

Good News from Parks and Recreation
October 12, 2011 Parks Commission Meeting

Indian Point Campground Improvements – information and public comment will soon be available on this website: <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/index.cfm>

Trail and Bikeway Plan - available on this website:
http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/trail_bikeway_master_plan.cfm

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

DNR 10/25 Parks and Trails Legacy Plan - available on this website:
<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

New website: <http://www.mnbeaches.org/> has helpful information about beach conditions.

Ice Skating at the Heritage Sports Center (120 South 30th Ave West). All skating sessions are free.
New Saturday evening skating times available through October.

Public Skate	Saturday-Oct 1	7:30-9:00 PM
Family Skate	Wednesday-Oct 5	6:30-8:00 PM
Public Skate	Saturday-Oct 8	7:30-9:00 PM
Family Skate	Wednesday-Oct 12	6:30-8:00 PM
Public Skate	Saturday-Oct 15	7:30-9:00 PM
Family Skate	Wednesday-Oct 19	6:30-8:00 PM
Family Skate	Thursday-Oct 20	1:30-3:00 PM
	(School Early Release Day skating)	
Public Skate	Saturday-Oct 22	7:30-9:00 PM
Family Skate	Wednesday-Oct 26	6:30-8:00 PM
Public Skate	Saturday-Oct 29	7:30-9:00 PM

King and Queen of Norway to Visit Duluth's Enger Tower October 17th

History will be made in Duluth on Monday, October 17, with the visit of King Harald and Queen Sonja of Norway. King Harald's father, King Olav, dedicated Enger Tower in 1939 and now more than seventy years later his son, King Harald will be here in Duluth to perform the rededication ceremony.

Duluth will literally be rolling out the "red carpet" for this spectacular event. It is not everyday a king and queen visit our city. The King and Queen will arrive in Duluth the morning of October 17th and travel to the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center Haborside Room for the "Royal Luncheon". It is anticipated 500 people will attend this luncheon, which is a fundraising event for further renovations of Enger Park. At the luncheon, the King and Queen will be entertained by the world renowned singer Andy Gangstead, a Two Harbors native. An official gift will be presented to the King and Queen at the

luncheon. Well known artist Michael Tonder's creation of "Enger Tower in Glass" will be presented by Mayor Don Ness on behalf of the citizens of Duluth.

At the conclusion of the luncheon, the King and Queen will travel to Norway Hall located on Lake Avenue between Superior Street and First Street. There they will meet with the Sons of Norway delegation comprised of area Norwegian members.

At 3:00 PM, the rededication ceremony of Enger Tower will begin. It is our hope Duluthians will gather in large numbers to greet the King and Queen, waving both American and Norwegian flags. The Arrowhead Chorale, University of Minnesota Pep Band and the Chamber Choir will perform. A beautiful red carpet will lead the King and Queen to the tower where the rededication of Enger Tower will take place. On hand will be Mayor Don Ness, Governor Mark Dayton, Former Vice President Walter Mondale and other local and state dignitaries.

After the rededication ceremony, the King and Queen will return to Minneapolis where they will continue their official visit which will end in New York City.

The Public is invited to attend the Rededication Ceremony of Enger Tower: Monday, October 17, 2011. Festivities will begin at 2:30 with the ceremony at 3:00 PM. Parking will be available at the Enger Golf Course with shuttle service to the Tower. Show your American/Norwegian pride by bringing a flag to wave.

The public is also invited to attend the "Royal Luncheon" held at noon. Tickets for the event are \$100 per person and can be reserved through the Mayor's office at (218) 730-5230 or by emailing ply@duluthmn.gov

Duluth Senior Expo: Wednesday, October 19 at the DECC from 9 am to 3 pm
Volunteers needed to help staff the City's outreach table!

This year's 100 Year Birthday Party is on Wednesday, October 19, during the Duluth Senior Expo. It is co-sponsored by the Duluth Grill. We are expecting 15 guests, which is outstanding. Of those guests, two are men (it is rare to get even one), and two are sisters, another is age 105, two age 104, a 103 year old, two age 102, and the rest are youngsters at 100 years of age! Their stories are varied and interesting and they are inspirational people. One remembers her Dad's first time driving a car instead of a horse and buggy - when it started going too fast, instead of hitting the breaks to slow down, he grabbed the steering wheel and yelled, "Whoa! Whoa!", plowed into a gate, and never drove again! Another woman age 100 still walks four miles a day. Wonderful stories from their past, along with advice for longevity, are freely shared from each guest on stage.

Mayor Don Ness will present certificates to each centenarian on behalf of the City of Duluth. Emcees will be Dan Hanger and Diane ("Dee-Ann") Alexander of Fox 21 News. Festivities start at 10 AM in South Pioneer Hall of the DECC with birthday cake served until it runs out. Come join us!

Park Referendum Question will be on the November 8 ballot

Duluthians will have the opportunity when they vote in November to decide if they want to pay additional property taxes for a special Parks and Trails Fund. This fund will pay for operating expenses, wages for seasonal park employees, and pay-as-you-go capital improvement projects. More information is available at the City's website: <http://www.duluthmn.gov/>

Volunteers Clean Lake Place Park

The Greater Downtown Council, in partnership with the City of Duluth, gathered volunteers to lend a helping hand at Lake Place Park. Surrounding businesses in the Old Downtown expressed a desire to help improve sight lines, visibility and safety within the park that overlooks Lake Superior and the Lakewalk. It's all part of the business community's continued commitment to maintain a clean, safe

and welcoming environment throughout the Downtown Waterfront District.

A park clean-up was scheduled for Saturday, October 1st from 9am-Noon. Volunteers cleared undergrowth and shrubbery as well as litter or debris. City crews provided tools and expertise to guide in this project.

Minnesota Public Radio and the City Of Duluth Announce The Interactive “Sound Point”™ Created for Enger Tower, Made Possible In Part by the Minnesota Legacy Amendment’s Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund

Minnesota Public Radio and the City of Duluth launched MPR’s Sound Point created for Enger Tower. The Sound Point for Enger Tower allows visitors to access a series of short audio stories to help enhance the visitor’s experience at the historic Duluth landmark. To access the Sound Point at Enger Tower, visitors can use their smartphones to scan a QR code at the Tower, which leads to <http://bit.ly/MPREnger>, a mobile website with audio links and more information about the region. Visitors can also text “tower” to 677-677 and receive a call back to hear the stories.

The Sound Point for Enger Tower features several stories: The history of Enger Tower and Enger Park, narrated by City of Duluth’s head of park maintenance, Tom Kasper; the most prominent points on the Duluth landscape, narrated by MPR News Morning Edition host Cathy Wurzer; the story of how Lake Superior was formed, narrated by UMD geology professor emeritus John Green; how a working port operates, with Duluth Seaway Port Authority Executive Director Adolph Ojard; and Duluth author and historian Tony Dierckins telling what’s missing from the Duluth landscape that used to be there. Everyone who listens to a Sound Point story will have the chance to “talk back” to MPR, offering new questions or insights about the landscape or sharing their favorite story about their community. They’ll be invited to join the Public Insight Network (PIN) to improve MPR’s coverage of Duluth and the region. The PIN is a group of people who have agreed to be sources for journalists whenever their area of expertise is useful. PIN sources helped suggest the stories featured in the Enger Tower Sound Point. “MPR chose Duluth’s Enger Tower as a Sound Point location because there are so many great stories to tell from this single, prominent place,” said Jeff Jones, MPR’s Sound Point producer. “With Enger Tower’s unique panoramic view, visitors often have plenty of good questions about the landscape below. We hope the Sound Point audio tour will foster their curiosity and provide some insight into the region.”

More about the Sound Point project

Sound Point™ is a MPR project that seeks to start a community conversation about a place in that place. Sound Point subjects can be related to art, history, architecture, nature or community building. Other Minnesota locations for future Sound Points include: the murals of south Minneapolis; points along the Northstar Rail Line; and music performed by the vocal ensemble Cantus at acoustically unique destinations around the state.

Sound Point is made possible in part by the Minnesota Legacy Amendment’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

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.