



# Good News from Parks and Recreation

## April 2014

### ***Parks and Recreation Resources***

Parks and Recreation Website - <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/>

Parks and Recreation Master Plan - <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/master-plan/>

Trail and Bikeway Plan - <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/trailsbikeways/trails-bikeways-master-plan/>

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, this newsletter, and other City announcements - [http://www.duluthgov.info/db\\_frames/web\\_subscriptions/](http://www.duluthgov.info/db_frames/web_subscriptions/)

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

Sign up for the Parks Twitter account at <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/>

Find information about our beaches at <http://www.parkpointbeach.org/>

### ***Annual Meeting Report***

The Parks and Recreation Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 2. Around 80 people were in attendance. The event featured special guest speaker, Sam Cook. To view a copy of our 2013 Annual Report, go to: <http://www.duluthmn.gov/media/188363/2013-Annual-Report-Web-Version.pdf>.

### ***Buskering Permits***

Parks is now accepting Busker Permit applications for the 2014 Downtown Waterfront Performers Program. For the 2014 season, 25 permits will be issued, good for buskering from May 1-October 1. Contact Terri at 218-730-4305 or [tcastonguay@duluthmn.gov](mailto:tcastonguay@duluthmn.gov) for more information.

# Flag Football

Signups for Duluth Flag Football 2014 are underway. A rising sports trend across the nation, flag football gives youth a chance to learn the values of teamwork and competition while having a blast and keeping in shape. As in years past, there are two flag football divisions: Blue (for students entering 2nd or 3rd grade) and Green (for students entering 4th or 5th grade). This season, each team will be assigned the name of an NFL founding franchise, giving coaches, family, and players an opportunity to learn about the history of one of our country's most storied sports.

Registration forms are available by contacting Jesse Meehl at [jmeehl@DuluthMN.gov](mailto:jmeehl@DuluthMN.gov) or 218-730-4314.

# Recreation

Duluth's outdoor skating season has officially ended, with neighborhood rinks packing up and closing shop after a very challenging winter. Statistics vary from rink to rink, but an estimated 1000 youth participated city-wide in organized hockey alone. Six non-hockey related rinks existed through the efforts and cooperation of Park Maintenance staff and community organizations. Volunteers were critical to the success of neighborhood rinks. It is clear that Park facilities are highly valued by our amazing community partners.



**Spring Break Activity Sampler at the Heritage Sports Center.** Close on the heels of the outdoors rinks closing, Spring Break programming kept youth busy at the Heritage Center during ISD's recent week away from school. Parks and Rec coordinated clinics each day, provided an opportunity for participants to try out different sports every morning. Open skating was available every afternoon from 2-4PM.



Check out WDIO's coverage of our Spring Break activities [here](#).

**Play Gym at Duluth Heights.** Each week on Wednesday morning, around 25 participants gather at the Duluth Heights Community Club for **Play Gym**, a playtime and socialization opportunity available to families and their young children. "I don't know how we could have gotten through this past winter without it," said a participant recently. Play Gym provides access to large-scale toys that exercise a toddler's large-motor skill. Play Gym participants are currently discussing the need for getting toys that could be used on the playground this summer, as well as a potential for creating a garden collective on a plot across the street. Families interested in joining in on the Play Gym fun are encouraged to come to the Duluth Heights Community Center (33 Mulberry Street) on Wednesdays from 9:30 am - 12 noon.

**Ultimate (Frisbee) Youth League to Start this Summer.** After three years of building up the program, an **Ultimate (Frisbee)** start-up league for youth will be kicking-off in May 2014. Sponsored by Parks and Recreation and organized by parent volunteers, Ultimate will be open to youth ages 10 to 17. Call 730-4322 for more information or to register.

**Champions building Champions**, formerly known as Turf Time, will begin its 4th season on Thursday April 17th, from 4-6pm at the Heritage Sports Center. Champions building Champions is coordinated by Men as Peacemakers, and aims to engage youth and local athletes in various sport activities to build leadership and character. See poster on next page for more information.

# CHAMPIONS BUILDING CHAMPIONS

At the Duluth Heritage Sports Center



Spring Schedule:  
Thursdays 4-6pm  
April 17-May 22  
Duluth Heritage Sports Center  
120 S 30th Ave W

Summer Schedule:  
Thursdays 3-5 pm  
June 19-August 21  
Duluth Heritage Sports Center  
120 S 30th Ave W

Play sports activities on the Turf!  
**FREE** opportunity for youth ages 7-17

Activities are facilitated by collegiate athletes who focus on building constructive relationships with the youth involved, while teaching the basics of sports and athletic games.



**MEN AS PEACEMAKERS**

For details call James at 727 1939



## Rentals

It may be hard to think about doing any sort of outdoor event as we sit in the “deep freeze” of winter. But the warmer weather will be here before we know it, along with the season of outdoor events. Prime dates in many of our beautiful City of Duluth parks fill up quickly, so the first step in event planning needs to be the reservation. All events to include 40 or more people require a permit. But to secure the park for your personal use, a permit is recommended for all size events. Without one, there is risk of another permitted event at the park at the same time. Secondly, whoever arrives first has the opportunity to occupy the pavilions and other favored areas. Only with a permit can you technically ask someone to move. There are three types of permits available, depending on your use of the park.

Special Event Permits – A special event is either: 1) open to the public, and/or, 2) charges an admission/registration fee. To be held in a City of Duluth park, the proper permit is required. Contact Gail at [gwalkowiak@duluthmn.gov](mailto:gwalkowiak@duluthmn.gov) or call 218.730.4306 to secure a permit for your special event.

Private Event Permits – Private events are “By Invitation Only”: 1) from a club or organization membership, and/or, 2) a personal invitation from a permit holder. This includes company or church picnics, birthday parties and graduation parties, but excludes weddings, which require a separate permit. Contact Terri at [tcastonguay@duluthmn.gov](mailto:tcastonguay@duluthmn.gov) or call 218.730.4320 for a Private Event Permit.

Wedding Event Permits – A wedding event is one that is: 1) a wedding ceremony, 2) a wedding rehearsal, or, 3) a wedding ceremony and picnic reception combined (not to include alcohol, live music, or dancing). Formal wedding receptions serving alcohol and having live music or DJ services are not allowed. Contact Amy at [agodsell@duluthmn.gov](mailto:agodsell@duluthmn.gov) or call 218.730.4330 for more information.

Event guides for each of these permits are available online at <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/reservations/> or by contacting the appropriate staff listed above.

# Senior Services

## Evergreen Senior Community Center: 5830 Grand Avenue

- AARP Defensive Driving – First Time Class (2 day class/8 hours)  
Tuesday and Wednesday, May 6 and 7 from 5-9PM  
Call to register at 218-730-4319

## Portman Senior Community Center: 4601 McCulloch Street

- AARP Defensive Driving – First Time Class (2 day class/8 hours)  
Wednesday and Thursday, April 23 and 24, 1-5PM  
Call to register at 218-730-4319

For more information about senior recreation activities, contact (218) 730-4310

# Trails and Bikeways

**Trails are Closed!** All Natural Surface (hiking/biking/skiing) Trails are closed until the soil has completely dried out and further notice is given. Please stay off trails to minimize damage by foot or by bike. We recommend using the Lakewalk and the Western Waterfront Trail during this time; they remain open for use due to their hardened surfaces.

**Active Transportation Month is May 2014.** Bus. Bike. Walk. 2014 will feature the annual Mayor's Bike Ride which will be Friday, May 16, leaving from city hall and following the corridor of the Cross City Trail, (which will be under construction.) The event culminates with a program open to the public in which the Mayor will speak and planners and engineers will be available for questions and information. National Bike to School Day is May 7. For a schedule of events: <http://healthyduluth.org/active-living/bus-bike-walk-month-may-2014/>

# Volunteer Program



**Clean and Green – Register your Clean-Up Today:** Individuals and families, as well as school, faith, and community groups, are encouraged to register your organization for a Clean and Green 2014 project. Once registered, you'll receive garbage bags, gloves, and access to clean-up tools and equipment. Groups willing to clean in early spring are encouraged to schedule their clean-up according to anticipated snowmelt, with flexibility for changing conditions. Groups are also encouraged to register for multiple clean-ups of a specific park or location throughout the summer and fall season (April – November). **Ready to register?** Please visit [www.duluthmn.gov/parks/volunteers](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/volunteers)

and complete the *Clean and Green Request Form*. You'll be asked indicate any geographic preferences. However, if you do not have a specific location you'd like to clean, one can be assigned to you, depending on group size, age, and time availability. Completed *Clean and Green Request Forms* should be sent to [cskafte@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskafte@duluthmn.gov). Please contact Cheryl Skafte, Volunteer Coordinator, at 218-730-4334 with any questions.



**Volunteer CPR Program – Register your Training Today:** The Duluth Fire Department is partnering with Duluth Parks and Recreation to host a series of community training sessions on the second Monday of each month at various Duluth Park Community Centers. Training is free of charge and takes approximately one hour. Participants are given a CPR Anytime Kit and are asked to train their friends and family using the same hands-only CPR techniques they learned. For a listing of class dates, times and locations, visit [www.duluthcpr.org](http://www.duluthcpr.org).



**Duluth Invasive Species Council:** You can get involved with our service initiative to educate, eradicate and restore our community on the impact of invasive, non-native terrestrial plants.

**Buckthorn Trackers and Adopters Needed!**

Last season, volunteers tracked and mapped the Buckthorn density in Hartley Park. This year, we Parks and Recreation is looking for community volunteers to

adopt sections of our parks for additional Buckthorn tracking, as well as removal. Want to help out? Email Cheryl at [cskafte@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskafte@duluthmn.gov).

**Become an Invasive Community Educator!**

Parks and Recreation is developing an invasive education table that will be on display at various community events throughout the summer. Volunteers are needed to be at the table to talk to the public about invasive plants and upcoming events. Email Cheryl at [cskafte@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskafte@duluthmn.gov) to get more information.

**Advanced Invasive Blitz Training at Hartley Nature Center!**

On Saturday, October 4, from 9AM-4PM, the Minnesota Master Naturalist Volunteer Program will be hosting an invasive training workshop at HNC. Species emphasis will be on Buckthorn, Japanese Knotweed and Tansy. Click [here](#) to learn more. **Cost:** \$50

## *Outdoor Recreation Opportunities*

**Mountain Biking in Duluth**

Mountain biking in Duluth is a fun and challenging adventure. We currently have 30 miles of single-track biking in Duluth with trails located at Piedmont, Hartley Park, Brewer Park, Spirit Mountain, and Lester Park. Mont du Lac Recreation Area also has mountain bike trails. To download a mountain bike trail map go to the COGGS (Cyclists of Gitchee Gummi Shores) website at <http://www.coggs.com/trails.php>

**Take a Hike! On Duluth's City Trails**

- Chester Park Trails - 1800 East Skyline Parkway
- Congdon Park Trails - 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave East and Superior Street
- Grassy Point Trail - end of Leisure Street
- Hartley Park Trails - 3001 Woodland Ave
- Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve - 4000 E Skyline Parkway
- Kingsbury Creek Trail - Dead end of Waseca Street
- Lakewalk - Canal Park to Brighton Beach
- Lester Park Trail - 60<sup>th</sup> Ave East and Superior Street

- Lincoln Park Trail - Lincoln Park Drive and West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street
- Magney-Snively Trail - 1/4 mile west of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave West and Skyline Parkway
- Park Point Trail - end of Minnesota Ave
- Piedmont Trail - Adirondack and Hutchinson Rd
- Western Waterfront Trail - 7300 block off Grand Ave/Pulaski St

### **Skateboard Park at Wheeler Field Athletic Complex**

The skateboard park is open for use 7 days a week, weather permitting, until 10 pm. Skateboarders, in-line skaters and bikers are all welcome. Indoor vending machines and bathrooms are available. Deck observation and seating area are also available.

**Location:** The skateboard park: 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue West and Grand Avenue. Skate ramps are also located at Gary New Duluth, Keene Creek Park, Midtown Park, and the Depot parking lot.

### **Disc Golf Course**

People wanting to play disc golf can use the nine-basket course at Miller Creek Disc Golf Course by Lake Superior College (2101 Trinity Rd) and a nine-basket course at the Morgan Park Community Recreation Center (1242 88<sup>th</sup> Ave W).

### **Playgrounds**

Bayfront Festival Park / Playfront Playground---  
 South 5<sup>th</sup> Ave W & Railroad St  
 Blackmer --- Beverly St & 84<sup>th</sup> Ave W  
 Cascade --- 6<sup>th</sup> St & 1<sup>st</sup> Ave W  
 Central Hillside --- Lake Ave & 4<sup>th</sup> St  
 Chester Bowl --- 1800 E Skyline Parkway  
 Duluth Heights --- 33 W Mulberry St  
 Endion --- 1602 E Second St  
 Fairmont --- 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave W & Grand  
 Fond du Lac --- 131<sup>st</sup> Ave W & 5<sup>th</sup> St  
 Franklin --- 12<sup>th</sup> St & Minnesota Ave  
 Grant --- 901 E 11<sup>th</sup> St  
 Grosvenor Square --- Pitt & 49<sup>th</sup> Ave E  
 Harrison --- 3002 W Third St  
 Hillside Sport Center --- 408 E 8<sup>th</sup> St  
 Irving --- 20 S 57<sup>th</sup> Ave W  
 Keene Creek --- Bristol St & 63<sup>rd</sup> Ave W

Lafayette --- 3026 Minnesota Ave  
 Lester --- 61<sup>st</sup> Ave E & Superior St  
 Lilliput --- 315 E 5<sup>th</sup> St  
 Lincoln --- 25<sup>th</sup> Ave W & 5<sup>th</sup> St  
 Memorial --- 5315 Grand Ave  
 Merritt --- 4017 W 7<sup>th</sup> St  
 Morgan Park --- 1242 88<sup>th</sup> Ave W  
 Norton Park --- Coleman & 81<sup>st</sup> Ave W  
 Observation --- 914 W Third St  
 Park Point --- 45<sup>th</sup> St & Minnesota Ave  
 Piedmont --- 2302 W 23<sup>rd</sup> St  
 Portland Square --- 4<sup>th</sup> St & 10<sup>th</sup> Ave E  
 Portman --- 4601 McCulloch St  
 Riverside --- 55 Cato St  
 Washington Square --- Superior St & 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave E  
 Wheeler Field --- 35<sup>th</sup> Ave W & Grand Ave  
 Woodland --- 3211 Allendale Ave

Parks and Recreation can provide additional information concerning recreational activities, maps, and updated schedules for special activities by going to our website at [www.duluthmn.gov/parks](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks) Where listed, please use the phone numbers or call the Parks and Recreation office at 218-730-4300.

***Enjoy our fantastic parks, playgrounds,  
and outdoor spaces!***