



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**City of Duluth - Parks and Recreation Division**

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411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802  
218-730-4309 | [www.duluthmn.gov](http://www.duluthmn.gov) | Lindsay Dean, Parks and Recreation Division Mgr.

For more information contact Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-5309

**DATE: 4/20/2016**

**SUBJECT: Hartley Park Mini Master Plan Implementation to Start this Summer Open House Scheduled for April 28**

**BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office**

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## **Hartley Park Mini-Master Plan Implementation to Start this Summer Open House Scheduled for April 28**

[Duluth, MN] - The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation division undertook a lengthy and intensive public process to develop the Hartley Park Mini-Master Plan. The Plan identifies specific areas for park improvements and enhancements that will provide enjoyable experiences for all users.

The initial work of the Plan focuses on natural resource management through removal of invasive plant species that threaten the natural occurrence and survival of native plants. The City of Duluth has already undertaken this first phase and hopes to finalize buckthorn removal by the end of April with some minor follow up work planned for late fall.

The Mini-master Plan identified the need for optimizing tree growth in the pine plantations, which will improve wildlife and woodland diversity by reducing stress and competition within the densely populated plantations that were planted in the 1940s. This work will require the removal of some trees to allow better spacing and enhance the overall health of the forest.

Other projects to be completed in the Park this summer include parking lot improvements at the main Nature Center parking area and at the ends of North, Fairmont and Hartley Roads. Improvements to trails will be taking place throughout the Park, including Old Hartley Road.

The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation division is hosting an informational meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at the Hartley Nature Center from 5:30-7 PM to present information about the planned improvements. This is a meeting open to the public.

The City will issue a public notice in advance of any work once the various contractors' schedules have been confirmed.

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