

Good News from Parks and Recreation
February 8, 2012 Parks Commission Meeting

Parks and Recreation website: <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/index.cfm>

Trail and Bikeway Plan - http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/trail_bikeway_master_plan.cfm

Parks and Recreation Master Plan - http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/master_plan.cfm

DNR 10/25 Parks and Trails Legacy Plan - <http://www.legacy.leg.mn/funds/parks-trails-fund/plan>

Sign up for all **Parks and Recreation press releases** and other City announcements at <http://www.duluthmn.gov/> - click the yellow button on the left that says "Subscribe via E-mail".

Like us on Facebook: see the blue facebook icon on our website: <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/> or find us on Facebook at DuluthParksMN

2012 Zoo Events

February 11	Paw de Deux
March 31	Earth Hour
April 7	Easter Egg-Stravaganza
May 13	Mothers' Day & Teddy Bear Clinic
May 15/June 15	Membership Drive
June 7	M.A.D. Safari (Member Appreciation Day)
June 17	Wild About Dad (Fathers' Day)
August 2	Spirit Valley Days Parade
August 4	Run Like an Animal (run/walk)
August 16	Wine Tasting Event
September 9	Lion's Birthday & Grandparents' Day
October 13 & 20	Boo at the Zoo
December 8	Berlin's Birthday & Photos with Santa

New Zoo Logo Selected

The Lake Superior Zoo decided it was time for a new logo so rather than designing it in house they opened the process to the public. A number of logo wonderful ideas were submitted to the Logo Committee. After viewing and discussing the pros and cons of all the submitted logos the attached logo was selected.



Final DECC Skating Party February 26

The final Mayor's DECC Skating Party is scheduled for Sunday, February 26th. The skating party will be held in the DECC Arena from 3:00-5:00 PM. Music will be provided by Shelly's Mobile Music Machine. There will be free door prizes for the kids. All skating parties are free and open to all ages. Participants need to bring their own skates.

Chester Bowl Ski Hill –

Duluth Parks and Recreation's Chester Bowl ski hill is open Mondays from 4:30-8:30 pm; closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, open Thursdays and Fridays from 4:30-8:30 pm; and open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am-4:30 pm. Chester Bowl is a great place to learn how to downhill ski for people of all ages. Chester Bowl is located in the heart of Duluth at 1800 East Skyline Parkway. For more information go to www.chesterbowl.org or call Thom Storm at 218-724-9832.

Ice Skating at the Heritage Sports Center (120 South 30th Ave West). All skating sessions are free. Attendance at the skating sessions has been great!

Wednesday - February 8 6:30-8:00 PM

Wednesday - February 15 6:30-8:00 PM

No School - Winter Recess

Monday - February 20 1:30-3:00 PM

Tuesday - February 21 1:30-3:00 PM

Wednesday - February 22 1:30-3:00 PM

Thursday - February 23 1:30-3:00 PM

Friday - February 24 1:30-3:00 PM

Wednesday - February 29 6:30-8:00 PM

Wednesday - March 7 6:30-8:00 PM

Wednesday - March 14 6:30-8:00 PM

Friday - March 16 1:30-2:30 PM (Early Release School Day)

Wednesday - March 21 6:30-8:00 PM

Wednesday - March 28 6:30-8:00

Bayfront Festival Park Winter Skating

Skating is available at the City of Duluth's premier outdoor skating rink at Bayfront Festival Park. Surrounded by 20-30 foot tall pine trees, Bayfront skating is a wonderful experience. Come in from the cold and warm up near the fireplace in the Bayfront Family Center. The center is open to the public Monday-Friday from 4:00-8:00 PM, Saturday 1:00-8:00 PM, Sunday 1:00-5:00 PM, and most school holidays 1:00-8:00 PM, weather permitting.

City staff are working to rebuild ice rinks

As weather allows, City staff are making ice at Bayfront, Gary/Stowe, Memorial, and Lincoln Park. We are hoping to have skating through the end of school break – February 26.

Cross Country Ski Trails

We still don't have much snow, but winter isn't over yet! So keep informed by calling the ski hotline at 730-4321.

Nordic Spirit Ski Race Canceled

Due to lack of snow on the ground and in the forecast, the 2012 Nordic Spirit Ski Race and Tour has been canceled. If you have already registered, your entry will be automatically transferred to next year's race. Visit: Duluth XC Ski Club at duluthxc.com

Join us at the Family Fun Fest!

Held at the DECC on Saturday, February 25 from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday, February 26 from 11 am to 4 pm. We will have an informational display area at the Fest. This is a great opportunity for Parks and Recreation to let the public know about the opportunities available in our park system. There are many activities planned and many organizations have display areas. There are coupons available at the Parks office for \$1 off the ticket price. See the website: <http://lundeenproductions.com/funfest/>

The Healthy Duluth Area Coalition will host 4 meetings to engage the public in ongoing bicycle and pedestrian projects in Duluth, to update Duluth residents on current bicycle and pedestrian initiatives, to gain feedback from residents about specific projects and ideas, and to show residents how they can help support bicycling and walking in Duluth.

Tuesday, February 21, City Center West, 6 pm

Thursday, February 23, Portman Community Center, 6 pm

Tuesday, February 28, Central Hillside Community Center, 6 pm

Thursday, March 1, Kirby Student Center, Griggs Room (UMD), 6 pm

More info: Codie Leseman, Community Transportation Systems Coordinator, Healthy Duluth Area Coalition, codie@healthyduluth.org, 218-349-7285.

Play Time for tots and parents

Now offered at the Duluth Heights Community Center on Wednesdays, from 9 – 11 am, Play Time is a great opportunity for socializing, making new friends, and having fun. There is open space for toddlers and preschool age children to play. Age-appropriate toys are provided for parents to supervise their own children. There is no fee to participate and it is open to the whole community.

You are needed to serve on City Boards and Commissions

Mayor Ness is encouraging Duluth residents to apply to serve on any one of several City of Duluth boards and commissions which currently have or will have vacancies in the near future. Appointments shall be made by the Mayor subject to confirmation and approval by the City Council.

Current openings are for the following boards and commissions: Alcohol, Gambling and Tobacco Commission, American Indian Commission, Building Appeal Board, Commission on Disabilities, Community Development Committee, Duluth Human Rights Commission, Duluth Public Arts Commission, **Parks and Recreation Commission**, Planning Commission, and **Tree Commission**.

To view the entire list of boards and commissions, please check the City's website:

http://www.duluthmn.gov/clerk/boards_commissions/index.cfm. Applications can also be requested from the City Clerk's office (218) 730-5500. Applications need to be received by February 24, 2012, at the City Clerk's office, Room 330, 411 W. 1st St, Duluth, MN 55802

Updates from Shawna MullenEardley, MN GreenCorps member

Here is some of the information used for the Tree City USA application. Keep in mind that these numbers are ONLY for tree-related activities, such as planting, pruning, buckthorn removal, tree inventory, etc. for the year 2011. Pretty impressive!

655 volunteers giving 2172 hours (for a total value of \$45,286.20)

2880 trees planted (by volunteers, the City, and contractors)

2625 trees pruned (by volunteers and the City)

\$3.93 per capita was spent on tree-related activities (planting, tree removal, administration, equipment, employee trainings, pruning, volunteer time, etc.) in the year 2011. The minimum required by the Arbor Day Foundation in order to be a Tree City is \$2 per capita.

The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation has one of the most extensive park systems in the country. The City owns and maintains 11,862 acres including the following special areas:

- 129 municipal parks, playgrounds and public places
- Neighborhood community recreation centers
- Bayfront Festival Park
- 2 golf courses, each offering 27 holes
- Keene's Creek Dog Park
- Disc golf courses
- Skatepark at Wheeler Field Athletic Complex
- Lake Superior Zoo
- Wade Municipal Stadium
- Wheeler Field Athletic Complex
- Year round ice skating at the Duluth Heritage Sports Center
- Swimming at Park Point Beach
- Over 40 miles of mountain biking trails
- 55 miles of hiking trails
- Over 7 miles of the Duluth Lakewalk along the shores of Lake Superior
- 45 miles of snowmobile trails
- 70 kilometers of groomed cross-country ski trails
- 13 beautiful self-guided hiking trails

Currently, Duluth has 160 miles of trails within the city limits, including 40 miles of the national North Country Trail/Superior Hiking Trail, a hiking trail spanning the backbone of our 26-mile long city, connecting all of its neighborhoods. Duluth's trail system is incredibly diverse from cascading waterfalls in the gorge of Congdon Park, towering sand dunes on Park Point and waterfowl-filled habitats of the St. Louis River along the Western Waterfront Trail. Trails range from accessible to rugged. There is something for everyone here in Duluth.