Worthington Park, Arbor Hills/Leopold and Hoyt Park.
- Parks lighting projects are underway to replace lighting with more energy-efficient fixtures. Replacements have been underway at Olbrich Botanical Complex, Brittingham, and Goodman Building B. This project is managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff; Parks Operations staff are replacing the fixtures as the new fixtures arrive.