

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES, 2011

EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE

We are down to a very limited hourly staff at this point in the season. We only have six hourly employees that are still working for us. With that being said, we are still very busy. Grass growth rates have slowed a bit; however, we are still spending most of our time mowing. We completed mowing all of our low-mow areas that do not have native plants established. We plan to start mowing the managed meadows in late October/early November.

Events haven't slowed down yet either. Some of the events we've had in the last month include: *The Mexican and Centro America Independence Festival*, the *Walk to Cure Diabetes*, the *Alzheimer's Walk*, and others.

Some of the other projects we've been working on are the following:

- Pruning, flail mowing, and performing gravel work to prepare for snow plowing along the bike paths
- Pruning and removing stumps around Tenney Lagoon
- Coring, top dressing, and over seeding athletic fields
- Picking up seaweed from boat launches
- Removing invasive species at Olbrich
- Preparing diamonds for MSCR softball
- Maintaining soccer fields that are still heavily used

WEST PARKS – KRISTIN MATHEWS, INTERIM PARKS SUPERVISOR

The nice weather we had in September allowed us to continue to spruce up the West Parks with tree trimming on several routes. We lost many of our seasonal employees to the new school semester, so we are in the position of needing to do more with less.

Reservations continued to be strong, so we needed to schedule seasonal employees on the weekends as well for shelter cleanup. While the crew continues to prep for fall softball and football; additionally, it's renovation season for the athletic fields at the Elver Park ball diamonds. The crew was also involved in the installation of the railings, and the installation and cleanup of crushed gravel at Olive Jones playground for the Grand Opening. We also did the final cleanup of the pool in time for the *Big Rig Gig*, which was a huge success. To wrap up this year's program, all of the recycling containers were pulled in after Labor Day.

We are looking forward to kicking off October with some wonderful weather!

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

September was bookended by two major events: the *Taste of Madison*, on the first weekend, and *Ride the Drive* on the last weekend. Although both celebrations had problems with rain, *Taste* had beautiful weather on the second day. We were again able to borrow the *Showmobile* from Dane County for *Ride the Drive*. This certainly simplified the staging setup, and we hope to be able to continue with this arrangement in the future.

The leaves have begun to fall right on schedule here in downtown Madison, signaling that another autumn has begun. We are readying our leaf collection equipment, along with our sweepers, to keep up with the daily coating of leaves on the sidewalks. The fall banners are all up, as well.

Grass growth has begun to taper off, though we're not quite ready to put away our mowers. We'll soon be cleaning the plant material out of our decorative pots and cutting back our perennial plantings. Our outdoor water bibs will be winterized, and we hope to get another round of bus shelter cleaning completed before then.

Freakfest will be held at the end of October, as usual. The "gated event" model has become familiar, with good coordination between different departments and the concert promoter. We anticipate needing some staffing help from other sections, as usual. Happily, this year's event coincides with neither a home football game nor the daylight savings time change.

EVENTS COORDINATOR – KELLI LAMBERTY

	September 2011	September 2010	YTD 2011	YTD 2010
Street Use Events	43	38	197	183
Block Parties	21	23	62	68
Amplification Permits	10	11	45	64
Total	74	72	304	315

October Events:

1, Sa, 6a-2p	Farmer's Market, Capitol Square
1, Sa, 7a-8p	History on the Square, 10 block N. Carroll, parking only; no closure
1, Sa, 12-7p	Great Midwest Marijuana Harvest Festival, Podium/700-800 State
2, Su, 8a	NAMI Walk, Olin Park
2, Su, 9a	Madison Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes, Vilas Park
3, Su, 12-4p	Great Midwest Marijuana Harvest Festival, Podium/700-800 State
3, M, 2-4p	UW Alumni Student Board, Children's Extravaganza, James Madison Park
4, Tu, 8a-5p	Roadtrip Nation - 2011 College Tour, 800 State St.
4-9, Tu-Su, 8a-4p	Talking Spirits XII: Forest Hill Cemetery Talk, 1 Speedway Rd. (parking only; no closure)
6, W, 8a-2p	Farmer's Market, 200 MLK
6, W, 8a-4p	KaBoom Playground Build Day, Wirth Court
7, F, 11:45a-4p	UW Homecoming Kickoff, 600 N. Lake St.
8, Sa, 6a-2p	Farmer's Market, Capitol Square
8, Sa, 8-11a	American Hear Association walk, Warner Park
9, Su, 7a-4p	Literacy Network UW Homecoming Run/Walk, Broom between Gotham and State, to State and Library Mall (State open @ 12p and Broom open @ 3)
9, Su, 11:30a-3:30p	Dane County Fire Chiefs Parade,
	Staging: Langdon from Lake to N. Henry, Lake to Mendota Ct.,
	Parade: State St.,
	Display: Capitol Square; WI Ave. to State to W. Washington
12, W, 8:30a-2p	Farmer's Market, 200 MLK
13, R, 7-8p	Yell Like Hell, Library Mall
14, F,	Special Olympics, Over the Edge Madison, 25 S. Pinckney
14, F, 3p-10p	UW Homecoming Parade, Langdon St (Park to WI), WI Ave. to State St. to Lake St.
15, Sa, 6a-2p	Farmer's Market, Capitol Square
15, Sa, 7a-8p	The People's Oktoberfest, 100-200 MLK
15, Sa, 11a	UW Football - Homecoming Game, Camp Randall
16, Su, 7a-2:30p	GSA for Safe Schools Walk/Run/Eat, Goodman Community Center
19, W, 8:30a-2p	Farmer's Market, 200 MLK
19, W, 10a-5:30p	Phi Kappa Sigma's "Stop the Bop", Podium/State St. Mall
22, Sa, 6a-2p	Farmer's Market, Capitol Square
26, W, 8:30a-2p	Farmer's Market, 200 MLK
28, F, 1:30-6:30p	Downtown Trick or Treat Hayrides, Capitol Square
29, Sa, 6a-2p	Farmer's Market, Capitol Square
29, Sa	Freakfest, State Street

FOREST HILL CEMETERY – KEVIN SORENSEN

The grass is still growing fast, so we are continuing with mowing, and since the leaves have started falling, we began mulching. We have also started the annual process of string trimming each section of all the perennials, which will allow us to blow leaves through those sections once we start the baling process. We completed grubbing the stumps from the dead trees that have been removed. Following the stump grubbing, we backfill the holes with dirt, and then reseed. Some of those seeded areas have already germinated and begun to grow. We have yet to blow our roadways, as there has been a bumper crop of acorns this year, which has really made a mess throughout the cemetery.

Forest Hill staffing levels are at 6.5 permanent employees and three seasonal employees. September burial numbers, lot sales and total monthly revenue are as follows:

Interments: 20 Mausoleum Entombments: 3 Lot Sales: 8 Total Revenue: \$27,300.00

OLBRICH GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY

People and Gardens

The Bolz Conservatory 20th Anniversary events are listed in this report. Additional events will be listed in the November Monthly Report. To see a full calendar, please go to www.olbrich.org. The 20th Anniversary Committee, chaired by Jack Bolz, and staffed by Connie Beam, has done a tremendous job developing a mix of fun educational programs, celebrations, and reminiscences, with lots of opportunities for community participation. Check out the full schedule and make your plans! Lectures by Dr. Margaret Lohman (aka Canopy Meg) for families and adults will be a great opportunity to learn more about current plant science in the rainforest. They will be on November 12 and are titled, *Monkeys, Millipedes, and Medicine*, at 10:30 am, and *Out on a Limb – Exploring Tropical Forest Canopies* at 1:30 pm. A generous donor provided funding to bring Dr. Lohman to Madison, and we are looking forward to welcoming her to Olbrich.

Visitor comment from the past month:

9/13/11 *"Incredible. Very well maintained. Staff was friendly. Impeccable"* Chris P. Brooklyn, NY

Numbers

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2011	2010
Aug 1 - 31	32,294	31,213
YTD Aug 31	172,562	184,890
Total Member Households (individuals*) Aug 31	6213 (9443)	5778 (8734)

**based on the number of membership cards issued*

OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories	YTD 8/31/2011	8/31/2010
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$33,220	\$38,716
Room Rentals YTD*	\$84,630	\$98,212
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$17,294	\$25,435

**accrued at time of booking – up to 21 months before the rental date*

*** accrued on a monthly basis following each catered rental*

Website Visits Aug 2011	
Total Visits	18,173
Unique Visitors	14,257
New Visits	66%

Events:

- Bulk Leaf Mulch Sales; Saturdays, Oct 1, 8, and 15 9 am – 1 pm
- *Quilts in Bloom*: Fall Quilt & Flower Show, through Oct 16, 10 am – 4 pm
- Oct 15: Submittals are due for the *Bolz Conservatory 20th Anniversary Adult Photo Contest* – please see www.olbrich.org for rules and entry form.
- Oct 15: Submittals are due for the *Bolz Conservatory 20th Anniversary Photo Essay Contest for 11 – 14 Year Olds* – please see www.olbrich.org for rules and entry form.
- The *Fall Quilt & Flower Show Plant Sale*, Oct 17, Beginning at 12 noon - while supplies last
- *CRACKLE, Fire & Froth*, Friday, Oct 21, 7 – 10 pm advance tickets are sold out, remaining tickets

- at the door (how many is weather dependent)
- *20th Anniversary Art Exhibit*: Learn about the history of the Bolz Conservatory and see the winning photos of the photo contests, Oct 2 – Jan 8, Sundays, 11 – 5 pm
- *African Violet Show and Sale*, Oct 8 noon – 5 pm and Oct 9, 10 am – 4 pm
- *Capital Area Carvers' Show & Sale*, Sun Oct 23, 10 am – 4 pm

Education

Learn & Play Together

- *Ecology Explorer*, fall school program for K – 2nd grade, prescheduled by teachers
- Toddler Story and Stroll: Insects: *Jewels of the Rainforest*, Oct 4, 10 –11am; Tropical Treats: Food from the Rainforest, Oct 11, 10 –11am; *Splish Splash: The Watery World of Tropical Rainforests*, Oct 18,10 –11am.
- *Nighttime in the Jungle*: Grades K – 3 with adult
- *Going Batty for Bananas*, Fri, Oct 7, 6:30 – 7:30 pm FULL!
- *Positively Pumpkins*, Thu, Oct 7, 10 – 11 am for ages 5 and up, (children 8 and under must come with an adult)

Wellness at the Gardens

- Yoga, Mondays 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm and Thursdays, 7:30 – 8:45 am (drop in OK)
- Moving Meditation, Mon, Sept 12 – Nov 7, 6 – 7:30 pm
- Yoga Flow, Wed, Sept 7 – Dec 28 (no class Nov 23), 5:30 – 6:30 pm
- Herbs for Immune Support, Thu, Oct 6, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Bolz Conservatory 20th Anniversary Celebration

- Costa Rica – Natural Enchantments and Culture, Sat, Oct 15, 3 – 4:30 pm
- Rescued, Traded, and Discovered: Conservatory Plant Stories, Sat, Oct 29, 4 – 5:30 pm

Classes & Workshops for Adults

- Wild Eats: Foraging for Wild Edibles, Sat, Oct 1, 1 – 3 pm
- Sustainable Outdoor Living – Beauty Today...and a Green Tomorrow, Tues, Oct 4, 6:30 – 8 pm,
- Plants for a Gorgeous Fall, Wed, Oct 5, 6:30 – 8 pm
- Drawing: Explore Your Playful Nature, Sun, Oct 9,9:30 am – 4:30 pm
- Underutilized Treasures of the Bulb World: Hardy Garden Bulbs, Tues, Oct 11, 6:30 – 8 pm
- Designing a Garden Sanctuary – Creating a Refuge in a Chaotic World, Sat, Oct 15, 9:30-11 am
- Basic Broom Making, Sat, Oct 15, noon – 4 pm
- Stonescaping: Stone Structures in the Garden, Sat, Oct 15, 12:30 – 2 pm
- Painting the Still Life in Soft Pastel, Sun, Oct 23, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm
- Photography in the Garden, Thu, Oct 27, 6:30 – 9 pm
- Winter Interest in the Garden - High Returns for Small Investments, Thu, Oct 27, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Best Foot Forward: Ideas for Entrance Gardens, Fri, Oct 28, 1 – 4 pm
- Garden Photography Workshop, Sat, Oct 29, 8 – 11 am

Garden Walks

- Garden Lighting for Residential homeowners, Thu, Oct 20, 6:30 - 8 pm

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT – TOM SKAIFE

By now, the kids have returned to school, and the beaches and pool have been closed. As a result, much of our efforts are geared towards getting these facilities ready for winter.

September Projects

- Winterizing Goodman Pool (Blowing water lines, adding anti freeze to lines, shutting down heating systems, and shutting down chemical distribution system.)
- Winterizing beach shelters.
- Winterizing Cypress Spray Park.
- Making/repairing/installing park signature signs.
- Continuing installation of occupancy sensors in our facilities.

October Projects

- Continue occupancy sensor installation.
- Winterize seasonal park facilities.
- Winterize drinking fountains.
- Install new water system at Elver skating.
- Enclose winter shelters.
- Repair Tenney winter water distribution.

CONSERVATION – RUSS HEFTY

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service awarded a \$10,000 grant to assist with an oak savanna restoration project at the Edna Taylor Conservation Park. The project will involve using a Forestry mower and herbicide application to control exotic shrubs, then seeding native grasses, sedges, and forbs. The project will restore 13.2 acres of rare oak savanna habitat on a glacial drumlin in the park.

We began an oak savanna restoration project at the North Unit of Cherokee Marsh that will ultimately total nearly 50 acres. Phase 1 targeted exotic shrub control on a 13-acre management unit. Field staff used a leased Forestry mower to clear the area, completing the work in 40 hours of machine time. In the past we hired contractors to do this type of work. Leasing the Forestry mower cost \$2,400.00 for 40 hrs of machine use. Clearing comparable areas with hired contractors typically cost three to four times as much. As long as we have the available staff, this new approach of leasing machinery should stretch our capital funds and help us get more work done on the ground.

The strong windstorms we got at the end of the month required staff to remove numerous downed trees that blocked hiking trails. Staff replaced a rusted out metal culvert at Cherokee Marsh adjacent to Lu's Pond. We continued to work on trimming back brush and weeds along the trails to prepare for the upcoming winter trail recreation. Predictions are calling for another snowy winter somewhere in the Midwest.

FORESTRY – MARLA EDDY

Forestry Section	Total Trees	Total Hours
Cycle Pruning	116	220
Pruned by Request	308	571.5
Small Tree Pruning Cycle	93	54
Tree Removal	183	703
Storm Work/Hangers		213.25
Unfilled Vacancies		504

The month of September was a repeat of August events. Tree removals and requests for pruning continued to keep the crews busy. Both West and East Forestry had the opportunity to have a crew performing some cycle pruning. At the end of the month, we had a significant wind storm that required crews to work through the night and into early morning hours. We responded to 28 storm-related tree emergencies.

Special projects include:

- Pruning and removals for Glenn Oak Hills Park.
- Tree removal for Kaboom playground at Wirth Park.
- Pruning and removal for Olbrich Ball Diamond Renovations.
- Pruning trees for the new bike path in Rennebom Park.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – KAY RUTLEDGE

Breese Stevens Field Press Box

Press box delivery and installation went off without a hitch during the week of August 15-19. Parks staff is moving the scoreboard, connecting electrical, bringing in telephone line, ordering chairs, etc.

Breese Stevens Entrance Improvements

Construction is complete for the Breese Stevens Entrance Improvements.

Rennebohm, Wingra and Door Creek Path Paving

The Common Council awarded the contract for the Rennebohm, Wingra, and Door Creek Path Paving to *Tri-County Paving*. Construction is scheduled to begin on October 3, and end on November 11, 2011. The Wingra Park and Door Creek Park Path paving projects involve asphalt paving over existing gravel trails. The Rennebohm Park Path paving project involves construction of a new accessible trail from Regent Street to the Rennebohm Shelter and Segoe Road. We are working with Engineering to provide access to their sewer structures as part of this project. Engineering is providing funding for this additional work. Staff presented the plans for the Rennebohm Park path project at a meeting with the neighborhood on August 8. This project also includes removing and replacing the existing backstop.

Door Creek Athletic Fields

The construction is completed for the two athletic fields at Door Creek Park. This project was completed by Parks Construction.

Door Creek Ski Trail

The construction for the Door Creek Ski Trail will begin October 3. Bids for Phase I of the Door Creek Ski Trail were approved by the Council on August 2. The low bid was *Madison Commercial Landscapes* at \$41,392.50. The completion of Phase I construction will provide roughly 1.3 miles of ski trail with varied terrain. The first phase will include grading and tree removal and installation of a small storm sewer pipe needed for the trail.

Wirth Court Park

The construction for Wirth Court Park playground will include two days; the "prep" day on October 4 and the "build" day on October 6. The "build" day will include 200+ volunteers and involve the construction of the playground, construction and installation of two benches, an outdoor classroom seating and kids' stage, tile mosaic around the existing Hippo sculpture, and the installation of two trees. Parks staff has been attending weekly conference calls to finalize the designs with the project partners and attended the *Kaboom's* Design Day on August 17. We sent soil samples to be processed in accordance with the agreement. Parks Construction are currently removing the old play equipment and surfacing in preparation for "build" day.

Managed Meadows

Bids have been received for the 2011 Managed Meadow Contract with the low bid being *Cardno JFNew* for \$15,875.28. Planting is anticipated to begin the week of October 3. This year's contract includes plantings at High Point, Vilas, Cherokee and Kennedy Parks.

Warner Park Parking Lot

The Parks Division will be reconstructing the Warner Park parking lot in three phases over the next three years. In Phase 1, fall 2010, we replaced the storm sewer and built two retention ponds that will hold all of the parking lot run off prior to it going into the channel and lagoons. Phase 2 includes Bay 3 of the parking lot and the complete roadway through the parking lot. Bay 3 of Phase 2 will be completed in the spring and the remainder of Phase 2 will be done after the 2011 Mallards season. The fall part of phase 2 is underway. All curbing is in and 90% of the gravel base is in. Presently they are adding topsoil to the islands and the roadway terraces. The anticipated paving week is the first week of October.

Olbrich Park Softball Light Replacement

The contract is going through routing at this time. The anticipated start to work date is October 10.

Thut Park

Staff is working with Engineering to install inlets, storm structures, and a berm to divert runoff from Thut Park into the Woodley Street storm sewer system. The construction schedule is dependent upon the Woodley Storm Sewer Engineering project.

Tenney Park Pavilion

The project continues to move forward with completion anticipated for early to mid-November. Work on the exterior of the building is finishing up and work is now moving inside. Interior finishes and plumbing installations are underway, along with the electrical work and the installation of the heating and ventilation system.

Tenney Park Maintenance Bridge

Staff is working with the neighborhood as well as the State Historical Society on the design guidelines for the bridge. We are moving forward on hiring the consultant to design the bridge, an RFP (request for proposal) for the hiring is out and bids are due September 30.

Playgrounds, Paths and Basketball

The Meadowood and Quarry Cove playgrounds are complete, with the exception of punch list items. At Klief Park, the playground equipment has been installed, but additional work on the surfacing is needed before the playground can be opened. Site work also remains that includes backfill of planting beds, volleyball nets, and final turf restoration of construction access routes once the rubber deliveries start arriving. Meadow Ridge Park basketball court asphalt is in place and still needs hoops, striping and site restoration. Baxter path is underway by the Dane County Highway Department and should be paved before the season shuts down asphalt construction. Secret Places Park and Odana Hills Park paths have base and are ready for asphalt.

Park Landscaping

The spring 2011 landscaping has been completed, including landscaping for the Phase 2 Warner Parking Lot, landscaping the new patio built at the Elver Park Shelter, landscaping park signs, and new tree plantings at several parks. The fall 2011 landscaping includes landscaping the parking islands at the new parking lot at Warner Park, this work is underway.

Olive Jones Park

The ribbon cutting ceremony held on September 12 went well, with beautiful weather and all play components ready for use. The railings to provide safe access to the upper and lower levels adjacent to the new toddler playground are being fabricated by Parks staff and are near completion, with only painting left to be done as the weather allows.

Marshall Park Dredging

The contract was revised to become a joint project with Engineering. They had some dredging that needed to be done at their Spring Harbor storm sewer outfall pipe adjacent to the Spring Harbor boat launch. Both dredging projects will use the western end of Junction Ridge Park as the location for the dredge spoils in an area that fill is needed for a future soccer field. Parks and Engineering both received DNR matching grants to pay for up to 50% of the project. The final amount received was around 42% (Parks – \$47,725.00; Engineering – \$63,570.00). Bids are scheduled for approval by the Common Council on September 6. A pre-construction meeting was set for September 29th. Start to work is still scheduled for October 10.

Park and Open Space Plan

The evaluation of census data and finalization of park boundaries and classifications is providing the information needed to populate information in the draft report. Sections of the draft report will be presented for review and discussion at the next meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee scheduled for October 17.

Other Projects

- We are continuing to work with Parks and Engineering staff to site facilities and solicit bids for amenities for the Cannonball Trail.
- We are working with the Glen Oak Hills volunteers and Alder to provide trees for their upcoming planting day.
- Parks staff will be meeting with the neighborhood to discuss three options for improvements to Hudson Park on October 25, 2011.
- We are working with Planning to develop a park map and environmental education materials for Hiestand Park. Park Operations is facilitating the construction of the trail through the Conservation area.
- We are working with Planning on the Arbor Hills/Leopold Neighborhood Plan.
- New park signs (either new parks or replacements of damaged park signs) are being installed at Brittingham Beach, and at Droster, Lucy Lincoln Hiestand, Monona Golf Course, Marshall, Paunack, Patriot, North Star, Cardinal Glenn, Door Creek, and Quarry Cove Parks.

WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER – BRAD WEISINGER

Admissions and Passes

	YTD 2010	YTD 2010	% Rev Change	% Change
Pass Plans	\$52,525.70	\$46,705.30	82%	
Admissions	\$23,382.00	\$20,927.00	60%	-10%

Facility Reservations

Calendar Year	February Rental Totals	No. Free	% Free	Rentals	Free Rentals YTD	% Free YTD	YTD Revenue	% Rev budget
2010	67	19	28%	659	258	39%	\$41,300.00	
2011	86	26	30%	916	296	32%	\$50,043.22	98%

Calendar Year	YTD hrs	YTD hrly participations
2010	1762.3	85,134
2011	2251.85	115,523

YTD 2010 Age Profile

Preschool – 143; Elementary School – 215; Middle School – 143; High School – 152; Adult – 1,278; Senior 60+ 722

YTD Income Compliance

Income levels are based on households with 1-8 family members.

62% compliance - YTD