

# CITY OF DULUTH PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION



## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



2013



# DULUTH PARKS

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*

## PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT

Division Manager

KATHLEEN BERGEN

# PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

## Mission Statement

The Mission of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division is to promote the health and wellbeing of our community, environment and economy by facilitating recreational opportunities and coordinating the enhancement of our parks, facilities and natural resources now and into the future.

## Vision Statement

Duluth Parks and Recreation will continue to be the central driving force in strengthening the heritage of a healthy, active community for future generations by continuing on the path of improving and enhancing our parks and facilities; protecting our natural resources; and developing partnerships to deliver recreation programs and services.

# PARKS AND RECREATION

## STAFF

### FULL-TIME STAFF

**Kathleen Bergen**

Division Manager

**Jeff Anderson**

Operations Coordinator

**Amy Norris**

Public Information Coordinator

**Terri Castonguay**

Special Events Coordinator

**Gail Walkowiak**

Special Events Coordinator

**Pamela Page**

Recreation Specialist

**Robin Bergquist**

Administrative Information Specialist

**Judy Gibbs**

Trail and Bikeway Coordinator

**Cheryl Skaffe**

Volunteer Coordinator

**Theresa Mellinger**

Senior Center Coordinator

### PART-TIME STAFF

**Shawna MullenEardley**

Trees

**Amy Godsell**

Permits

**Jesse Meehl**

Athletics

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

## **Vision Statement**

Our vision is to preserve a naturally beautiful city and to provide innovative and quality Parks and Recreation programs and facilities that will sustain a dynamic quality of life for everyone.

## **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to act in an advisory capacity to the Mayor, City Council, the Parks and Recreation Division and other agencies and organizations regarding matters related to Duluth Parks and Recreation programs and facilities.

## **Park Commission Members**

<b>Voting Members</b> <i>Served all or a portion of 2013</i>		<b>Non-Voting Members</b>
<b>Current Members</b> Jon Welles – President Eric Viken – Vice President Edwin Hall – Secretary Thomas Albright Joel Braun Erica Erickson Andy Holak Susan Beasy Latto Michael Schraepfer	<b>Former Members</b> Kris Ridgewell Karen Erickson Barbara Stark Thomas Beery	<b>Emily Larson</b> -City Council Liaison <b>Art Johnston</b> -ISD 709 Representative <b>Frank Jewel &amp; Steve O’Neil</b> -St. Louis County Representative <b>Kathy Bergen</b> -Division Manager

- The Parks Commission provides the opportunity for public process to determine how the needs for parks and recreation and the community are met.
- Through motions, recommendations are made to the Mayor and Administration.

In-depth discussion always follows a motion before a vote is taken to assure that the recommendation is beneficial to our community.

# TREE COMMISSION

## Purpose Statement

The City Council established the Commission to act as an advisory group for the City Forestry Program, by recommending and advising the City Administration and the City Council on policies, budgetary concerns and technical tree related issues having an impact on boulevard tree placement and replacement, management, maintenance and removal, reforestation, urban forest management and tree preservation.

## Mission Statement

The mission statement of the Commission is to educate and inform the public and act as advocate for the preservation, protection and promotion of Duluth's urban forest and to advise the City on the management of this forest.

## Tree Commission Members

<b>Voting Members</b> <i>Served all or a portion of 2013</i>	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Current Members</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jim Lemmerman, Chair            Angela Brannan, Vice Chair            Mark Hakes, Secretary            Barbara Stark, Secretary            Liz Johnson            Jim Larson            Janet Nelson            Mike Pennington            Christine Penney</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Don Kienholz</b>            City Staff</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Judy Gibbs</b>            City Staff</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shawna MullenEardley</b>            City Staff</p>

- During 2013, the Tree Commissioners reviewed the existing viewshed policy and worked with several homeowners to draft a procedure for implementation.
- Duluth Tree Commissioners hosted the State of Minnesota's Arbor Day Celebration.
- Tree Commissioners continue to monitor the status of old growth forest at Sky Harbor Airport.
- Tree Commissioners recommended thinning the Pine Stand in Hartley Park as soon as possible and helped launched the park's Mini-Master Planning Process.

# PARKS AND RECREATION

## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

### Introduction

Our 2013 Annual Report aims to provide the public a comprehensive review of the accomplishments and projects of the past year. There is much to celebrate, including:

- Completed flood recovery projects
- Record volunteer numbers
- Increased recreational opportunities for families and children
- Planning and development of new trails

The work detailed in this report is the result of committed Commissioners and City staff across multiple departments and divisions, as well as our dedicated community partners.

In our second year of administering the Parks Fund, we are proud to report on the impact of those dollars. The Parks Fund provided the resources necessary to perform much-needed general maintenance, as well as the capacity to embark on capital improvement projects throughout the City. In 2013, the Parks Fund allowed us to:

- Install a new drainage system and ground cover for the Keene Creek Dog Park
- Repair the boardwalks at Grassy Point Trail
- Install a new playground with an accessible fall zone cover at Lester Park
- Renovate the Washington Community Center with an updated gym, new sidewalks, playground, and new green space
- Grant \$136,000 to neighborhood and community groups
- Plant 1,000 trees along boulevards and bikeways
- Fabricate and install a wider "ice bridge" at Chester Bowl Ski Hill

Parks and Recreation has continued to plan for current and future use of our facilities and spaces through the development of Mini-Master Plans. The Mini-Master Plan process includes multiple opportunities for public input through focus groups, stakeholder meetings, surveys, written comments, and input at public meetings. The following Mini-Master Plans were discussed in 2013:

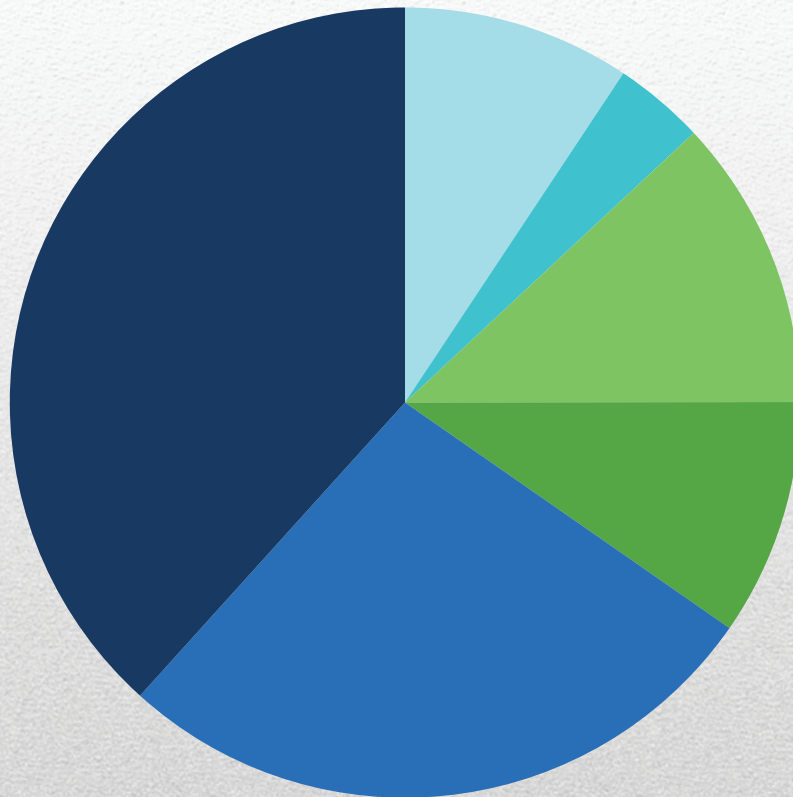
- Hartley Park
- Chester Park
- Gary New Duluth Recreation Area
- Citywide Cross-country Ski Trail System
- Western Corridor for Trails

We are committed to improving and maintaining our park system. Parks and Recreation will continue to work hard to support our mission and vision, working alongside the thousands of residents and visitors who enjoy our parks and trails year-round.



# 2013 Parks Fund Budget

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- Youth Programming 9% = \$250,000
- Neighborhood Grants 4% = \$100,000
- Seasonal Maintenance Staff 12% = \$320,000
- Enhanced Maintenance Projects 10% = \$260,000
- Capital Projects 27% = \$725,000
- Parks & Recreation Operating Budget 38% = \$1,027,500

Parks Fund

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\$2,682,500 revenue



# PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

## 2013 STATISTICS

**Estimated totals for all usage and events.**

Permitted Facility Use	Attendance
~ Private & Public Park Events	8,625
~ Indoor Facility Private & Public Events	18,362
~ Weddings	97,294
<b>Total</b>	<b>124,281</b>
Special Events	
~ Citywide & Youth	190,695
~ Senior Programs	800
~ Summer Concerts	4,650
~ Movies in the Park	19,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>216,045</b>
Recreation	
~ Senior Programs	14,751
~ Softball	1,300
~ Flag Football	168
~ Bayfront Skating	1,128
~ Heritage Center Skating	4,357
~ DECC Family Skating Parties	595
~ Bayfront Family Center (summer season)	1,511
~ Bayfront Family Center (winter season)	1,128
~ Turf Time	848
~ Art Kits and Recreation Equipment	1,030
~ Ultimate Frisbee	122
~ Play Gym	455
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,393</b>

# **PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION**

## **Citywide Special Events**

**These public events were sponsored or co-sponsored by  
the Parks and Recreation Division.**

**Bentleyville Tour of Lights (over 170,000 spectators)**

**Sand Modeling Contest (300)**

**Whipper Snapper Races (3,000 spectators)**

**Chester Bowl Fall Fest (10,000)**

**Lester River Rendezvous (6,000)**

**Chester Creek Concerts (4,650)**

**DECC Family Skating Parties (595)**

**Movies in the Park (19,900)**

**Senior Billiard Tournament Finals (27 + 200 spectators)**

**Senior Appreciation Days (75)**

**100 Year Birthday Party (12 guests + 200 spectators)**

**Holiday Banquet & Bentleyville Tour of Lights (268)**

**Columbian Cultural Exchange (400)**

**Summer Kick-Off (170)**

**Skate & Scare (250)**

**Turkey Bowling-on-Ice (200)**

**Skate with Santa (350)**

*Thanks to all of the individuals and organizations that helped make these events successful by donating their time, energy, food, prizes, equipment or dollars.*

# **PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION**

## **RECREATION**

**These programs were sponsored or co-sponsored by  
the Parks and Recreation Division.**

**Ultimate Frisbee at Heritage Sports Center**

**Play Gym for Tots and Parents**

**Turf Time at Heritage Sports Center**

**Adult Softball**

**Ice Skating at the Heritage Sports Center**

**Art Kits and Recreational Equipment Programs**

**Bayfront Family Center- Winter & Summer**

**Park Point Beachgoers**

**Flag Football**

**Senior Citizen Providers Network**

**Downhill Skiing at Chester Bowl**

# PARKS FUND



**DULUTH PARKS**

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*

# PARKS AND RECREATION

## 2013 Accomplishments

### Special Events

#### **Corner Pocket – Duluth’s Senior Eight-Ball Pocket Billiards Tournament**

On February 1, at the Lincoln Park Center, the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual City of Duluth Senior Eight-Ball Pocket Billiard Tournament took place. In 2013, the tournament had 27 participants aged 55 and over registered and played. Round Robin games were played until March 1 at any senior center or other billiard parlor. Playoffs took place on March 4-5 at the Lincoln Park Center, 2014 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, with finals held on Wednesday, March 6.

#### **Senior Appreciation Days Present *Elvis ... Live!***

On Wednesday, May 22 from 1:00-3:00PM, Senior Appreciation Day was observed at Morgan Park Community Recreation Center. The event featured live entertainment from Elvis performer, Ken Sutherland, who sang to a swooning crowd of approximately 80 attendees. The event also featured Elvis trivia, prize drawings, cake and ice cream, and a grand prize gift certificate to the “Texas Roadhouse.” *Elvis ... Live!* was co-sponsored by the City of Duluth Senior Programs, AEOA Senior Dining Program, UCare Minnesota, and Chris Jensen Health and Rehab.

#### **Chester Creek Concert Series Celebrates 31<sup>st</sup> Season**

Duluth celebrated the 31<sup>st</sup> season of the Chester Creek Concert series. These popular concerts started at 7 PM with food vendors available. Few rain-outs and an impressive line-up provided musical entertainment throughout the summer. The picturesque venue of Chester Bowl Park lent an excellent back-drop for people to rest, relax and recreate during the show.

#### 2013 Chester Creek Concert Series Line-up

- June 4 - Pot Bellied Stallions
- June 11 - Matt Wahl
- June 18 - Charlie Parr
- June 25 - Sarah Krueger
- July 2 - Rage n' Country
- July 9 - Fish Heads
- July 16 - Matt Ray and Those Damn Horses
- July 23 - Rock a Billy Revue
- July 30 - Sound Incorporated
- August 6 - Busterville



### **Youth Welcome Summer at Parks Kick-Off Party**

Over 170 area youth celebrated the first official day of summer vacation at the Summer Kick-Off Party on Friday, June 7 from 12:00-4:00PM at the Heritage Sport Center. The Party featured turf time activities including golf instruction, capoeira, Ultimate Frisbee, soccer, speedball and lacrosse. The ice rink was open to all for pleasure skating. A free lunch was provided to all participants. The Summer Kick-Off Party was sponsored by City of Duluth Parks and Recreation and the Heritage Sports Center.

### **Duluth Hosts Columbian Cultural Exchange**

On Wednesday, July 10, a group of over 100 children from Columbia enjoyed an Ice Cream Social and activity centers with children living in Duluth. The Columbian participants were divided into small groups that took turns at ice skating, playing games on the turf, visiting the Boys & Girls Club and doing science activities at the Duluth Children's Museum.

### **"Movies in the Park" at Leif Erikson Park**

"Movies in the Park" was held every Friday evening beginning July 12<sup>th</sup> in Duluth's Leif Erikson Park. The movies started approximately 15 minutes after sunset on a 40x20 foot outdoor screen. The theme for 2013 was "Super Heroes".



- July 12 - Thor
- July 19 - X-Men First Class
- July 26 - The Incredibles
- Aug 2 - The Amazing Spiderman
- Aug 9 - The Dark Knight
- Aug 16 - Superman 2 The Richard Donner Cut
- Aug 23 - Iron Man 2
- Aug 30 - Labor Day Weekend - No Movie
- Sept 6 - The Avengers

### **Lake Superior Rose Society Presented "Rose Show and Rose Fest"**

On Saturday, July 13 from 6:30AM-3:30PM, the Lake Superior Rose Society hosted their "Rose Show and Rose Fest" at both Valentini's Vicini Lago (1400 London Road) and the Duluth Rose Garden. Roses were judged and prizes were awarded, including a "People's Choice" award. From 11:00AM-2:00PM, the public was treated to demonstrations of rose growing techniques, variety recommendations, and special tours of the Rose Garden. Rose Society members and Park staff were available to answer questions on how to select, plant, and care for roses.

## **Fun in the Sun - Sandmodeling Contest and Water Safety Expo**



On Thursday, July 18, starting at 11:00AM, over 500 children gathered at Park Point with plenty of sunshine to build sand creations. Prizes were given for most creative sand creation, best use of natural material, largest creation, as well as a 3<sup>rd</sup> place, 2<sup>nd</sup> place and grand prize winner. Inside the Beach House was the Water Safety Expo featuring informational booths, games and demonstrations, including rescue boards, throw rings, life

jacket fittings, and kayaking. Various organizations hosted tables providing guests with information concerning severe weather, hypothermia, rip currents and tips on staying safe at the beach.

## **Opening of New Lester Park Playground**



The public was invited to join Mayor Don Ness and Lester Park volunteers on Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM for the grand opening of the "new" Lester Park playground, located at 61<sup>st</sup> Avenue East and Superior Street.



## **New Lakewalk Extension Opened**



The newest expansion of the Duluth Lakewalk, which will extend the eastern end of the popular walkway from 61<sup>st</sup> Avenue East to Brighton Beach, officially opened in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, September 6. Mayor Don Ness took part in the ceremony, which began at 12:00PM at the 61<sup>st</sup> Avenue East bridge section. The Lakewalk is now 7.3 miles long and spans from Canal Park to Brighton Beach.

## **Hot Air Balloon Festival Lands in Bayfront Festival Park**

For the first time ever, an international hot air balloon festival landed in Bayfront Festival Park on September 20-22, 2013. Admittance into this new aviation event was free and open to the public. *Le Festival des Montgolfières à Duluth*, a.k.a. "Duluth Balloon Festival," featured many education-related activities including the launching of weather balloons and hands-on activities for families. Attendees had the opportunity to view potential launches two hours after sunrise and two hours before sunset, as well as take tethered balloon flights during the festival.

### **Chester Bowl Fall Fest**

The annual Chester Bowl Fall Fest was held on Saturday, September 21 from 9:30AM-4:30PM in beautiful Chester Park, located at 1800 Skyline Parkway. Children enjoyed a bounce house, face painting, and other activities. One of the most popular attractions was the farmers' market, with fresh caramel apples, sweet cider and locally grown sweet corn. The park stage featured live music throughout the day. The Fall Fest also celebrated the United Nations International



Day of Peace. Men as Peacemakers ran a peace activity for children and there were peace story tellers throughout the day. The event was free, but a donation of \$2 was suggested. All proceeds for admission went toward ski scholarships. The Chester Bowl Improvement Club awarded over \$10,000 in scholarships for the ski season!

### **Lester River Rendezvous**

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Lester River Rendezvous was held on Sunday, September 29 from 10:00AM-5:00PM (rained on Saturday). This community event was held in beautiful Lester Park located at 61<sup>st</sup> Avenue East and Superior Street. The Lester River Rendezvous featured over 50 food and craft vendors, live music, and engaging activities for kids and adults. A highlight of the Lester River Rendezvous is the "Voyageur Village," a re-enactment of a Northern Minnesota camp from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Local re-enactors, dressed as voyageurs, portrayed the life and adventures during the fur trading era. Muskets and cannon fire were a common sound in the park on Sunday.

### **100 Year Birthday Party**

Parks and Recreation celebrated local centennials at our annual 100 Year Birthday Party Celebration. This event was held on October 23 at 10:00AM during the Duluth Senior Expo at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC). The Birthday Party honored 12 individuals who turned 100 years old in 2013, including one guest who was over 104 years old. The public was invited to attend. Each honoree was acknowledged by the City with a special certificate, a short biography and birthday cake. Dan Hanger and Diane Alexander from FOX21 co-emceed the event.

### **Halloween Skate and Scare at Heritage Sports Center**

Free skating at the Duluth Heritage Sports Center was never more fun or scary! The City of Duluth's regularly scheduled Free Family Skate on Wednesday, October 30 from 6:00-8:00PM became a Halloween party, complete with a costume parade and contest, games, treats, and face-painting. The Goldberg Boys and Girls Club and the Duluth Children's Museum added special live characters in a Haunted Hallway and foggy, squishy science demonstrations for an extra *chilling* touch.

### **Turkey Bowling-on-Ice at Heritage Sports Center**

On Wednesday, November 20, the Heritage Sports Center and Duluth Parks and Recreation added a new event to celebrate Thanksgiving. Along with the popular art projects, games and demonstrations in the lobby area, the Turkey Skate event featured a special recreational activity: bowling with frozen turkeys! Using pins on-loan from Stadium Lanes, bumper mats were positioned to make a small lane in the middle of the rink and turns were given to children to "bowl" ... with a frozen turkey. Staff and volunteers running the turkey bowling had many requests from children to try again...and again...and again. The frozen turkeys were given away as prizes at the end of the evening. Goldberg Boys and Girls Club provided additional support.

### **Skating with Santa at Heritage Sports Center**



A Skate with Santa was held at the Heritage Sports Center on Wednesday, December 19. Youth participants were invited to decorate cookies, make ornaments, get their face painted, try science experiments with snow, and skate with Santa and Bentleyville's Rudolf. The Skate with Santa event was hosted by Parks and Recreation, Heritage Sports Center, Goldberg Boys and Girls Club, and Duluth Children's Museum, along with donations from Cub Foods.



## **Winter Skating Parties at the DECC**



Skating Parties were held in the DECC or the AMSOIL Arena, with the University of Minnesota – Duluth Bulldogs attending the kick-off Party on December 1. Shelly's Mobile Music Machine provided music for all four events. Youth entered drawings for door prizes. Healthy alternative snack samples were provided, encouraging kids to develop better eating habits. Skating parties were

free and open to participants of all ages, although youth under 10 had to be accompanied by an adult. Participants need to bring their own skates.

## **Bentleyville Tour of Lights**

Over 170,000 experienced the magic of over 3 million lights illuminating Bayfront Festival Park, located on the shores of Lake Superior, during the Bentleyville Tour of Lights. The largest holiday light show in the Midwest came to life every evening from Saturday, November 23 through Saturday, January 4. Bentleyville was open from 5:00-10:00PM Friday and Saturday and 5:00-9:00 PM, Sunday-Thursday (weather permitting). Bentleyville Tour of Lights is a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable organization. The community mission of this event is to raise non-perishable food items and new unwrapped toys for families in need. Bentleyville Tour of Lights is an official drop off site for the Salvation Army.

## **Holiday Banquet and Bentleyville Tour of Lights**

Nearly 270 people enjoyed a fun evening on Tuesday, December 11 at the 26<sup>th</sup> annual "Senior Holiday Banquet." The event featured a "Virtual Tour of Bentleyville" by photographer Dennis O'Hara, a welcome by Mayor Don Ness, a visit from Nathan Bentley, delicious turkey dinner, entertainment by Todd Eckard, nearly 100 door prizes, and a sing along.



**PARKS FUND**  
**2013 YOUTH PROGRAMMING**



**DULUTH PARKS**

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*

# PARKS FUND YOUTH PROGRAMMING

## Overview of Youth Programming Expansion from Parks and Recreation Youth Funds

The youth organizations in Duluth continued programs that were originally expanded in 2012 with funding from the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division. The programs included providing educational and academic support, developing habits for healthy lifestyles and learning how to have positive social interactions. The organizations that received funding included:

- Valley Youth Center (West Duluth)
- Neighborhood Youth Services (Central Hillside)
- Myers-Wilkins Community School Collaborative (East Hillside)
- Boys & Girls Club (Lincoln Park)
- Neighborhood Youth Services (new expansion to Morgan Park)
- AmeriCorps (placed throughout the City and School District)
- United Way partners (placed throughout the City and School District)

## Expanded Opportunities

As a whole, youth programs worked to reach 2,720 youth in Duluth in 2013. This is an increase in the number of youth served in 2012 (2,476). The Parks and Recreation funding continues to help the programs reach a greater number of youth in our community than in recent years. Also, because of the loss of other funding sources, the AmeriCorps Programs in Duluth were severely underfunded; however, United Way, serving as the fiscal agent for the funds formerly earmarked for AmeriCorps match, collaborated with nine other youth serving agencies to keep connections with varying schools throughout the district to help students with schoolwork and mentoring. This is a great example of collaboration as well as expansion of services to be sure that even more youth have access to a variety of enrichment programming. This was vital to adequately staffing and sustaining the level of programming and support needed by kids in Duluth. Because of this collaboration with the United Way and partners, the funding was able to support a volunteer coordinator, three academic liaisons, three AmeriCorps members, five Promise Fellows, and several interns and volunteers.

## Educational and Academic Support



A core focus of all of the youth programs is to see youth do well in school. Homework assistance and tutoring were key components of each program. Students receive support, including 1-on-1 tutoring, peer support, and group tutoring sessions. College volunteers are often utilized to help with homework and learning programs.

The summer programs are often a way to bridge the summer learning loss that occurs with a big break in traditional education. Opportunities offered by the different programs include environmental education, education based computer programs, reading programs, math and science. Other enrichment programs offered:

banking and saving, nature and science based learning and safe computer usage. College and workplace readiness programs help establish stepping-stones for the futures of youth.

One organization specifically, Valley Youth Center, worked with Laura MacArthur Elementary to help students graduate grade levels on time and complete high school, with special emphasis on minorities. This included more programming with a wide focus to help bring the minority grade/graduation rates up.

Myers-Wilkins Community School Collaborative collected specific anecdotal responses from youth illustrating what youth have gained from being involved their program:

- "I can write on my own"
- "My homework is hard but I keep doing it"
- "I'm more kind"

Many of these programs have great success rates, meaning youth are indeed developing new skills. In addition to receiving educational support, youth are also receiving the support of positive role models that strengthen them as individuals and help them to gain positive life perspective.

## Healthy Lifestyles

Each organization integrates living healthy lifestyles into their programs. The programs worked to integrate healthy nutritional snacks and meals into their program, but went above and beyond simply offering food. Several of the programs conducted cooking/gardening activities so the youth began to learn how to make healthy eating choices while at home. Programs like Chef's Club and the Organic Gardening Program helped with the nutritional education. Many of the programs promoted healthy lifestyles in other ways also. Learning to fish, outdoor wildlife programs, swimming lessons and a variety of sporting and athletic opportunities are a sample of educational activities offered. Encouraging youth to be active, exercise regularly and get outdoors was an important goal throughout the programs.



## Positive Social Interaction Skills



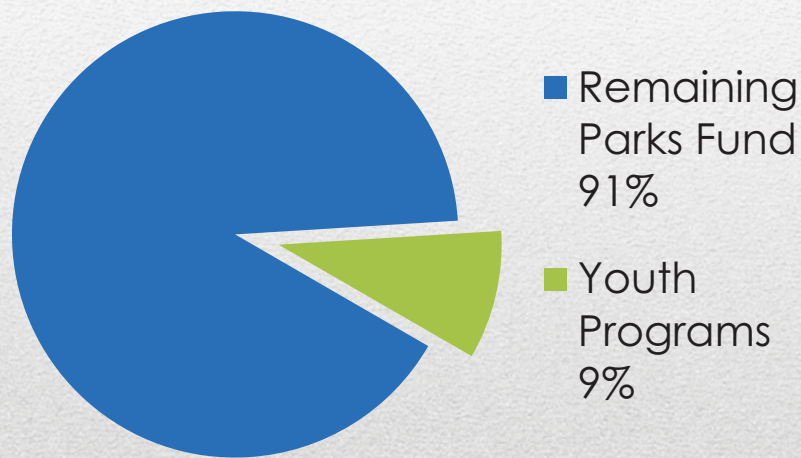
Learning how to have positive social interactions was a theme running through all of the youth programs. Program staff members realize part of setting youth up to succeed has a lot to do with communication and social interaction with peers and adults. These skills are developed through contact with positive role models from college volunteers, agency staff members, and AmeriCorps representatives. The Valley Youth Center leads a program that works specifically with kids who have struggled within group settings. They work to promote volunteerism,

community service, and positive social interaction. Over half the kids involved in the program showed significant improvement.

Due to funds received from Parks and Recreation, many youth were positively affected by additional programs, more opportunities, and positive adult role models.



# 2013 Parks Fund Budget



## Youth Programming

- First half of the year, local match for 30+ AmeriCorps members
- Second half of the year, United Way partnered with local agencies to enhance services
- Five \$20,000 grants to underserved neighborhoods to support and expand youth programming:
  - Morgan Park (Neighborhood Youth Services)
  - West Duluth (Valley Youth)
  - Lincoln Park (Boys & Girls Club)
  - Central Hillside (NYS)
  - East Hillside (Myers-Wilkins Collaborative)

**PARKS FUND**  
**2013 NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS**



**DULUTH PARKS**

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# PARKS FUND NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS

Neighborhood Grants were awarded in the spring to 18 groups and in the fall to 12 groups that used the funds to leverage additional monies and most importantly, volunteers, to improve their neighborhood park/trail/recreation area or provide additional youth programming.

In 2013, the City made \$136,000 (which included \$36,000 as carryover from 2012) available as part of the Parks Fund to support projects and initiatives which would enhance and improve City parks and recreation. The Neighborhood Grant program is designed to provide direct support for community groups and organizations to add value in our City parks. The City is partnering with the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation which accepted and processed the applications. Proposals were reviewed by a committee with recommendations for funding presented to the Parks Commission and for final approval by the City Council.

## **Parks Fund Neighborhood Grant Projects Must:**

- Take place entirely or primarily on existing recognized units of Duluth's parks, recreation, and trails system;
- Support the mission of Duluth's Parks and Recreation Division to continue to be the central driving force in strengthening the heritage of a healthy, active community for future generations by continuing on the path of improving and enhancing our parks and facilities; protecting our natural resources and developing partnerships to deliver recreation programs and services; and
- Encourage both financial and volunteer efforts.

Priority was given to projects that support one or more of the following key elements of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

- Improve the quality of existing parks (especially neighborhood parks),
- Focus on connecting the community through trails and bikeways,
- Have fewer, but higher quality recreation buildings,
- Enhance stewardship of natural resources,
- Expand partnerships with schools for community recreation and gathering, and
- Increase use and recognition of volunteers and volunteer groups.



## Grant Recipients - Spring 2013

**AGENCY: Arrowhead Youth Soccer Association - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Western Duluth Soccer Program**

Arrowhead Youth Soccer Association, in partnership with the Valley Youth Center and the Boys and Girls Club of the Northland, provided recreation opportunities and built healthy lifestyles in kids by offering weekly soccer skills and scrimmage sessions in the West Duluth and Lincoln Park neighborhoods.

**AGENCY: COGGS - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Trail Signage for multi-use trail systems**

The Cyclists of Gitchee Gummee Shores will install professional grade trail signage to the existing COGGS multi-use trails in Lester Park, Hartley Park and the Piedmont Trail System. The existing signage was largely incomplete and not uniform.

**AGENCY: COGGS - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Mountain Bike Trail Sustainability Upgrades**

The Cyclists of Gitchee Gummee Shores, contracting with a professional trail builder, built several reroutes around old unsustainable sections of Hartley, Piedmont and Lester trail systems.

**AGENCY: Duluth Community Sailing Association - \$ 4,500**

**PROJECT: Purchase Replacement 13' Laser Sailboat**

This project will replace an aged 1973 Laser class sailboat used in their youth program. The 1973 boat, after 40 years of heavy use, is no longer serviceable.

**AGENCY: DXC - \$ 2,450**

**PROJECT: Grooming Equipment for Cross-Country Ski Trails**

Duluth Cross-Country Ski Club purchased equipment for improved trail grooming.

**AGENCY: DXC - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Spirit/Magney Cross-Country Ski Trail Rock Removal and Grading**

Duluth Cross-Country Ski Club removed rocks, filled holes, graded and re-seeded sections of Spirit Mountain/Magney ski trail system.

**AGENCY: Eastern Little League - \$ 2,500**

**PROJECT: Eastern Little League Park Repair and Maintenance**

Maintenance on existing buildings, fences, scoreboards and batting cages at Glen Avon's Como Park and Woodland Park's John Baggstad and Tony Emanuel Fields.

**AGENCY: East Hillside Patch - \$ 3,925**

**PROJECT: Summer Parks Sampler**

Mind 2 Mind youth adopted Endion Park for the entire year to pick up trash and keep their neighborhood park clean. They also visited 8 different parks/trails within the City of Duluth.



**AGENCY: Friends of Keene Creek Dog Park - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Dog Park Improvements**

Friends of Keene Creek Dog Park added a separate area within the dog park for small/old dogs and modified the entrance to allow for double-gated entry to the new area. Areas of crushed rock and 6 benches we also added to the park.

**AGENCY: Friends of the Lakewalk - \$ 5,000.00**

**PROJECT: Informational Kiosks Along the Lakewalk**

Friends of the Lakewalk designed interpretive signs to be printed and displayed along the Lakewalk using existing metal stands the City of Duluth had in storage.

**AGENCY: Lincoln Park Citizen Patrol - \$ 2,500**

**PROJECT: Safer Harrison Community Center**

Lincoln Park Citizen Patrol purchased items for security, training materials and items to identify the Citizen Patrol.

**AGENCY: Men As Peacemakers - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Champions Building Champions: Athletes Helping Youth**

Men as Peacemakers used funding to offer athletic activities after school and during summer months in the Lincoln Park, West Duluth and Morgan Park neighborhoods.

**AGENCY: Piedmont Youth Hockey Association - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Building, Grounds, Accessibility and Rink Improvements**

Piedmont Hockey used funds to complete their lower hockey rink project.

**AGENCY: Salvation Army Rookie Basketball - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Rookie Basketball Association 3 on 3 Tournament**

Monies provided were used to hold and orchestrate the annual Salvation Army Rookie Basketball 3 on 3 Tournament.

**AGENCY: Valley Youth Center - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Youth Garden**

Installation of additional raised garden beds, outdoor learning environments and proper enclosure fencing.

**AGENCY: Wise Fool Shakespeare - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Lake Place Players**

Funding was used for development and performance of two 30-minute shows every Saturday morning from July 13 through the end of August.

**AGENCY: Woodland Amateur Hockey Association - \$ 5,000**

**PROJECT: Community Club Outdoor Public Rink Improvements**

Woodland Hockey purchased materials needed to rebuild one public hockey rink and add player's benches and boxes to a new mini-rink.

**AGENCY: Woodland Hills - \$ 4,005**

**PROJECT: Beach Sweeps and Field Trips**

Two scavenger hunts and weekly field trips to Park Point to encourage youth to engage in environmental stewardship in a natural outdoors setting.

## Grant Recipients - Fall 2013

**AGENCY: Chester Bowl Improvement Club (CBIC) - \$4,500**

**PROJECT: Chester Bowl Youth Programming Improvements**

Maintain and improve the summer and winter programming through the purchase of new field equipment, playground equipment, necessary materials to replace aging terrain park features and new snow tools for grooming Chester Bowl's terrain park.

**AGENCY: COGGS - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Duluth Multi-Use Trail Improvements and Construction**

Cyclists of Gitchee Gummee Shores used funds to supplement Trail Crew's trail building efforts. Crews will make sustainability improvements in Lester Park, Hartley Park and Piedmont. Additionally, crews will begin new trail construction in Brewer Park, Mission Creek and/or the Hawk Ridge to Vermillion connection.

**AGENCY: Courage Kenny Northland - \$3,000**

**PROJECT: Courage Kenny Northland "Mobility Mat" Project**

Courage Kenny Northland purchased adaptive recreation equipment to be used at Spirit Mountain, UMD Boat Shed on Park Point and the Park Point Beach House. The equipment will make these recreation areas more accessible for people of all abilities.

**AGENCY: Duluth Area Horse Trail Alliance (DAHTA) - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Master Equestrian Trail Plan for Western Duluth**

The DAHTA hired a trail designer to develop a master plan for a sustainable equestrian trail along the DWP railway corridor and Mission Creek to Jay Cooke State Park. The DAHTA will use this trail plan to further its mission for the preservation and development of horse trails in the Duluth area and promote Duluth as a true premier trail city.

**AGENCY: Duluth YMCA - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Tot-Time Upgrades**

The YMCA improved the quality of the Tot-Time program by upgrading the equipment and offering more options that encourage large motor activity.

**AGENCY: Hartley Nature Center - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Year-round Environmental Education Classroom**

Hartley constructed a 30' yurt to serve as an additional classroom space for growing field-trip and summer camp programs.

**AGENCY: Healthy Duluth Area Coalition (HDAC) - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Cycle Aid Station Project**

HDAC will install five Cycle Aid Stations along Duluth Trails and Bikeways that will provide tools and instructions, allowing bicyclist's to make minor bike repairs.

**AGENCY: Lincoln Park Business Group - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Cross City Trail**

Funds will be used to put the "finishing touches" on the soon to be constructed trail. A bench, a garbage can and way-finding signs will be installed.

**AGENCY: Park Point Community Club - \$3,500**

**PROJECT: Lafayette Summer Youth Program**

Lafayette Summer Youth Program provides summer activities for children during their summer vacation.

**AGENCY: Valley Youth Center - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Memorial Park Ice Rink**

Valley Youth Center operated the Memorial Park non-sports ice skating rink during the winter months. Operation included ice rink maintenance, rink supervision, skate tying, warming partition and rest rooms.

**AGENCY: Woodland Hills - Neighborhood Youth Services - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Winter Warmth**

"Winter Warmth" outfitted youth with the proper outdoor clothing necessary to participate in outdoor recreation and educational field trips in and around the City of Duluth.

**AGENCY: Youth of Duluth - \$5,000**

**PROJECT: Youth of Duluth Study Ball Program**

The Youth of Duluth Study Ball Program offers students an opportunity to receive additional academic enrichment in the areas of reading, writing, math and character education.

## 2013 Spring Neighborhood Parks Fund Grant Recipients

Company Name	Project Name	Award Amount
Arrowhead Youth Soccer Association	Western Duluth Soccer Program	\$5,000
COGGS	Trail Signage for multi-use trail systems	\$5,000
COGGS	Mountain Bike Trail Sustainability Upgrades	\$5,000
Duluth Community Sailing Association	Purchase Replacement 13' Laser Sailboat	\$4,500
DXC	Grooming Equipment for Cross Country Ski Trails	\$2,450
DXC	Spirit/Magney Cross Country Ski Trail Rock Removal & Grading	\$5,000
Eastern Little League	Eastern Little League Park Repair and Maintenance	\$2,500
East Hillside Patch	Summer Parks Sampler	\$3,925
Friends of Keene Creek Dog Park	Dog Park Improvements	\$5,000
Friends of the Lakewalk	Informational Kiosks Along the Lakewalk	\$5,000
Lincoln Park Citizen Patrol	Safer Harrison Community Center	\$2,500
Men As Peacemakers	Champions Building Champions: Athletes Helping Youth	\$5,000
Piedmont Youth Hockey Association	Building, Grounds, Accessibility & Rink Improvements	\$5,000
Salvation Army Rookie Basketball	Rookie Basketball Association 3 on 3 Tournament	\$5,000
Valley Youth Center	Youth Garden	\$5,000
Wise Fool Shakespeare	Lake Place Players	\$5,000
Woodland Amateur Hockey Association	Community Club Outdoor Public Rink Improvements	\$5,000
Woodland Hills	Beach Sweeps and Field Trips	\$4,000

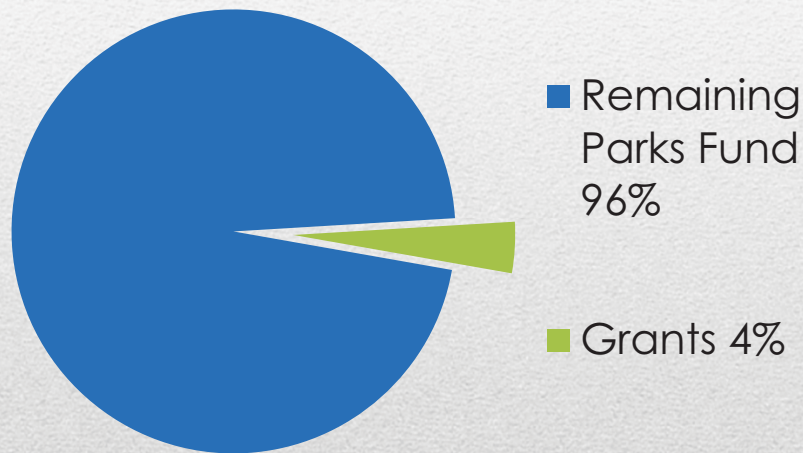


## 2013 Fall Neighborhood Parks Fund Grant Recipients

Company Name	Project Name	Award Amount
Chester Bowl Improvement Club (CBIC)	Chester Bowl Youth Programming Improvements	\$4,500
COGGS	Duluth Multi-Use Trail Improvements and Construction	\$5,000
Courage Kenny Northland	Courage Kenny Northland "Mobility Mat" Project	\$3,000
Duluth Area Horse Trail Alliance	Master Equestrian Trail Plan for Western Duluth	\$5,000
Duluth YMCA	Tot-Time Upgrades	\$5,000
Hartley Nature Center	Year-round Environmental Education Classroom	\$5,000
Healthy Duluth Area Coalition	Cycle Aid Station Project	\$5,000
Lincoln Park Business Group	Cross City Trail	\$5,000
Park Point Community Club	Lafayette Summer Youth Program	\$3,500
Valley Youth Center	Memorial Park Ice Rink	\$5,000
Woodland Hills - Neighborhood Youth	Winter Warmth	\$5,000
Youth of Duluth	Youth of Duluth Study Ball Program	\$5,000

# 2013 Parks Fund Budget

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- Partner with the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation to offer grants to neighborhood and community groups in the spring and the fall
- Maximum amount per grant is \$5,000
- Selection committee made up of Parks Commissioners, a City Councilor, City staff, Duluth Legacy Board members, and Foundation staff
- Awarded \$64,000 in 2012
- Carryover \$36,000 to 2013
- Awarded \$136,000 in 2013

## Neighborhood Grants

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**PARKS FUND**  
**2013 ENHANCED MAINTENANCE**



**DULUTH PARKS**

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*

# Parks Fund Enhanced Maintenance

## Enhanced Maintenance Projects

Parks Fund dollars are used to provide enhanced maintenance in our park system. Seasonal workers and temporary staff were hired to assist in providing those services. City staff, seasonal workers and volunteers accomplished a multitude of tasks and assignments in 2013.

- Planted 140 reLEAF trees, 246 Parks and Trails trees and 787 boulevard trees.
- Upgraded Keene Creek Dog Park to include:
  - New concrete entry
  - Improved landscaping
  - New drainage system
  - Additional fencing and benches
- Athletic fields at Irving, Cobb and Duluth Heights Parks were renovated.
- Established, installed and maintained an urban orchard in the Lincoln Park area.
- Fabricated and installed a wider “ice bridge” at Chester Bowl Ski Hill for a safer downhill ski experience.
- Repaired and improved ski trails.
- Renovated and repaired the boardwalks at Grassy Point Trail.
- Expanded hours of park restrooms.
- Brushed trails.



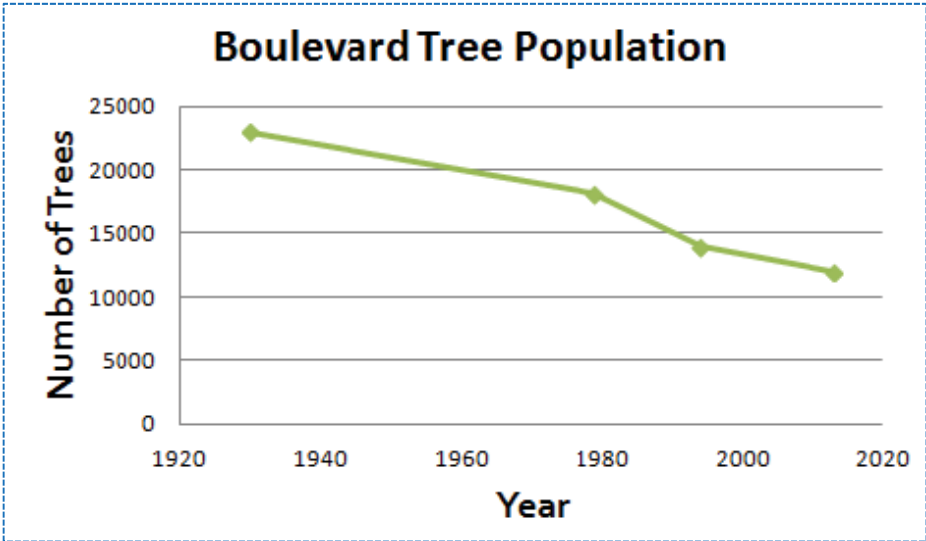


# City of Duluth Boulevard Tree Inventory Report Spring 2014



## Background

In 2011, the City of Duluth began a complete boulevard tree inventory. The effort was led by two GreenCorps members who trained dozens of volunteers to help collect data. These tree surveyors inspected every single boulevard tree in the city. This is the fourth boulevard tree inventory in Duluth’s history. Others were conducted in the 1930’s, 1979, and 1994. Information collected for this survey included tree species, size (trunk diameter), location, an assessment of each tree’s condition. Volunteers also looked for signs and symptoms of pests and diseases. The inventory took over two years to complete and 12



Results from past inventories indicate a decline in the number of boulevard trees in Duluth

**Boulevard**  
The space between the sidewalk and the street, typically planted with grass, trees, or shrubs.

volunteers spent 200 hours collecting tree data. Additionally, it took another 75 hours to enter the data into iTree Streets: the analysis software used. iTree was developed by the USDA Forest Service in partnership with five other national forestry organizations. iTree provided analysis on the population structure of our urban forest, and quantified the specific benefits that

Duluth’s urban forest provides our community. The results of the inventory provide invaluable insights for the management of our urban forest. Areas in particular need of trees were easily identified from the inventory, allowing the City to identify available planting spaces and strategically plan where to plant trees now and into the future.

**Challenges for Duluth’s Urban Forest**

Among the challenges to Duluth’s urban forest include ongoing Dutch Elm Disease (first discovered here in 1978), the impending threat of Emerald Ash Borer, an aging population of silver maples (which did not turn out to have a durable physical structure), an expanding population of Gypsy Moth, and the ongoing need for better oversight of contractor tree planting and care. We have many challenges to face!

# What Does Duluth's Urban Forest Look Like?

## Stocking Level

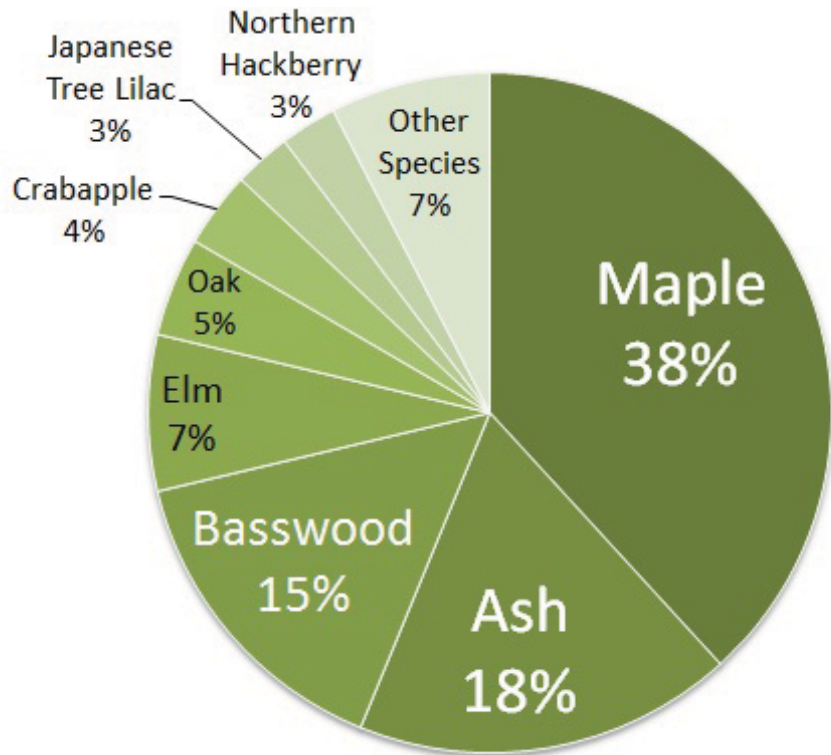
Over 15,000 data points were collected in the process of surveying. In addition to data collected on boulevard trees, vacant planting spaces were also recorded. Over 3,000 vacant planting spaces were identified and over 11,500 boulevard trees were inventoried. This means that approximately 23% of the boulevard planting spaces are vacant.

## Species Diversity

The results of the inventory indicate that over half of Duluth's boulevards consist of only two types of trees. Maple is by far the most abundant, followed by Ash. Species diversity is essential for urban forest resiliency. Catastrophic losses due to species-specific pests, invasive species, and diseases can be minimized with increased diversity. Species diversity plays an important role in the long-term health and stability of our urban forest.

## Urban Tree Canopy

A canopy cover assessment was completed for all of Duluth's urban forest, including both public and private trees. Using aerial and satellite imagery and a random sampling method, the city-wide canopy cover was calculated to be 43.8%. The downtown Duluth area has a canopy cover of around 15%, the urban residential areas of Duluth averaged 25% canopy cover, and rural residential areas of Duluth had 50% canopy cover. Assessing our urban canopy cover is important not only because it is one



way to measure how many trees we have, but also because tree canopy affects local climate, quality of life, and stormwater management. Ideally, the amount of rainwater that reaches our streams and gets discharged into Lake Superior should be as minimal as possible. Tree canopy is the barrier to stormwater runoff. Impervious surfaces are important to consider

as well. An impervious surface is any surface that rain cannot penetrate, such as roof tops, asphalt roads, or sidewalks. Duluth has an average land cover of 17% impervious surface. However, in business districts, this is much higher. For example, in the Canal Park/downtown/East Hillside area, impervious surfaces cover more than 75% of the surface area.

### Urban Tree Canopy

The layer of leaves, branches, and stems of trees that cover the ground when viewed from above. Tree canopy cover is an important measurement tool used to further assess the state of our urban forest and to aid in setting forestry goals.

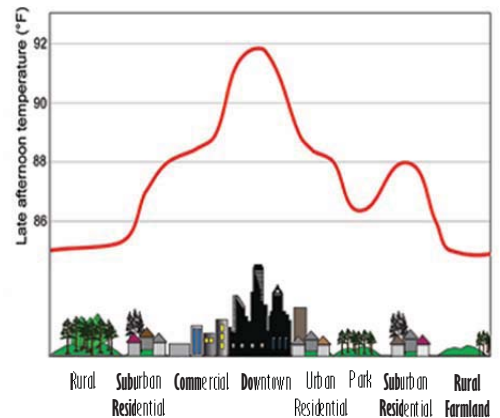
# Climate Change and Urban Trees

Urban areas are particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change. As the temperature increases, urban areas are typically warmer than surrounding rural areas - up to 10°F. The primary cause of this phenomenon, known as the *urban heat island effect*, is that urban areas are made of materials that hold heat: concrete, asphalt, bricks, and other building materials. The dark color of these materials further increases their heat-holding capacity. A secondary

cause of the urban heat island effect is waste heat generated by energy use. Finally, pollutants in the air contribute to heat retention in urban areas.

Urban trees help cool urban areas in several ways. Perhaps the most obvious way is through shading. Not only does shade alone cool the area, but buildings shaded by trees use less energy for air conditioning, thus reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. Unlike the building materials of cities, the live tissues of trees absorb the sun's radiation, rather than retaining and emitting it as heat. Finally, trees cool by evapotranspiration, which is a process that releases water vapor

## Urban Heat Island Effect



into the air. Finally, trees in urban areas encourage people to walk and bicycle instead of driving, therefore reducing their carbon footprint.

## 3 Million Pounds

Annual CO<sub>2</sub> removed and sequestered by Duluth's Urban Forest

# Benefits Provided by Duluth's Urban Forest

## Environmental Benefits

- Duluth's urban forest intercepts over 11 million gallons of stormwater per year, preventing it from carrying pollutants and debris to Duluth's 42 streams and Lake Superior.
- Trees recharge ground water by keeping it on-site.
- Trees remove and store carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses. Duluth's urban forest removes and sequesters over 3 million lbs. of CO<sub>2</sub> and over 15,000 lbs. of other pollutants each year.
- Urban forests prevent soil erosion that removes the most nutrient layer of soil.

## Economic Benefits

- Shoppers spend more time and money in shopping districts with trees.
- Property value of homes and businesses with trees increases by 10-20% and attract more buyers.
- Office rental rates are higher in buildings with a view of trees.
- Energy is saved and heating and cooling bills are reduced as trees provide shade in summer and block wind in winter.

## 11 Million Gallons

Annual stormwater intercepted by Duluth's Urban Forest

## Social Benefits

- Studies have shown faster recovery time in a hospital room with a view of trees.
- Lower incidence of petty crime in neighborhoods with more trees.
- Teens have increased self-esteem when their home is surrounded by trees.
- Faster recovery from stress with exposure to trees and green space (measured by heart rate and blood pressure).
- Less domestic violence in neighborhoods with more trees.
- Better mental health: fewer symptoms in ADHD children and increased concentration in all children when they are exposed to trees and green space.

# What is the City of Duluth Doing?



## Re-Leaf Duluth

The Re-Leaf Duluth initiative utilizes volunteers for tree planting and for the completion of the street tree inventory. Hundreds of trees have been planted in our parks and on our boulevards through this initiative, and volunteers also have the opportunity to participate in tree pruning and educational outreach.

## Invasive Species

Through the invasive species initiative, volunteers have removed countless numbers of invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed, Buckthorn, Honeysuckle and Garlic Mustard from our urban forest



## New Projects

The City of Duluth has been awarded two forestry grants that support the Re-Leaf Duluth initiative and have also allowed us to begin a new project called *Building Duluth's Community Resiliency Through Urban Trees*. The City of Duluth recognizes the important role urban trees play in alleviating the effects of climate change, and this project allows trees to be planted near City buildings and along designated bike routes and trails. As the trees grow, they will offer cooling shade relief to those commuting by bike. The trees will also act as a wind block, creating a much more inviting environment for walking and biking – both activities that help reduce our community's carbon footprint. Trees have also been planted around City buildings to reduce the



**15,000 Pounds**

Annual air pollutants removed  
by Duluth's Urban Forest

demand for energy needed to cool and heat the buildings. Community outreach and education are a part of this project as well, and the City will be engaging volunteers to spread the word about the benefits of our urban forest.

## Achievements

During 2013 City staff and volunteers planted an astounding 1,000 trees in our parks and boulevards. Because of our forestry efforts, 2013 will mark Duluth's 25<sup>th</sup> year as a Tree City USA community. Additionally, Duluth was honored to receive for the first time, the Tree City Growth Award, which is given by the Arbor Day Foundation to communities that not only have a robust forestry program, but to those whose program is growing.

Re-Leaf Duluth volunteers plant boulevard and park trees during spring and autumn. These trees are welcomed additions to neighborhoods, as they add beauty and value to the community.

To volunteer with Re-Leaf Duluth:  
Cheryl Skafta | Volunteer Coordinator  
cskafta@duluthmn.gov  
218-730-4334

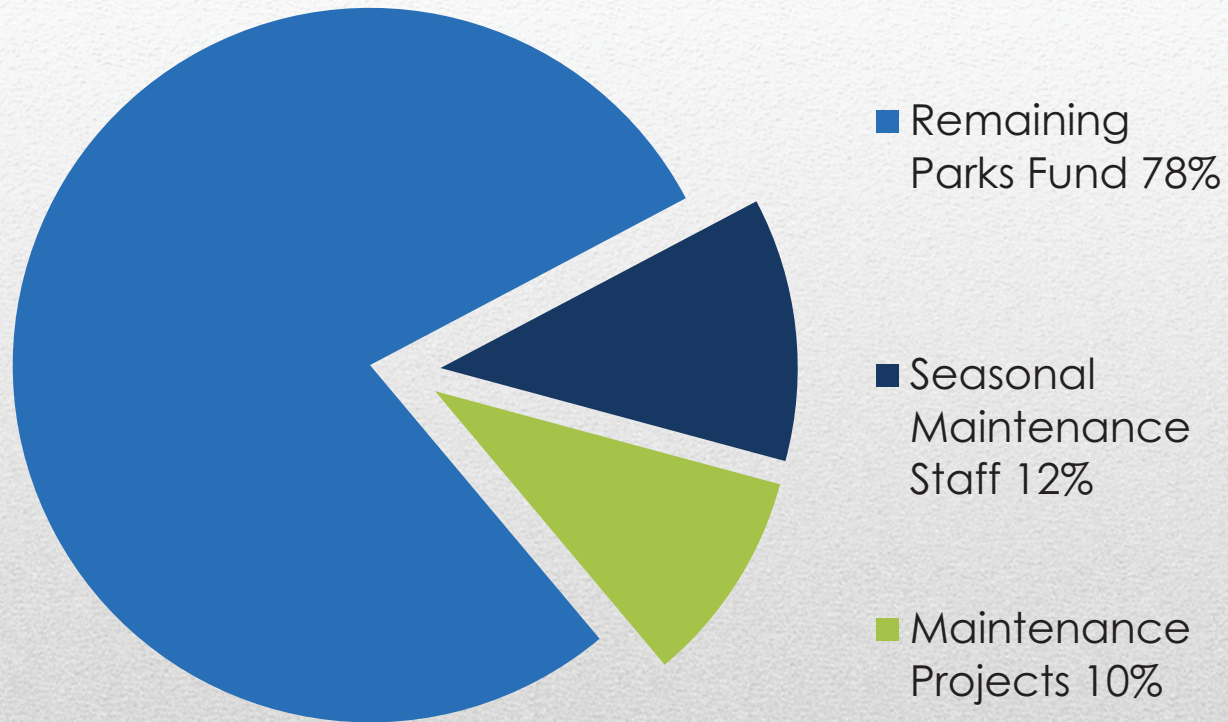
The Duluth Tree Inventory was made possible by the support of Minnesota GreenCorps, a state AmeriCorps program of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. This publication was made possible by the State of Minnesota through the *Building Duluth's Community Resiliency Through Urban Trees* Project.





# 2013 Parks Fund Budget

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Enhanced Maintenance

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**PARKS FUND**  
**2013 CAPITAL PROJECTS**



**DULUTH PARKS**

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*

# PARKS FUND CAPITAL PROJECTS

## Washington Center Capital Improvement Project



The Washington Center is located in the heart of downtown Duluth at 310 N 1st Ave W. The Center, originally a school, has been converted into an artist cooperative and community recreation center. It is home to the Neighborhood Youth Services program of Woodland Hills, Early Childhood Education, Head Start Families in Transitions, Duluth Area Youth Basketball Association and the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation. Approximately 25,000-27,000 people utilize the Washington Center on an annual basis. The gymnasium is scheduled seven days a week with volleyball, lacrosse, basketball, Special Olympics, dance, kid's games and more.

The Washington Center was in desperate need of repairs to the gym, hallways, sidewalk, green space, and parking lot. During the winter of 2013, City staff began a renovation project that transformed both the interior and exterior of the building. The project began with new sidewalks in the gym. The gym and all the hallways were brightened up by a fresh coat of paint. In the spring, attention shifted to the exterior of the building. The garden space was relocated to an area where the plants would receive plenty of sunlight for growing. The crumbling sidewalks were replaced with new concrete. Finally, a new playground was installed. The playground included several climbing and swinging options for the energetic youth who attend programs at the Washington Center. City staff landscaped the area with new trees and flowers, and added picnic tables.

## Lester Park Playground

Lester Park is home to a new playground, thanks to the hard work of community volunteers and City staff. The playground installation project was a partnership between the Lakeside Business Association, community volunteers, local Boy Scouts, Parks and Recreation and the Park Maintenance Division. In early summer of 2013, local Boy Scouts, along with additional community volunteers and City staff, volunteered to help build the new Lester playground. Within a couple days, the playground was built and ready for the final stage, the pouring of the soft rubber fall zone. A week later, a grand opening ceremony was held at the park, hosted by Mayor Don Ness. On Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM community volunteers, children and the Lakeside Business Association gathered for the official ribbon cutting ceremony. At the grand opening, the Lester Park Business Association presented the City of Duluth with a check to offset the cost of the playground. This was a true example of community and City government working together to provide recreation for our children. The Lester Park playground is located at 61<sup>st</sup> Avenue East and Superior Street.

## Enger Park

The new Julia Newell Marshall gazebo, designed and erected by the Timber Framers Guild from heavy timbers on site, added to the list of improvements that have transformed Enger Park over recent years. The Timber Framers Guild donated their services to help promote their trade. Most of the work was done by hand with old, original tools. Some of the tools used were over 100 years old! The gazebo, along with a deck extending over the rocks, creates a perfect setting for weddings and other special events. The gazebo won a Minnesota State acclaimed award in recognition of its unique structure.

Another addition to Enger Park was the complete remodeling of the restroom/picnic shelter building. This was a joint project between the City of Duluth and Rotary 25 Club. The shelter was converted into an improved and accessible bathroom/storage facility. Funds from the Rotary 25 Club created a new plaza with seating areas.

Visitors will enjoy the new and improved Enger Park for years to come.

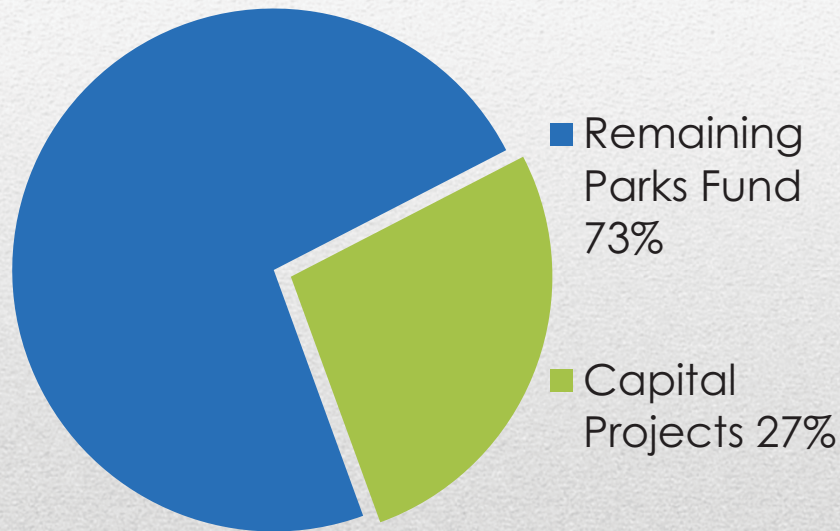
PROJECT	TYPE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Longview	courts	east	plans to refurbish courts; build viewing deck; rebuild retaining wall - bid out but delayed to 2014
Morgan Park	community center	west	built new and improved other hockey rinks
Mini-Master Plans	parks and trails	3 west - 1 central - 1 east - 1 citywide	Chester; Hartley; ski trails citywide; Irving; Chambers Grove; western Duluth trails corridor
Wheeler	sports facility	west	Removed recently purchased house
Lester Park	parks	east	Installed playground (purchased in 2012); removed restroom building; added a screened platform for porta-potties next to the park entrance
Memorial	parks	west	Began process to remove building and add infrastructure for improvements - will finish this phase in spring/summer 2014
Washington Center	community center	central	Interior painting; signage; refurbished the gym; added raised bed garden space; added playground and picnic areas; replaced sidewalks and improved drainage; landscaping
Central Hillside	community center	central	Carried over to 2014 for park improvements
Enger Park	parks	west	Refurbished the restroom; added a plaza area (funded by Rotary); added a stage area to the gazebo; added lighting to trail and gazebo
Traverse Trail	trails	east and west	Match for state grant to build trails in Lester Park and Mission Creek

## 2013 Capital Projects



# 2013 Parks Fund Budget

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## How Priorities are Set

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- Conditions, deferred maintenance, safety, accessibility
- Leverage opportunities - additional funds received, volunteers, grants awarded
- Mini-Master Plans – follow guiding principles
- Projects are varied to address needs across the City, across different recreational pursuits, and safety and accessibility concerns.

## Capital Projects

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**PARKS FUND**  
**2013 GENERAL OPERATIONS**



**DULUTH PARKS**

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# PARKS FUND

## GENERAL OPERATIONS

### Recreation

#### **Turf Time at the Heritage Sports Center**

UMD Athletes, City staff and Men as Peacemakers led character development activities and sports-oriented games at the indoor Turf Facility at Heritage Sports Center for youth groups. Utilizing a variety of equipment and discussion topics made this a fun and interesting opportunity for all involved. The indoor facility allowed active play with no weather worries. A healthy snack was also provided to encourage good eating habits. Men as Peacemakers has been a great partner, taking on more responsibility for this program and bringing Turf Time activities to a whole new level.

#### **Ultimate Frisbee at Heritage Sports Center**

Parks and Recreation offered Ultimate Frisbee for the third year, in an ongoing attempt to promote the fast-paced, non-contact, nationally popular sport to Duluth youth. For the first time since offering this program, 2013 saw all sessions at full capacity of youth who learned the basic skills of the sport, enabling them to play informal games. Expanded program opportunities will be provided in 2014, meeting the increased requests from youth and parents.

#### **Bayfront Family Center – Summer**

Bayfront Festival Park, home to the biggest and most innovative playground in Duluth, was a destination for families and visitors throughout the summer--- especially with the opportunities provided to them through the Bayfront Family Center, May 27 - September 19, Monday-Thursday from 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM. Over 1500 visitors took advantage of the self-serve concession area, sheltered seating and extra bathrooms located in the Center. City staff were available to answer questions, provide assistance and facilitate the use of free recreational equipment. Frisbee golf, kites, softball gloves, volleyball, kickball and croquet were just a few of the options available to families and groups of all ages.

### **Bayfront Skating Rink and Family Center - Winter**

Bayfront Skating Rink and Family Center was open seven days a week, pending weather closures through February 2013. Ice conditions were excellent all season, and it was the first time in five years that the rink was able to stay open through February. A record number of participants were counted, and for the third year, City staff provided the public access to snowshoes, cross-country skis, and sleds for a sliding hill. Due to the early arrival of snow and cold in December 2013, the Park Maintenance Division worked extra hard to create the best ice rink Bayfront has had in recent memory – all in time for the Holiday School Break. Parks and Recreation also expanded staff hours to accommodate Bentleyville's extended operations into the New Year. The Family Center opened daily at 10AM through January 4, giving the public three extra hours of sheltered warmth for their skating pleasure.

### **Neighborhood Skating Rinks**

With the Parks Fund, City staff we were able to provide more assistance to community groups for making and maintaining ice. Neighborhood hockey organizations and community volunteers were critical partners in providing these skating opportunities.

- Bayfront Skating Rink
- Chester Bowl Speed Skating Rink
- Duluth Heights Skating Rink
- Lafayette Skating Rink
- Lower Chester Skating Rink
- Memorial Park Skating Rink
- Merritt Skating Rink
- Morgan Park Skating Rink
- Norton Park Skating Rink
- Piedmont Skating Rink
- Portman Skating Rink
- Gary New Duluth Skating Rink
- Woodland Skating Rink

### **Chester Bowl Downhill Skiing**

Located in the heart of Duluth, Chester Bowl Ski Hill (1800 East Skyline Parkway) offered a wide variety of downhill skiing experiences. Daily lift tickets and season passes were available. Besides being affordable, Chester Bowl is a great place to learn how to downhill ski for people of all ages.

### **Open Skate at Heritage Sports Center**

Parks and Recreation sponsored skating opportunities year-round at the Heritage Sports Center, located at 120 South 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue West. These sessions were free and open to the public for pleasure skating. A limited number of skates are available for loan, and young skaters can use PVC-training helpers as they learn to skate. Open skate was available on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8PM. During most school breaks, open skating was held from 2-4PM, Monday through Friday. Summer open skating was held Wednesdays from 2-4PM.

### **Play Gym at Duluth Heights**

Play Gym offered an unstructured, rain-or-shine play opportunity for pre-school children and their parents at Duluth Heights Community Recreation Center on Wednesdays from 9:30AM-12PM. Over 400 children and parents used a variety of indoor and outdoor toys and equipment. In 2013, the long-time family who volunteered to help with the program moved out of town. After a few attempts at new leadership, a mom and dad team stepped up in late fall and Play Gym was able to continue.



### **Art Kits and Recreational Equipment Program**

Over 1,000 people made use of our art kits and recreational equipment. The art kits included activity materials and directions for over 20 art projects. The materials and equipment were available free of charge to non-profit and community organizations, individuals visiting the Bayfront Family Center and renters of the Duluth Heights Community Recreation Center to use at their programs and special events for youth-centered activities.

### **New Youth-Centered Rental Fee Established**

Parks and Recreation's first year of offering a reduced-fee rental option of \$50 for non-profit, youth-focused activities was very successful. More than two customers per month made use of the opportunity to rent a four-hour slot at Duluth Heights, Morgan Park, and Portman Community Recreation Centers, and City Center West-Evergreen Senior Center. Those renting Duluth Heights Community Recreation Center received an added bonus of being able to use the entire collection of children's equipment, games and art supplies for their rental with no extra fee. This was a popular option for birthday parties and other gatherings catering to youth age 16 and under.

### **Park Point Beach Swimming Area**

The City of Duluth continued to partner with the YMCA to provide lifeguards at the Park Point Recreation Area behind the Beach House every day during the summer from 11AM-4PM. As is tradition, the beach area officially opened on June 10, 2013, as close to the last day of school as weather permits. The beach stayed open until Labor Day. The YMCA lifeguards provided a safe swimming experience, assisted with public education regarding rip currents by putting up signs and flags when conditions changed, and reported wave height and wind conditions to the local National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Fire Department. The YMCA managed Beach House concessions, as well as coordinating rentals for meetings, social gatherings, parties, and weddings.



## Community Clubs

Last year, an important renewal of commitment was displayed when nearly every community club president attended a “Presidents’ Summit”. The purpose was to identify and discuss some of the most pressing issues affecting their respective clubs. One item that overwhelmingly topped the list of issues: *“How do we get people to become more involved”*. Many clubs struggle to maintain membership levels, active participation and volunteer commitment as our society changes and becomes busier, more mobile and incredibly technology focused.

Together these organizations represent a true cross-section of interests and populations from one end of Duluth to the other. Regular meetings are usually held on the same day of the month, every month. They allow residents of any neighborhood to connect with each other and discuss issues and ideas that affect their daily lives, their past and the future of where they live. Many of these clubs have histories that go back over 20-30 years. While some are brand new, all have developed out of a growing, shifting, responsible population of people who live and work in Duluth and care about this City.

Community clubs put on picnics, holiday gatherings, carnivals, clean-ups, food drives, informational meetings, senior activities, summer programs for youth and winter recreation for all. They do it with volunteers and almost all for free. Many regulate the use and rentals of community recreation centers and act as a conduit for their neighbors’ sentiments to local government. They tackle collective problems and celebrate collective success.

The City’s Parks and Facilities Divisions help community clubs accomplish their goals in many different ways. The City provides equipment, services and outreach for their events, maintenance and utilities for community centers and basic upkeep of the parks and facilities that surround them. The City works to maintain a strong reciprocal relationship with these organizations by attending regular meetings, continually communicating and helping to respond to the needs and visions of residents.

## Public Meetings

### **Public Invited to Discuss Plan for Chester Creek**

The public was invited to provide input on two options for the restoration of Chester Creek within Chester Park. This meeting was held on Wednesday, February 27 from 6:30-8:30PM. The plan was posted on the Parks web site to encourage additional comments from the public. City staff, SAS Consultants, and staff from BARR Engineering presented the options and answered questions.

### **Proposed Soccer Field at 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue East and Jay/Dodge Street**

Duluth Parks and Recreation invited the public to a meeting on Monday, June 17 beginning at 6:30PM at the Portman Community Recreation Center located at 4601 McCulloch Street. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a proposal submitted by a local soccer group to build a soccer field at the 40 Avenue East and Jay/Dodge Street City property.

### **Proposed Hockey Rink at Old Main Park**

Parks and Recreation Department invited the public to a meeting on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:30PM at the Lower Chester Community Recreation Center located at 1417 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a proposal submitted by Congdon Hockey to build hockey and skating rinks at the Old Main Park.

### **Public Meeting for Irving Park Plan**

The public was invited to the Parks and Recreation Irving Park planning meetings Tuesday, June 11 and Tuesday, July 23 at 6:30PM. The meetings were held at City Center West-Evergreen Senior Center located 5830 Grand Avenue. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss park renovation options considered since Irving flooded last summer.

### **Cross-Country Skiers Invited to Public Planning Meeting**

People interested in the future of cross-country skiing in Duluth were encouraged to take part in Parks and Recreation's Cross-country Skiing planning meeting. The meeting was held on Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at the Hartley Nature Center located at 3001 Woodland Avenue beginning at 6:00PM. This initial meeting sought input from users of all the Duluth ski trails as to changes and/or additions that could be made to enhance the skiing experience.

### **Mini-Master Plan Meeting for Chester Park**

The public was invited to attend the Parks and Recreation Chester Park Mini Master Plan community meeting on Wednesday, May 29 beginning at 6:00PM at the Washington Center located at 310 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue West. The purpose of this meeting was to bring together City staff and community members to discuss Chester Park's Mini-Master Plan which will serve as a guide for changes and park improvements in the future.

### **Construction of the Cross City Trail - Phase I**

The public was invited to attend a public meeting to discuss the planned construction of the Cross City Trail from Lake Avenue to 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue West. The meeting took place from 5:00-6:00PM on Monday, June 3 in Room 303 City Hall, 411 West First Street. The meeting consisted of a presentation by SEH Inc. followed by a short question and answer session. Topics included the proposed design, including changes to parking and sidewalks, and the project schedule. Construction began late in 2013.

### **Mini-Master Planning Meeting for Hartley Park**

The public was invited to participate in the planning process for Hartley Park. SRF Consulting worked with Nature Center and City staff to develop a draft Mini-Master Plan for Hartley Park, which includes the Woodland Community Recreation Area. The public was invited to review the initial draft documents and maps and give their input and feedback at open houses on Tuesday, August 13 and Wednesday, November 20 at the Hartley Nature Center. The plan will incorporate all aspects of the park, from its ball fields to trails to how to manage the invasive vegetation. The plan will become a guideline for the City of Duluth in partnership with Hartley Nature Center.

### **Duluth Traverse Mountain Bike Trail System Environmental Assessment Worksheet**

The City of Duluth accepted public comments during a 30-day public review period from February 6 to March 7, 2013, on an environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) that was prepared for the Duluth Traverse Mountain Bike Trail System.

The City of Duluth partnered with COGGS (Cyclists of the Gitchee Gummee Shores) and proposed to construct Phase 1 of the Duluth Traverse Trail (sections of trail in Lester Park and Mission Creek Park). The Duluth Traverse Trail is a sustainable, multi-use, natural-surface, single-track trail system built for mountain biking-but suitable for many human powered recreational users-which will stretch across Duluth along the ridgeline. The proposed trail will be built to International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) sustainable trail guidelines to minimize maintenance and erosion problems.

## Administration

### **City of Duluth Awarded “Growth Award”**

The Tree City USA “Growth Award” was awarded by the Arbor Day Foundation to recognize higher levels of tree care by participating Tree City USA communities. The “Growth Award” highlights innovative programs and projects, increased commitment of resources for urban forestry, and provides an opportunity to share new ideas and successes across the country.

There were several activities that cities could submit to receive the “Growth Award”. There are many categories available and each activity is given a point value. When a city receives enough points, they earn a growth award. Each activity submitted has to be a new activity, started this year. The City of Duluth qualified because of the new Parks referendum money and the official designation of the Web Woods Trail. Receiving the award signifies that the City of Duluth has taken steps toward increasing their commitment to maintaining a healthy urban forest.

### **Duluth’s Enger Park Gazebo Wins Award**

The massive renovation of the Union Depot in St. Paul and the striking new Lowry Avenue Bridge in Minneapolis are among the high-dollar public construction projects named to Finance & Commerce's Top Projects Series of 2012.

Comparatively, low-dollar projects made the list, too: a park gazebo in Duluth (made out of old timber from a former Boeing B-17 plant) and the Minnesota Fallen Firefighters Memorial on the Capitol Mall in St. Paul. Nearly 70 nominations — a record — were submitted this year and 26 projects were selected for the honor. Projects were judged for their degree of difficulty, creativity in design, innovative construction techniques, cooperation among contractors and management, and sustainability efforts. To be eligible for consideration, projects had to be fully completed in 2012.

Honorees spanned the state including a new school built in Wadena after a tornado destroyed the previous one and the University of Minnesota’s NOVA Far Detector Building in Ash River Falls.

But there was plenty of room on the list for private projects, including the dramatic makeover of a vacant Shinders store in downtown Minneapolis, the new MoZaic mixed-use building and its outdoor art park in Uptown Minneapolis, and the Target Commons “alternative workplace” in downtown Minneapolis.





**Winner:** Julia Marshall, Gazebo at Enger Park

**Description:** Permanent gazebo made of recycled timbers from old Boeing plant, which built B-17 aircraft in World War II

**Contractor:** Hovland Inc., Timber Framers Guild

**Architect/Engineer:** Collaborative Design Group



### **Viking Ship Moved**

The City of Duluth moved the "Viking Ship" out of Leif Erikson Park on Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. The ship will be temporarily stored at the City's 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue West Toolhouse until a final location is determined and a secure structure to house the ship is constructed. Viant Crane moved the ship. The Police Department and the City of Duluth Parks Maintenance staff escorted the ship along First Street until it was out of the downtown area.

### **National Survey Results**

The City of Duluth National Survey 2013 results showed that Duluthians love and value parks and recreation. The survey contained questions seeking residents' perspectives about opportunities and services related to the community's parks and recreation services. Recreation opportunities in the City of Duluth were rated very positively. Not only were ratings for recreation opportunities above the benchmark, but they have also increased over time. Ratings for parks and recreation services were varied. City parks were rated similar to the benchmark while recreation centers and recreation programs were lower than the benchmark. Resident use of Duluth parks and

recreation facilities tells its own story about the attractiveness and accessibility of those services. The percent of residents that used Duluth recreation centers was much greater than the percent of users in comparison jurisdictions. Similarly, recreation program use in Duluth was higher than use in comparison jurisdictions.

### **New Electronic Rip Current Warning Sign on Park Point**

The City of Duluth's Fire Department and Parks and Recreation Division unveiled the latest effort to warn swimmers of Park Point rip current conditions. The electronic rip current sign, placed at the "S" curve located at 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Minnesota Avenue, is part of a continued expansion of water safety measures within the City of Duluth. The electronic sign informs beach goers of current surf conditions, how the surf impacts their safety, as well as the location of beaches where lifeguards are present.



### **New Information Kiosks along Lakewalk**

The Friends of the Lakewalk, in partnership with the City of Duluth, installed three new information kiosks along the Duluth Lakewalk. The first, commemorating the shipwreck of the Mataafa in 1905, is located along the Lakewalk as you approach the Duluth Shipping Canal. The kiosk tells the tragic story of the Mataafa which floundered at the Duluth Shipping Canal in a November storm that included gale-force winds, ice, freezing temperatures and difficult currents. Nine sailors lost their lives that night as Duluthians looked on in horror, unable to mount a rescue owing to the heavy seas.

Two additional kiosks tell the story of the creation of the beautiful Image Wall below Lake Place Park. Not only do the mosaic images tell the story of Duluth's waterfront history, they beautify what would otherwise have been a dull concrete wall. The wall was necessary as Interstate 35 was constructed through Duluth. The Mosaics are a testament to both the maritime history of Duluth and the creativity of the architects, artists and others involved in the project.

These three new information kiosks are part of an ongoing project to enhance the cultural and historical value of the Duluth Lakewalk which is frequented by residents and millions of tourists at all times of the year. Future information kiosks will feature Tischer Creek and Glensheen, the Lakeside Business District and other landmarks along the Lakewalk from Canal Park to Brighton Beach.

This project is supported with funding from the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation through the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation grants program. The Friends of the Lakewalk is a private non-profit organization dedicated to preserving, protecting and improving the Duluth Lakewalk.

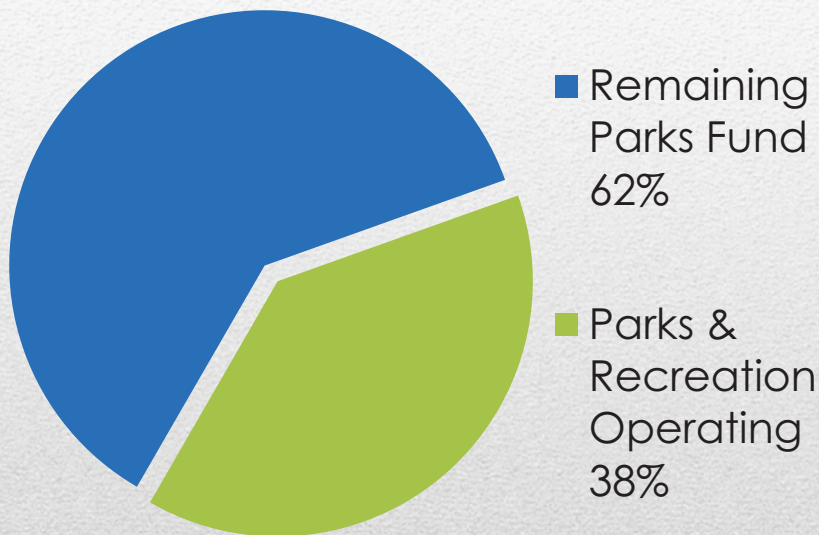
## Parks and Recreation Partners

Age Well Duluth  
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA Senior Dining)  
Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC)  
Arrowhead Youth Soccer Association (AYSA)  
Bentleyville Tour of Lights  
Boys and Girls Club  
Chester Bowl Improvement Club (CBIC)  
Cities of Service  
College of St. Scholastica (CSS)  
Community Action Duluth (Stream Corps, Seeds of Success)  
Community Clubs  
Cyclists of Gitchee Gummee Shores (COGGS)  
Drift Toppers Snowmobile Club  
Duluth Area Horse Trail Alliance (DAHTA)  
Duluth Community Garden Program  
Duluth Cross-country Ski Club (DXC)  
Duluth Economic Development Authority (DEDA)  
Duluth Flower and Garden Society  
Duluth Heritage Sports Center  
Duluth Huskies  
Duluth Outdoor Alliance  
Duluth Softball Players Association (DSPA)  
Eco Rotary  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Grandma's Marathon  
Greater Downtown Council  
Hartley Nature Center  
Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory  
Healthy Duluth Area Coalition  
ISD # 709  
Junior League of Duluth  
Lake Superior College (LSC)  
Lincoln Park [Senior] Center  
Lincoln Park On the Move  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)  
Merritt Creek Academy  
Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC)  
Minnesota Point Preservation Society  
MN Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
MN Department of Health (MDH)  
MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)  
Myers Wilkins Community School Collaborative  
NAACP  
Neighborhood Youth Services (NYS)  
Northwood Children's Home  
Over the Hill Night Riders Snowmobile Club  
Rainbow [Senior] Center  
Rose Society  
Safe and Walkable Hillside Coalition  
Safe Routes to School  
Senior Clubs  
South St Louis Soil and Water Conservation District  
Spirit Mountain Authority  
St. Louis County  
St. Louis River Alliance  
Superior Hiking Trail Association (SHTA)  
United Way (Volunteer Center)  
University of Minnesota - Duluth  
Valley Youth Center  
YMCA  
Youth Sports Groups (soccer, basketball, hockey, football, softball, baseball, lacrosse)  
YWCA



# 2013 Parks Fund Budget

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## Expenses

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- Wages and benefits
- Equipment and supplies
- Marketing and printing
- Maintaining community centers and facilities
- Phones and internet
- Vehicles and mileage
- Memberships and dues
- Special events, concerts, skating, skiing, turf time
- Training and education
- Parks Commission

## Parks and Recreation Operating Budget

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**PARKS FUND**  
**2013 VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**



**DULUTH PARKS**

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*

## Service Initiatives

### **Clean and Green**

Litter - it's a never-ending battle. Through the City of Duluth's Clean and Green service initiative, hundreds of volunteers gave thousands of hours during 2013 helping to remove unwanted trash from our parks and trails, as well as contributing to beautification projects like weeding in the Rose Garden and mulching trees in various neighborhood parks.



#### **2013 Clean and Green Accomplishments**

- 3,195 Hours of Service
- 1,588 Volunteers

### **Duluth Invasive Species Council**

Invasive, non-native plants can be devastating to native plants, trees and wildlife habitat. The Duluth Invasive Species Council service initiative is committed to addressing the influx and growth of invasive plant populations in our community. Through community education, mapping and tracking efforts, as well as eradication events and treatment efforts, we are taking on invasives.

#### **2013 Invasive Species Council Accomplishments**

- 932 Hours of Service
- 432 Volunteers

### **Edible Duluth**

Promoting, growing and developing public edible landscapes is the focus of the Edible Duluth service initiative. Partnering with programs that advocate for food access and equity, Duluth Parks and Recreation is excited to be exploring the role that we can have in this issue.

#### **2013 Edible Duluth Accomplishments**

- 52 Hours of Service
- 30 Volunteers
- The City of Duluth and the Duluth Community Garden Program received a \$25,000 grant from Cities of Service and their Impact Volunteering Fund to create the Emerald Garden in Lincoln Park, located at 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue W and 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **reLEAF**

A healthy urban forest is an important community resource. The reLEAF service initiative works to promote volunteer engagement in protecting our urban forest, educating the public on the importance of our urban forest, and hosting service activities that include tree inventory, pruning and planting.

### **2013 reLEAF Accomplishments**

- 538 Hours of Service
- 265 Volunteers
- Completed the Boulevard Tree Inventory which includes tree identification, size and notes on the general condition of each tree. Volunteers also documented the available planting spaces along boulevards for future trees.
- The City of Duluth was recognized for its partnership with Community Action Duluth and two of its programs: The Seeds of Success and the Duluth StreamCorps. The City of Duluth provided low-use parklands to grow food and worked with the StreamCorps for tree planting projects; including large white pines and storage of tree planting materials.
- MPCA Grant: *Building Duluth's Community Resiliency Through Urban Trees*. The goals of the project are to educate the community on the role urban trees play in mitigating the effects of climate change, encourage individuals to use people-powered transportation (walking and biking), plan for the future and climate change, and engage the community in volunteering activities around urban trees. Through this project, 55 trees were planted around 6 City buildings. As the trees mature, they will provide cooling shade in summer and act as windbreaks during winter, thus reducing the demand for cooling and heating energy. Additionally, 95 trees were planted along off-street bike and pedestrian trails (including the Lakewalk, the Depot skate park trail, and the Irving bike path) and along on-street bicycle routes. These trees will offer cooling shade relief to those commuting by bike and will encourage more people to bicycle, thus reducing their carbon footprint.

## **Volunteer Special Events**

### **Arbor Day 2013 (May 15) = 21.25 Volunteer Hours Contributed**

Duluth hosted the Statewide Arbor Day celebration in 2013 at Chester Park. Because of Duluth's 2012 flood, the destructive tornado in Minneapolis in May of 2012, and other devastating disasters in Minnesota during 2012, the "theme" for the 2013 state Arbor Day was "rebuilding by planting trees." The goal was to educate our state-wide community on the importance of tree planting in recovery efforts. Speakers at the ceremony included DNR State Forester Forrest Boe, Duluth Mayor Don Ness, and Lt.

Governor Yvonne Prettner Solon. Duluth celebrated 24 years of being named a “Tree City USA” by the Arbor Day Foundation. A ceremonial tree was planted near the playground, and for the first time, Duluth received a *Tree City Growth Award*. Over 200 K-5 school children planted 500 tree seedlings along Chester Creek, learned about tree growth rings and Emerald Ash Borer, and tried out archery through the DNR’s Archery in the Parks program. Smokey the Bear and Matt Wahl (local folk singer) also made an appearance. In addition to the elementary classes, over 100 community members attended.

### **National Trails Day 2013 (June 1) = 64 Volunteer Hours Contributed**

Partners came together to host events and organize volunteers on local trails. The Duluth Area Horse Trail Alliance (DAHTA), led by Kathy Shopa, brushed the DWP trail from Gogebic Street to the Clyde Connector Trail. John Ipsen, with the Duluth Cross-country Ski Club (DXC), organized volunteers to brush out and move fill material on the Hartley Park ski trails. Cyclists of Gitchee Gumees Shores (COGGS) and the Over the Hill Night Riders Snowmobile Club also hosted work events.

The Superior Hiking Trail Association, the Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory, CHOICE Unlimited and Wheels on Trails all hosted events, including guided hikes and education about universal accessibility of trails.

Three races were also held on National Trails Day, including the Kay Marie Sisto Memorial Walk/Run on the Western Waterfront, the Walk for Hope benefiting the Minnesota Teen Challenge on the Lakewalk Trail and the Congdon Cougar Chase benefiting Congdon Park Elementary School on the Lester Park trail system.

### **St. Scholastica's Community Day (October 3) = 384 Volunteer Hours Contributed**

CSS students came out in force on their annual fall community day, serving with a variety of park and trail projects. They cleaned up Chester Bowl and Bayfront Park. They weeded the Rose Garden. They mulched trees along the Lakewalk at Railroad Street. Trees got planted in Chester and Lester Parks. Piedmont ski trails were brushed, in partnership with DXC. Over 20 yards of material was moved on the Duluth Traverse, organized in partnership with COGGS. Dan Proctor, a steward of the Chester Trails, organized CSS volunteers to fill low spots on the trail from CSS to the baseball field.

### **CHAMP Day of Service (May 5) = 95 Volunteer Hours Contributed**

UMD students battled rainy and cold weather to assist in Clean and Green projects along the Lakewalk and in the Rose Garden.



## **United Way Day of Caring (June 26) = 32 Volunteers Hours Contributed**

The City of Duluth was proud to be a partner with the United Way of Greater Duluth's Day of Caring to host Buckthorn Brigade events in Hartley Park.

### **Volunteer Groups**

From community to school groups, people from Duluth and across the tri-state area came out to help protect, preserve and improve our parks and trails. Below is a list of volunteer groups that completed service projects in 2013.

ALLETE, a Minnesota Power Company (Duluth, MN) - Clean and Green = 17.5 hours

Boy Scouts Troop 15 (Duluth, MN) - Clean and Green = 101 hours

Boys and Girls Club of the Northland (Duluth, MN) - reLEAF = 20 hours

Center City Housing (Duluth, MN) - Clean and Green = 10.5 hours

Christ Lutheran and Faith Lutheran Church (Blaine, MN) – Service Trip –  
Clean and Green, Invasive Species Council and reLEAF = 180 hours

COGGS (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 5 hours

College of St. Scholastica, Fall Community Service Orientation (Duluth, MN) –  
Clean and Green = 155 hours

College of St. Scholastica – Discover Duluth (Duluth, MN) –  
Clean and Green, Invasive Species Council = 110 hours

Duluth Gospel Tabernacle (Duluth, MN) – Invasive Species Council = 30 hours

Duluth Public Library (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 9 hours

Duluth YMCA (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 45 hours

East High School Baseball (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 26 hours

Raleigh – Edison Schools (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 72 hours

University of Minnesota – Duluth – Esci Club – Clean and Green = 15 hours

First Congregational Church (Eau Claire, WI) –  
Rose Garden and Clean and Green = 48 hours

First Lutheran Church (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 7 hours

Friends of the Lakewalk (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 60 hours

Girl Scouts (Duluth, MN) – reLEAF and Clean and Green = 42 hours

Harbor City International School – Duluth Corps (Duluth, MN) -  
Clean and Green, Edible Duluth, Invasive Species Council, reLEAF = 175 hours

Hermantown Community Church (Duluth, MN) - Clean and Green = 14 hours

Herzl Camp (Webster, WI) – Clean and Green = 135 hours

Holy Rosary School (Duluth, MN) - Clean and Green = 111 hours

Izaak Walton League (Duluth, MN) – reLEAF = 15 hours

Junior League (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 4 hours

Juvenile Community Service Program, Arrowhead Regional Corrections (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 22.5 hours

Lake Superior College (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 27 hours

Lake Superior Zoo (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 20 hours

Lester Park Elementary School (Duluth, MN) – reLEAF = 41.25 hours

Newman Catholic Campus Ministry (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 6 hours

Northern City Baptist Church (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green, reLEAF, Invasive Species Council = 336 hours

Northwoods Children (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 158 hours

One Way Ministries (Buffalo, MN) – Clean and Green, Invasive Species Council = 418 hours

Peace Lutheran/First Lutheran Church (Barrett/Fergus Falls, MN) – Clean and Green, Invasive Species Council = 478 hours

Revolution Youth Group (Lakeville, MN) – Clean and Green = 15 hours

Riverfront Communities (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 115 hours

Rock Hill Community Church of Lincoln Park (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 22.75 hours

Safe and Walkable Hillside Coalition (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 81.5 hours

St. James School (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 240 hours

St. Michael's School (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 80 hours

Stowe Elementary School (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 81 hours

Students Today, Leaders Forever (Ashland, WI) – Invasive Species Council, reLEAF = 52 hours

Trillium Services – Nature Rocks (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 80.5 hours

ROTC (Duluth, MN) – Invasive Species Council = 12 hours

United Healthcare (Duluth, MN) – Edible Duluth, reLEAF = 45.5 hours

University of Minnesota – Duluth Phi Sigma Sigma (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 102 hours

Woodland Amateur Hockey Association (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 56 hours

Woodland Hills (Duluth, MN) – Clean and Green = 57 hours

Youth Works (Superior, WI) – Clean and Green, Invasive Species Council = 124 hours

**Total Hours Contributed by Volunteer Groups to Initiative Projects: 4,078 hours**

## Individual Volunteers

Ongoing, individual volunteers are an important part of the City of Duluth's volunteer program. These volunteers include community members interested in supporting our parks and trails, investing in our priority initiatives, as well as interns who are looking to gain valuable work experience.

### **Buckthorn Trackers**

Luke Moravec

Sue French and Family

Alex Scheinost

Leah Morehouse

Lee Carson

Sam Geibner

Michael Palermo

### **Research Volunteers**

Reece Zimm (Facilities Management)

Sarah Sanford (Lakewalk Visitor Counts)

### **Trail Volunteers**

Dan Proctor (Chester Creek Trail) = 260.5 hours

John Ipsen (Duluth Cross-country Trails) = 188.5 hours

### **Clean and Green Volunteers**

Micah Saalela (Various Locations)

## Community Profiles

For the 2013 Parks and Recreation Annual Report, Cheryl Skafte, Volunteer Coordinator, teamed up with the first-year writing program at the University of Minnesota – Duluth. The concept was simple: create a “real life” writing exercise for the students that would provide a valuable product for parks.

Working with Dr. Elizabeth Wright, Associate Professor of Writing Studies, Writing Program Administrator, and Writing Instructor, Jennifer Derrick, students enrolled in UMD’s WRIT1120 classes wrote profiles that tell the story of just some of our amazing park partners. From community club leaders to community volunteers, the following profiles give a glimpse of how everyday citizens are giving of their extraordinary talents.

### **John Ipsen – Duluth Cross-Country Ski Club**

John Ipsen describes himself as a man “extremely passionate about the outdoors”. Because he also loves skiing, this interest led him to the Duluth Cross-Country Ski Club (DXC). Head of trail maintenance, Ipsen devotes his volunteer hours to keeping Duluth’s beautiful trails in tip-top shape so other skiers can enjoy them too.

A native New Yorker, Ipsen developed a love for skiing when he was young, first mastering his skills on wooden skis. After moving to Duluth 20 years ago, his love for cross-country skiing has only grown. He tries to get out on the ski trails at every open opportunity, even in subzero conditions.

Ipsen shares this enthusiasm with other members of the club and with his family. Besides skiing, Ipsen, his wife and their two children enjoy other outdoor activities like camping and hiking. Outside the DXC, Ipsen can be found at Mount Royal Medical Clinic on Woodland Avenue, where he practices Family Medicine.

The DXC was founded in 2004 and their main goal is to encourage healthy lifestyles by offering cross-country ski programs, resources and activities. The club also helps with trail maintenance and improvements. When first introduced to the DXC, Ipsen realized the ski trails themselves could use some upkeep, and he knew he “...could really help these people out” when it came to trails development and maintenance.

John turned his thoughts into actions three years ago when he became a member of the DXC Board of Directors. Ipsen’s involvement as head of the trail maintenance committee has led the club to have a stronger partnership with the City, including trail preservation assistance.

The City mows the ski trails and grooms most of them (except occasional DXC



grooming at Spirit Mountain) and carries out culvert and bridge maintenance too, while DXC does most of the trimming, clearing, brushing and “surface work.” “The City has resources we don't, and we wouldn't have an awesome set of trails without them,” Ipsen said.

Ipsen dedicates himself to the DXC and it's his work that helps create a better skiing experience for the community. But Ipsen wants Duluth citizens to know that his work is “bolstered by a lot of other club members putting in many volunteer hours. We pull together,” he said. Thanks to all these contributions, DXC has become an amazing club for the Duluth community.

*John Ipsen profile by Katie Filkins; Mikayla Hensrud; Ryan House; Keanu Phousirith; and Paige Poser*

### **Michelle Hargrave – UMD's Office of Civic Engagement**

Michelle Hargrave, Director of UMD's Office of Civic Engagement (OCE), was raised with good values and a passion for service, and those principles shine through in her work with the OCE. “Having a job just to make money wasn't going to be enough for me; I needed to have a purpose driven career,” she explained. While growing up, her father had stressed how important it was to help and serve others when possible. And that's exactly what she's doing!

The OCE's mission, Hargrave said, is “instrumental in supporting volunteers and service initiatives.” Much of her work involves connecting university students, faculty and staff with the City of Duluth, and nothing demonstrates that better than the 80+ area programs that the OCE works with to help recruit volunteers, organize, and engage with the City.

The OCE is exceptional because it encompasses such a broad spectrum of areas, incorporating many community issues and needs. The STEM learning project connects youth to environment and sustainability issues, while the PAL project focuses on connecting UMD students with public schools as mentors.

Further opportunities for UMD students include park and trail clean up initiatives and the CHAMP Day of Service, which aids after school sports programs. Earlier this year, Hargrave, along with other advisors, organized and participated in a service-learning trip to Costa Rica. The students worked with the community to build benches and staircases, help at the local co-op and animal shelters, and engage with the youth. Hargrave's hands-on and administrative efforts help ensure project success.

Describing what she does as Director can make up a hundred different pieces on any given day. Hargrave carries out many tasks, including budget management, strategic planning, and committee facilitation. But while her job keeps her busy, she continues to take time to talk to people and to build professional, personal relationships with others, including her colleagues.

“People often laugh at me when I say the most productive moment of my day is the hallway chat” explained Hargrave. But she believes that “...informal meetings can set up real results.” The City and the University are fortunate to have Hargrave as OCE Director: she’s always excited to meet new people, and together, make a difference.

*Michelle Hargrave profile by Matt Dembosky; Joseph Maloney; John Reynolds; Kati Thompson; and Carly Uphoff*

### **Frederick Olsen – Senior Programs**

Frederick Olsen, a lively 80-year-old Duluthian, loves people and music, possesses a wonderful sense of humor and has a heart of gold.

Born and raised in Duluth, Olsen was an only child who grew up during the Great Depression. He was very close to his cousins growing up, and would frequently visit his aunt’s house to be with family.

After spending nearly two active duty years in an Army band, Olsen then served six years in a Duluth Army Reserve unit. Graduating the University of Minnesota Duluth at age 21, getting married at age 22, and then having four sons, Olsen said he has been fortunate in life. He’s been able to travel and enjoys staying active in the community. Overall, he said, he can’t complain. “Well,” he added, smiling, “I can complain, but nobody’s listening to me.”

Some of the work Olsen has done includes serving as the Executive Secretary Treasurer for the St. Louis County Federal Savings and Loan. He retired there at age 55, but next worked as the Administrator of St. Ann’s Senior Residence Center, where he retired at age 65.

But Olsen’s commitment to Duluth senior citizens didn’t stop at St. Ann’s. He now serves as President of the Duluth Senior Programs Advisory Board, which functions in advisory capacity to the City of Duluth for their three senior centers.

Among other things, the Board fundraises for events like the citywide Billiard Tournament, Senior Appreciation Day, and the Holiday Banquet. The Board also works with the Senior Dining program and plans senior outreach events.

Olson's someone you see out in the community because he lives by his words: "If you belong to a group, you don't get anything out of it unless you fully participate." Fred loves participating and volunteering his time, he said, because he likes people. "I've been so fortunate that I don't find many things wrong with people; I enjoy working with people."

Being a part of three different bands, actively volunteering, traveling, and occasionally going on dates, Fred is hard to slow down. He's 80, but according to him, he still feels like he's in his 70's. Duluth is lucky to have such a wonderful citizen!

*Frederick Olsen profile by Miranda Almen; Lars Espe; Dillon Rudrud; Dan Vomastek; and Erica Vonbank*

### **Adam Sundberg – Cyclists of Gitchee Gumees Shores**

Meet Adam Sundberg: COGGS co-chairperson who enjoys the outdoors, skiing, and mountain biking, and devotes time to helping his community.

Sundberg works as a chiropractor in West Duluth by day, but also volunteers for the Cyclists of Gitchee Gumees Shores (COGGS), a Duluth organization all about bikes and bike trails. Founded in 1994, COGGS builds and maintains bike trails for outdoor recreation use. The group also hosts multiple bike races and social bike rides throughout the year.

Originally from Two Harbors, Sundberg moved to Duluth eight and a half years ago to be closer to his family and to enjoy what Duluth has to offer recreationally. "Duluth's outdoor scene keeps me content," he said.

Because his father managed Gooseberry Falls, Sundberg grew up with "an interest in the outdoor environment," he said. His love for the outdoors and desire to meet new people led Sundberg to join COGGS. "I didn't know too many people coming to Duluth; cycling was a great way to get involved."

Sundberg began biking his freshman year of college. Since then, he's been busy, both on the bike and off. He has fundraised, written grants, and most recently, worked with the City to start building the Duluth Traverse, a three million dollar project linking bike trails from Lester Park, Hartley Park, Piedmont-Brewer Park, Spirit Mountain, and Mission Creek.

Duluth Traverse is COGGS most ambitious project yet. When completed, it will add over 100 miles of new trail and be the "longest urban multi-use trail in the nation,"

according to the COGGS website. Excited to work on a project that helps “build out Duluth’s systems,” Sundberg said Duluth has “unmet potential.” “We have all this space and an opportunity to make it better.”

Duluth bike trails are currently user defined, meaning they have been made by the individuals who use them. COGGS members want to improve the current bike trails, as well as increase the number of people who bike them. The Duluth Traverse can do this. Thanks to Sundberg (and other COGGS volunteers), we can all keep pedaling on.

*Adam Sundberg profile by Hannah Halverson; Samuel Pines; Nick Senne; Kayla Siebert; and Charlie Skinner*

### **Dave Johnson – Web Woods**

Dave Johnson, from Duluth MN, does what it takes to positively affect the community around him. He continues to be proactive in getting younger generations involved as well.

Johnson was born in Rapid City, South Dakota, but he got to spend significant time in the woods, as his father was a forester. It didn’t take Johnson long to realize he had a “heart for the environment,” he said. After living in South Dakota a few years, the family moved to southern Illinois, where Johnson met Bill and Val McCoy, two organic gardeners who would change his life forever. The McCoy’s, said Johnson, greatly influenced his “appreciation for gardens, wildlife and wilderness.”

The Air Force was Johnson’s home for four years before coming to Duluth. When he returned back to the states, he attended the University of Minnesota Duluth and eventually ended up teaching science at Marshall School, which is where he was inspired to start his biggest project yet.

Johnson had the good fortune of teaching next door to Larry Weber, a beloved and now retired Marshall School science teacher. Weber, said Johnson, had this “amazing, incredible knowledge of the natural world.”

Larry used to regularly bring his students to a plot of land by the school, using it as an outdoor classroom. But development plans were in the works for this 15-acre parcel, said Johnson. “I was inspired by Larry to save this plot of land,” he added. After fighting hard for his cause, Johnson’s efforts paid off: the City created a new park. Web Woods, named in honor of Larry Weber, lies just off Pecan Avenue.

In addition to playing a leading role in creating a new City park, Johnson has been a valuable mentor to area Eagle Scouts. One Scout in particular, Josh Thomson, under



Johnson's direction, worked hard to make Web Woods even more accessible to the community.

His project entailed creating a ½ mile trail through Web Woods and ensuring that the water drained properly. In doing so, Josh spread wood chips on pathways and constructed 300 feet of boardwalk to cross some of the marshy areas. Johnson was there alongside Josh every step of the way, and the Web Woods trail dedication happened May 2012.

Web Woods wouldn't be here today without Johnson's work to make it happen. Duluth can be proud of Johnson—for living each day to its fullest and using what he's been given to make a difference.

*Dave Johnson profile by Drew Dobbs; Tyler Jordahl; Brooke Merten; Holden Mock; and Ashley Zane-Kafke*

### **Kathy Bogen – East Hillside Youth Theater Program**

Kathy Bogen discovered a lifelong passion for creative expression when a high school teacher introduced her to the world of art. Now, passion and place go hand in hand with Bogen, who, since 2000 has served as Executive Director of the recently renamed Myers-Wilkins Community School Collaborative.

With continued love for the arts and a history of volunteering, she successfully co-founded the nonprofit M-WCSC (formerly the Grant Community School Collaborative), which offers numerous summer enrichment programs for youth, free of charge. One of those programs is the Hillside Youth Theatre camp, which Bogen also had a hand in starting.

Bogen began volunteering when her kids attended school. She particularly enjoyed giving an extra hand at after school programs, by bringing healthy snacks and helping with school projects. Bogen also spent some time teaching in the UMD Theatre Department for a while—giving her an extra boost of art knowledge. Finally, Bogen found and began her work as the Collaborative Executive Director at Myers-Wilkins Community School and the Hillside Youth Theatre in an effort to provide youth and families with accessible access to the arts, life, skills, and leadership opportunities.

Hillside Youth Theatre program is a summer program that introduces the art and fun of theater to children who may not have the opportunity to be involved in theatre otherwise. Play topics have historical and moral meaning. For example, the 2013-14 production was *All Aboard the Peace Train*, a play about Rosa Parks and the civil rights movement.

“The academic themes help the children learn the importance of value,” said Bogen. Children learn about significant events and life lessons while having fun making costumes, rehearsing their scripts, and playing with friends. Bogen mentioned that many times, the “shyest kids become the best actors.” Over the years, she's enjoyed watching participants excel, whether it's completing behind the scenes tech work, rehearsing, or acting.

“Being flexible and having a multifaceted skill set are key to being successful in this work, but it's equally important to care and to have fun,” said Bogen. And that's just what makes Bogen so special. She has been working this job for many years, helping children grow, and she obviously loves every minute of it!

After so many years with the M-WCSC, Bogen will be leaving her position, and when asked “What's next?” she said “volunteering!” Her work, whether paid or volunteer, has always demonstrated her desire for youth in our community to lead successful and enriching lives. Thank you!

*Kathy Bogen profile by Breanna Adams; Riley Berg; Dia Moua; Jessica Sengbusch; and Paul Whisnant*

### **Pastor Matthew Rose – Mystery Mission**

Have you ever heard of someone kicked out of Sunday school, who later became a full time pastor? It seems improbable, but it happened to Pastor Matthew Rose of Peace Lutheran Church in Barrett, Minnesota.

A native of Wisconsin, Rose and his mother were told it'd be better for him (six years old at the time) to “not come back” to church after he questioned what kind of God let bad things happen to good people and good things happen to bad people. Rose didn't attend church again until his freshman year of high school, and that was only because he was in a new town and wanted to meet people.

The new church, however, changed his perspective on God and what a church should look like. “God put me on the path that eventually led me into ministry,” said Rose.

Rose attended a small college in Madison, later going to North Park University in Chicago. There, Rose “fell madly in love with the girl” he had been friends with since high school. She was attending seminary at Luther College in St. Paul, and after realizing he wanted to marry her, Rose transferred to Northwestern College to be close by. The two have been married over ten years now, and his wife serves as Pastor of First Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

After Duluth flooded in 2012, Matthew and his wife led a group of volunteers from their two congregations on a “Mystery Mission” trip to Duluth. The “Mystery Mission,” Rose explains, is a special trip where participants don’t know where they’re working until they arrive. Rose likes these trips because “Participants focus on the work done rather than the location or destination.”

During the trip to Duluth, which lasted five days and four nights, the group helped clean parks and campgrounds. Most of their work was in Hartley Park, where volunteers removed driftwood and pesky buckthorn, an invasive plant introduced to Duluth in the 1800s. In all, the volunteers logged a total of six hundred hours.

Rose has also led Mystery Mission trips to Wadena, Minnesota and Joplin, Missouri after tornadoes came through. Rose said he selects locations based on recent natural disasters so that their service will help those most in need. “I guess you can call us storm chasers,” he added.

Growing up with encouragement to help others around him, Rose said, “I believe you should love your neighbors.” Rose’s service in Duluth and other communities genuinely reflects that love in a very practical way.

*Matthew Rose profile by Nick Briggs; Joe Haak; Taylor Kaiser; Will Madison; and Evan Miller*

### **Mona Cheslak – East Hillside Community Club**

From planning community-building events to part-time bookkeeping for three different organizations, Mona Cheslak does it all. She is one of many Duluth community activists who strive to help build a strong and clean neighborhood.

Growing up in West Duluth, Cheslak moved around awhile before eventually settling in the East Hillside in 1979, where she lives now. “I really missed my family and the City of Duluth,” she said. When she returned, Mona knew she wanted to feel more a part of the Duluth community; that close-knit community vibe—but not so close that everyone was in everyone’s business—was something she sought.

Cheslak first got involved in the Duluth community by being invited to do a neighborhood event by her husband. She hasn’t stopped since. The East Hillside Community Club is the primary group that Cheslak volunteers for; she’s been with them since the beginning, around 1995. “The best thing about volunteering,” she said, “is meeting new people.”

East Hillside Community Club organizes events for the hillside area, including National Night Out, UMD Better Neighbors, and Neighborhood Clean Up. Cheslak, crucial to the Neighborhood Clean Up, coordinates, takes part, and supervises the clean up, while working with the City of Duluth (the City provides guidance, supplies and trash pick-up services).

Cheslak also serves on the East Hillside Patch board and the now-named Myers-Wilkins Community School Collaborative. Both organizations offer enriching programs and activities for area youth.

While she enjoys the many facets of volunteering, mention HillFest, and you'll be guaranteed a smile. HillFest, which Cheslak helps organize, takes place in the summer and will soon celebrate its fifth year. The whole goal, expressed Cheslak, is bringing neighbors and communities together in Duluth's Hillside area.

HillFest has no admission and includes numerous activities to participate in. You can eat good food, buy merchandise and art, and listen to live music, all while visiting with other community members. "HillFest is really my favorite," said Cheslak. "I don't stop smiling for days".

Cheslak couldn't be a better candidate to represent the Hillside area: her actions speak loudly and send the clear message that she cares. Putting others first and dedicating time to help her community are just a few of the amazing traits she possesses. Cheslak is much more than a volunteer: she's a remarkable person, the kind that you just don't find every day.

*Mona Cheslak profile by Dillon Goering; Corey Graen; Nick Jones; and Blaze Vicknair*

### **Thom Storm – Chester Bowl Improvement Club**

Thom Storm, a parks and rec enthusiast for the City of Duluth, has a calm whole-hearted personality, one that has served him well in his work at Chester Bowl. Storm grew up in California, but Duluth, Minnesota is his home; he started working for the Duluth Parks and Recreation program nearly 40 years ago, in 1975.

First working behind the old Central High School building in 1975, in 1976 Storm was offered a job at Chester Bowl Park. "I was basically handed the keys and told to go get 'em tiger," he said. Storm's entire history with Chester Bowl, exemplifies that get-up-and-go attitude that he possessed long before he came to the job. After all, it was Storm, along with an extremely supportive volunteer community that kept Chester Bowl afloat.



First, there was the chairlift for the ski hill: the clamps holding the chairs to the wire had to be replaced; the chairlift needed a new clutch; and after the 2012 flood, Chester Bowl needed new lift operating shack, because the previous one was struck by lightning.

Then, there was the recession. Storm actually retired from Chester Bowl in 2007, just before the recession hit hard. Because of the recession, every single Duluth park lost City funding. Storm came out of retirement, and returned to Chester Bowl, because, as he said, "he couldn't stand by and let Chester Bowl fold." And neither could countless volunteers, who have and continue to help.

Storm kept the previously free Summer Camp Program alive, by requiring participants to pay what ends up being an inexpensive fee for a fun-filled day. Storm brings youth campers to various Duluth (and occasional out-of-town) locations, and hikes with them, walking alongside Chester Creek to the Lakewalk, where they can enjoy beautiful Lake Superior. "I would rather have kids outside enjoying the outdoors," he said, "than inside in front of a screen."

Set to retire in May 2015, Storm will leave Chester in Dave Schaeffer's capable hands. Recently hired by the Chester Bowl Improvement Club Board of Directors, Schaeffer will work alongside Storm for next year and be ready to take over when he leaves.

We will miss Storm! Our City couldn't be more fortunate to have his unwavering and dedicated service to Duluth Parks and Recreation programs, and more specifically to the beautiful hidden waterfalls and ski slopes of Chester Bowl.

*Thom Storm profile by Miles Barnidge; Dane Beise; Cole Carrigan; Jacob Flatebo; and Theo Maceno*

### **Tim Larson – Let's Grow Lincoln Park – Emerald Community Garden**

**A Budding Interest:** In 2010, when he moved to West Duluth, Tim Larson began the next chapter in his life. Recently hired to teach at Lake Superior College and living in a new home could only bring great opportunities!

Larson has loved gardening since childhood. When he was young, his neighbor grew organic produce and taught him how to do the same. When Larson heard the Emerald Community Garden in Lincoln Park needed a site coordinator, he thought he'd be a good fit. Now Larson gets to share what he loves and help the community too. As site coordinator, he has participated in building a rain garden and fences, and educating community residents about gardening. This year, Larson will help plant a small orchard.

**Why a Garden?** The Emerald Community garden prides itself in being the first “Let’s Grow” garden in the Lincoln Park area of Duluth. Developed in cooperation between the City of Duluth and the Duluth Community Garden Program, the garden offers one more place for residents to learn about and participate in producing and storing food, to learn more about self-sufficiency.

When asked what attracted him to the idea of the garden, Tim looked upwards and said, “I love being able to grow my own food... It’s inexpensive and has so many benefits”. To Tim, the garden’s about sustainability, which he said, is “doing things in elegant ways that work with, and not against, nature.”

**Various Accomplishments:** Larson doesn’t just garden and teach though. Helping to save the Spirit Mountain forest remains one of his most cherished volunteer memories. He’s also contributed to various art organizations, the Sierra Club, and at one point in time, served as Vice President of the Duluth Audubon Society. Larson currently devotes some of his time to training to become a radio broadcaster for KUMD.

“Volunteering is one of the most fulfilling experiences,” Larson said. “And you meet a lot of memorable people.”

**Growing a Green Future:** Tim’s value to the Duluth community lives through his work for the City. From volunteering at various local organizations, to giving his time to the Emerald Garden, he’s truly made an impact. It’s people like him that ensure both the Emerald garden, and the City in general, have a bright future.

*Tim Larson profile by Greta Larson; Devin Lenzmeier; Taylor Singleton; and Kelsie Verhulst*

## Interns

**Sarah Allen** – College of St. Scholastica (Biology/Education) – May 2014

*Internship:* Invasive Species Management Intern

*What did you accomplish in your internship:* Tracking and removing buckthorn as well as educating the public and leading volunteer groups.

*How was the internship beneficial to you:* I enjoyed helping the community and working with different people.

**Jonathan Alfs** – University of Minnesota – Duluth (Public Health Promotion and Programming) – May 2014

*Internship:* Invasive Species Management Intern

*What did you accomplish in your internship:* Making an educational door hanger that was used to spread awareness throughout the Duluth community

*How was the internship beneficial to you:* It was beneficial to me because we learned how to recruit volunteers and educate them on various invasive species and how to eradicate them.

**Lizzy Karsten** – University of Minnesota – Duluth (Management and Economics) – May 2014

*Internship:* Volunteer Program Intern

*What did you accomplish in your internship:*

- Developed and implemented plan for tracking program performance via impact-based metrics
- Created year-end comprehensive reports on program metrics using Microsoft Excel
- Planned, implemented, and conducted program assessments of large-scale, 100+ volunteer events
- Represented program and recruited volunteers at community events

*How was the internship beneficial to you:* The internship was beneficial to me because it allowed me to see the inner-workings of municipal government as well as the invaluable services provided by civilian volunteers. It gave me an opportunity to apply my organizational management skills and data-oriented background to help the volunteer program run more smoothly and also gain more experience in these areas.

**Heather Hubert** – University of Minnesota – Duluth (Environmental Outdoor Education - Major, Dance – Minor) May 2014

*Internship:* Volunteer Program Intern

*What did you accomplish in your internship:* I set the foundation for the Volunteer Tool Shed, improved social media on the Parks Facebook page, helped spread the word on the Home Library Service, and worked alongside volunteers on various projects.

*How was the internship beneficial to you:* My internship was beneficial to me because it is something I can see myself doing in the future. I really enjoyed helping volunteers as well as working on projects for the Volunteer Program to grow.

**Ryan Nelson** – University of Minnesota – Duluth (Communication and Criminology) – May 2012

*Internship:* Volunteer Program Intern

*What did you accomplish in your internship:* Had the opportunity to work in a variety of different areas/departments within the City of Duluth. In addition, I got to work on a variety of different hands-on projects.

*How was the internship beneficial to you:* I learned a lot from this Internship. Some of the biggest benefits were learning how it takes many different entities and different members of other teams to work on large projects to yield results. I also learned how crucial research is and, no matter how great of an idea a person may have, they have to do the necessary background research on the subject before going further with seeing their idea grow and develop.

**Steph Gibeau** – University of Minnesota – Duluth (Geographic Information Sciences) – Fall 2013

*Internship:* Invasive Species Management Intern

*What did you accomplish in your internship:* I organized, led, and completed a report for the Buckthorn Tracking Project in Hartley Park. I led several volunteer groups out into the field to remove Buckthorn. I tracked Buckthorn in Web Woods using a handheld GPS and ArcGIS software. I collaborated with other interns on various invasive species management projects.

*How was the internship beneficial to you:* I feel that this internship was very beneficial to me in that it not only helped me to improve my GIS and communication skills, but it also helped me to grow as an individual and try new experiences. Throughout my internship, I was able to network and meet new people who had a positive impact on my career and life goals. The knowledge and experience that I gained through this internship helped me to land my first job out of college and to be the hard-working, dedicated person I am today.

## Special Projects

### **Lakewalk Visitor Count Volunteer Work**

The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation worked closely with the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Coalition (GMRPTC) with the goal of conducting a visitor count and origin survey of Lakewalk visitors. The City hopes that the project will provide statistically representative and useful data on visitor origin; along with beginning the process of documenting uses and preferences of Lakewalk visitors. In addition, MNDOT has established two Lakewalk counting stations that will give a real-time count of users on this much-loved facility. Volunteers from the Friends of the Lakewalk provided hours of service to this project and were a key partner.

### **Eagle Scout Projects**

The City of Duluth and Eagle Scout Tony Lucca coordinated landscaping at Arlington Soccer Complex. Tony organized volunteers to plant shrubs and add woodchips to beautify the area.



The City of Duluth and Eagle Scout Chris Lucca coordinated a tree planting at the Arlington Soccer Complex. Chris organized volunteers to plant 10 trees between the two sets of fields. The trees were staked, fenced and wood chipped.

### **Seniors Keeping the Doors Open To Programs**

Seniors gave hundreds of hours to support programming and recreation activities at neighborhood community recreation centers.

#### **Senior Programming/Recreation Support by the Numbers**

Morgan Park – 1,156 hours

Portman – 1,396 hours

Evergreen – 1,556 hours

### **Recreation Programming**

Volunteers are an important part of our recreation program. Every year, Parks and Recreation provides fun outdoor opportunities for youth and families, including ice skating, turf time and special events.

**Halloween Skate and Scare** = 60 hours contributed

**Santa Skate** = 20 hours contributed

**PARKS FUND**  
**2013 TRAILS AND BIKEWAYS**



**DULUTH PARKS**

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*

# Parks and Recreation

## Trails and Bikeways



The City of Duluth, in partnership with COGGS (Cyclists of the Gitchee Gummee Shores), is constructing the **Duluth Traverse Trail**, a sustainable multi-use natural-surface single-track trail system purpose built for mountain biking but suitable for many human powered recreational users that will stretch across Duluth along the ridgeline. The trail will be built to International Mountain Bike Association

(IMBA) sustainable trail guidelines to minimize maintenance and erosion. Work began in Lester Park and Mission Creek in 2013 to create trail centers that will connect to the Traverse. Additional work was completed in Piedmont, Hartley and Brewer Park. More planning and more grant writing and other fundraising is in process.

Construction began on the first phase of the **Cross City Trail** from the “corner of the Lake” near the Endion beach to 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue West. Although snow halted construction for the 2013 season, a great beginning was made at the first western link to connect the Lakewalk to the Munger Trail. Construction was also accomplished on the Lakewalk, a tunnel under London Road to Brighton Beach and a bridge over the Lester River, with a Grand Opening of that section held on September 6<sup>th</sup>. In addition to new sections of paved trail, the Friends of the Lakewalk created three informational kiosks telling the stories of storms, shipwrecks and art along the Lakewalk.

The **Superior Hiking Trail Association** opened up its final link connecting the Duluth sections of trail with the main hiking trail along the shore of Lake Superior. Nearly 300 miles of hiking trail now stretches from Jay Cooke State Park through Duluth to the Canadian Border.

Duluth was awarded a bronze-level **Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists. Duluth joins 9 other cities in Minnesota who have earned this designation. A community recognized by the League as Bicycle Friendly

welcomes bicyclists by providing safe accommodation for cycling and encouraging people to bike for transportation and recreation. Encouraging bicycling is a simple way toward improving public health. With more people bicycling, communities experience reduced traffic demands, improved air quality and greater physical fitness. Building such a community can translate into a more connected, physically active, and environmentally sustainable community that enjoys increased property values, business growth, increased tourism, and more transportation choices for citizens.

**Flood-related Trail Updates:** extensions have been filed with FEMA for 14 trail and bikeway projects and most likely all will be completed in 2014. These include Chester, Mission, Lester, Congdon, Kingsbury, Snowmobile Trails East and West, the DWP and more. The State Historic Preservation Office will need to be involved with several of the projects as they are significant in their historical context: these include the DWP, Congdon and Lester trails. The Irving Bikeway to Grassy Point was restored prior to winter settling in and the ski bridge at Chester Park was replaced allowing for cross-country skiing once again in the park.

The **cross-country skiing** season had a great start in December with about two feet of snow falling and creating a great base on all of the City's ski trail systems. Along with great snow, new signs and beautiful maps have been produced by the Duluth Cross-country Ski Club and Gary Larson, who has been working on potential improvements to not just our maps, but to the ski trail system citywide in general. His planning work will continue through the 2014 ski season.

## Duluth's City Trails and Bikeways

- Chester Park Hiking and Ski Trails - 1800 East Skyline Parkway
- Congdon Park Hiking Trails – 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue East and Superior Street
- Grassy Point Hiking Trail - end of Leisure Street
- Hartley Park Hiking, Biking, Skiing Trails - 3001 Woodland Avenue
- Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve Hiking Trails - 4000 East Skyline Parkway
- Irving Hike/Bike Path – 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue West and Main Street
- Lakewalk Hike/Bike Path - Canal Park to Brighton Beach
- Lester Park Hiking, Biking, Skiing, Snowmobile Trails – 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue East and Superior Street
- Lincoln Park Hiking Trail and Bike Path - Lincoln Park Drive and West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street
- Magney-Snively Skiing Trail - 1/4 mile west of 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue West and Skyline Parkway
- Park Point Hiking Trail - end of Minnesota Avenue



- Piedmont Hiking, Biking, Skiing, Snowmobile Trails - Adirondack and Hutchinson Road
- Spirit Mountain Biking, Skiing Trails – West Skyline Parkway and Grand Avenue
- Western Waterfront Hiking, Biking Trail - 7300 block off Grand Avenue/Pulaski Street

## Special Events on City Of Duluth Trails and Bikeways

During 2013, Special Event permits on our trails really took off. Our Coordinator, Gail Walkowiak, reports these permitted special events on our trails and bikeways.

**“Candlelight Ski, Skate and Snowshoe”** – January 26 – Cross-country skiing with luminaries, skating on the pond and snowshoeing trails in Hartley Park sponsored by Hartley Nature Center

**“Nordic Spirit Cross-country Ski Race”** – January 27 – Cross-country ski races on the Magney-Snively and Spirit Mountain Cross-country Ski Trails sponsored by the Duluth Cross-country Ski Club

**“Mustache March Run”** – March 2 – a 2.65 mile fun run beginning and ending at the Fitger’s Building along the Lakewalk sponsored by Momentum Racing Events

**“Tour Duluth”** – March 9 – an invitation to skiers of all abilities to cross-country some or all of Duluth’s Cross-country Ski Trails sponsored by the Duluth Cross-country Ski Club

**“Shamrock Pub Shuffle”** – March 10 – a fun run/walk leaving Leif Erikson Park to the Canal Park Brewery on the Lakewalk for Stop #1, then on to Pizza Luce, then back to the Fitger’s ramp utilizing the Lakewalk sponsored by the Duluth Running Company

**“Take Back the Night”** – April 25 – a march along the Lakewalk from the Lake Superior Plaza to Canal Park Drive sponsored by PAVSA

**“March of Dimes March for Babies”** – April 27 – A walk from the DECC along the Baywalk to the Lakewalk to Fitger’s and back sponsored by the March of Dimes

**“Northern Minnesota Track Club – Spring Series”** – May 1, 8, 22, and June 5 on the Western Waterfront Trail, Park Point Trail, Piedmont Trails and the Chester Park Trails – a variety of distance runs held on trails throughout the City sponsored by the Northern Minnesota Track Club

**“National Multiple Sclerosis Society MS Walk”** – May 5 – a 2-4 mile walk from Canal Park to 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue East and back sponsored by the National MS Society

**“March to End Gun Violence”** – May 12 – a walk from Leif Erikson Park to Lake Place Park and the Memorial Bell Garden along the Lakewalk sponsored by Protect Minnesota/Brady Campaign Northland Chapter

**“Congdon Cougar Chase”** – June 1 – a 5K and 10K and kid’s race held on the Lester Park Trails sponsored by Congdon Park Elementary School (National Trails Day)

**“Hike for Health”** – June 1 – a short walking course on universally accessible Hartley Park Trails sponsored by CHOICE, Unlimited (National Trails Day)

**“Walk for Hope – Northland”** – June 1 – a 1.25 mile walk beginning and ending at East High School on the Lakewalk sponsored by Minnesota Teen Challenge – Northland (National Trails Day)

**“Grand Opening of the Superior Hiking Trail”** – June 1 – a celebration of the completion of the SHT from Duluth to Two Harbors at the Martin Road trailhead sponsored by the Superior Hiking Trail Association (National Trails Day)

**“Kay Marie Sisto Memorial Walk/Run on the Western Waterfront Trail”** June 1 - 5K walk/run on the Western Waterfront Trail sponsored by the Duluth Model. (National Trails Day)

**“Come Unity 6K”** – June 8 – a 6K race held on the Lester Park trails sponsored by Come Unity

**“Animal Allies Walk for Animals”** – June 8 – A walk along the Lakewalk beginning at Bayfront Festival Park sponsored by Animal Allies Humane Society

**“Salsa Bikes Press Event”** – June 19 – Journalists demonstrated mountain bikes on the Piedmont Mountain Bike Trail System sponsored by Salsa Bikes, COGGS and IMBA

**“Walk for Life”** – June 29 – a 1-mile run/walk along the Lakewalk sponsored by Lake Superior Life Care Center

**“Peregrine Watch”** – June & July – on the Lakewalk and Lake Place Park – Peregrine Nest Box Interpretation by Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory

**“ZStudio Zumba Fitness Class”** – July 8-12 – free exercise classes held on the Lakewalk in Lake Place Park sponsored by ZStudio

**“Sidewalk Shuffle”** – July 10 – 3.1 mile run walk from Endion Beach to Leif Erikson Park and back on the Lakewalk sponsored by the Duluth Area Family YMCA and the Greater Downtown Council

**“Aquathon Series”** – July 11, 18, 25 and August 1 – swimming and running races in the Harbor and along the beach sponsored by the Duluth Running Company

**“Eugene Curnow Trail Marathon”** – July 13 – a 25-mile running race on trails from Fairmont Park to Carlton on various trails in Duluth and Jay Cooke State Park sponsored by the Northern Minnesota Track Club

**“The Great Hawk Chase”** – July 14 – various mountain bike races held on the Lester Park Mountain Bike System sponsored by COGGS and the MN Mountain Bike Series

**“Dances on the Lakewalk”** – July 19-20 – Live dance performances on the Lakewalk in Lake Place Park sponsored by Doris Reszl Dance and the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council

**“Minnesota Voyageur Trail Ultra”** – July 27 – a 50-mile running race on trails from Fairmont Park to Carlton and back to Fairmont on various trails in Duluth and Jay Cooke State Park sponsored by the Northern Minnesota Track Club

**“Lake Place Players”** – August 3, 10, 17, 24 - play performances conducted in Lake Place Park along the Lakewalk sponsored by Wise Fool Shakespeare

**“Run Like an Animal”** – August 17 – 5K on the Lakewalk from Leif Erikson Park to Endion Beach benefitting the Duluth Recreational Soccer League

**“Superior Man Triathlon”** – August 25 – 13.1 miles along the Lakewalk and Bayfront Park held by Duluth Running Company

**“Hummingbird/Duluth-Superior Pride 5K Fun Run”** – August 31 – 3.1 miles along the Western Waterfront Trail for Duluth-Superior 2013 Pride

**“Lakewalk Festival”** – September 6-7 – Activities held along the entire Lakewalk from Lakeside to Canal Park hosted by the Greater Downtown Council

**“12<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for Thought”** – September 7 – a gentle walk along the Lakewalk from Canal Park to the Rose Garden and back to support the Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance

**“Twin Ports Recovery Walk”** – September 14 - along the Lakewalk from the new restroom facility to a point one mile east and back for the Center for Alcohol and Drug Treatment

**“Park Point Beach Run”** – September 21 – 1-mile and 5K walk/run through the State of Minnesota Scientific and Natural Area and the City's Park Point Beach for Pancreatic Cancer by Grandma's Marathon

**“Peace Run”** – September 21 – Dances and movement that began at Endion Beach to Leif Erikson Park and back along the Lakewalk by “Just for the fun of it” Dances

**“Team Hope Walk & Run”** – September 28 – Canal Park to Leif Erikson Park and back sponsored by the Huntington's Disease Society of America

**“Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk”** – September 29 – a walk held on the Baywalk and Lakewalk from the DECC to Canal Park sponsored by the Down Syndrome Association of Minnesota/Down Up North Parent Group

**“Northern Minnesota Track Club Fall Trail Series”** – September 4, 11, 18, October 9, 27 and November 3 in Lester Park, Magney-Snively, Fairmont Park, Hawk Ridge, Mission Creek and Hartley Park – a variety of distance runs held on trails throughout the City sponsored by the Northern Minnesota Track Club

**“Lupus Walk for Hope”** – October 5 – a 5K walk and run from Grandma's Sports Garden to Leif Erikson Park and back on the Lakewalk held by the Lupus Foundation of Minnesota

**“Salsa Cycles Bike Demo”** – October 10 – testing of new bicycle models on the Piedmont Mountain Bike Trail System sponsored by Salsa Cycles

**“Harvest Run”** – October 12 – 1K and 5K walk/run in which participants board the train and are taken to 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue East and run/walk back to Fitger's on the Lakewalk sponsored by Fitger's

**“Trail Bike Demo”** – October 19 – Mountain bike model demonstrations on the Lester Park Mountain Bike Trail System sponsored by Ski Hut

**“Halloween Hustle”** – October 26 – Run/walk on the Lakewalk from Endion Station to Leif Erikson and back sponsored by the College of St Scholastica Ski Team

**“Duluth Jingle Bell Run/Walk”** – December 7 – 5K walk/run from Grandma's Sports Garden to Leif Erikson Park and back sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation

# PARKS FUND

2013 GOLF



## DULUTH PARKS

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*



# PARKS FUND 2013 GOLF SEASON



## Enger and Lester Park

When the courses opened for business on March 29, 2013, the golf season was nowhere in sight. It wasn't until May 13, 2013 when golfers could actually get out on the courses. April 2013 was the snowiest month on record with 50.8 inches. This breaks the previous all-time monthly snow record of 50.1 inches set in November 1991. April's snow total was more than Duluth saw for the entire winter of 2011-2012.

April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 – “It just won't stop”

### Effects of snow and six week delay from 2012 (4 weeks normal):

- Season Golf Passes – Down 149. People on the fence passed. Decided to pay as they played. In the end, the player ALWAYS plays less.
- Golf Rounds – Down
- Leagues – three week late start effects number in leagues and course use. Every one league day missed due to weather results in a \$9,000-\$12,000 loss of revenue for that day.
- Driving range and rentals – Down
- Food and Beverage – Down
- Overall result – By June 1<sup>st</sup>, two weeks after opening, the golf courses were \$300,000 down compared to 2012. Golfers do not play more down the road to make up for a late start.

### Positives in 2013 after the courses finally opened:

Professional Golf Management, Inc. and the City of Duluth acted immediately to maximize play and cut expenses.

- Earned back \$149,000 of the \$300,000 down by the end of the season, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Net \$151,267 down in revenues.
- Curbed expenses by \$122,526 for season versus 2012
- Total change in revenue/expense for 2013 vs 2012: (\$28,741)

## 2013 Golf Season

Season Passes	#Sold
Unlimited	156
Sr. Unlimited (62+)	310
Sr. Family Dual	26
Young Adult (19-24)	70
Junior Unlimited	86
Family	47
Patron Card	184
<b>Total</b>	<b>879</b>



Green Fees	#Sold
Member Rounds	31,762
Patron Rounds	3,891
Adult Public Rounds	22,976
Senior Public Rounds	5,295
Junior Public Rounds	1,212
Twilight Public Rounds	1,015
Golf Specials	8,319
<b>Total</b>	<b>74,470</b>



Miscellaneous	
Driving Range	\$ 59,375.00
Merchandise	\$ 197,903.00
Food and Beverage	\$ 290,763.00
Rentals	\$ 12,009.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 560,050.00</b>

Cart Rentals	#Sold
Season Private (240)	20
Member Carts	17,350
Public Carts	20,272
Private Cart Est.	1,000
Cart Specials	376
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,018</b>

*Please Note:  
These numbers are for informational purposes only and are not counted in division statistical totals.*

**PARKS FUND**  
**2013 LAKE SUPERIOR ZOO**



**DULUTH PARKS**

*Fun Places, Great Spaces!*



# 2013 Lake Superior Zoo Admissions Report

Paid Admission	Price	Number Sold
Adults (13 yrs and older) (Post-flood Reduced Rate)	\$8.00	177
Adults (13 yrs and older)	\$10.00	28,387
Adult & children 13 and up (group)	\$9.00	1802
Seniors (62+) (Post-flood Reduced Rate)	\$7.00	4
Seniors (62+)	\$9.00	2872
Adult, half off reciprocating member (Post-flood Rate)	\$4.00	7
Adult, half off reciprocating member	\$5.00	1274
Senior, half off reciprocating member	\$4.50	76
Children (3-12 yrs) (Post-flood Reduced Rate)	\$4.00	45
Children (3-12 yrs)	\$5.00	12,048
Children 3-12 (group)	\$4.00	3666
Children, half off reciprocating member	\$2.50	847
Boo at the Zoo	\$10.00	7101
<b>Total</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>58,306</b>

Gratis Admissions	Number	% of Total Admissions
Lake Superior Zoo Members	14,458	17
Other Members (excluding 1/2 off reciprocating)	575	.7
Free (children 2 and under/coupons/comp. tickets)	10,469	12.3
<b>Total Gratis/Membership Admissions</b>	<b>25,502</b>	<b>30.4</b>

**TOTAL PAID ADMISSIONS: 58,306**  
**TOTAL NUMBER ADMISSIONS: 83,808**