



## Good News from Parks and Recreation

*June 2014*



Park Maintenance and the Boys & Girls Club plant the Library circle gardens with a mixture of annuals and edibles!

## *Parks and Recreation Resources and Links*

### **Parks and Recreation Website**

[www.duluthmn.gov/parks](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks)

### **Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

[duluthmn.gov/parks/master-plan](http://duluthmn.gov/parks/master-plan)

### **Trail and Bikeway Plan**

[duluthmn.gov/parks/trailsbikeways/trails-bikeways-master-plan](http://duluthmn.gov/parks/trailsbikeways/trails-bikeways-master-plan)

### **DNR 10/25 Parks and Trails Legacy Plan**

[legacy.leg.mn/funds/parks-trails-fund/plan](http://legacy.leg.mn/funds/parks-trails-fund/plan)

### **Like us on FACEBOOK**

[www.facebook.com/pages/DuluthParksMN/210522078966064](http://www.facebook.com/pages/DuluthParksMN/210522078966064)

**Sign Up** for all Parks and Recreation press releases, this newsletter, and other City announcements at [www.duluthgov.info/db\\_frames/web\\_subscriptions](http://www.duluthgov.info/db_frames/web_subscriptions).

## *Duluth's Best in the Midwest*

Log your vote for Duluth at [voteduluth.com](http://voteduluth.com). Outside Magazine's Best Towns 2014 competition is down to 2 cities (funneled down from 64 to start with), of which Duluth has been a consistent frontrunner. Duluth carries the torch for the Midwest region, and we look to earn the title of Best Town in the US. In the current round, we are up against Provo, UT. This is our chance to showcase to a much broader audience what Duluthians and many from our region already know—Duluth is uniquely situated to offer the world's best outdoor adventure and recreation opportunities. Vote today!

## Recreation

A very busy spring has culminated and the Summer Programs are starting. Our weekly **Champions-Building-Champions** program, **Spring Open Skating** and **Ultimate (frisbee)** sessions all had steady attendance throughout the spring. Plans are being discussed to continue offering Ultimate (frisbee) opportunities for youth throughout the summer; perhaps, even taking the sport to a year-round level by utilizing the Heritage Center's turf once they move it to Pioneer Hall for the winter. Champions-Building-Champions continues through the summer, June 19 – August 21, Thursdays from 3-5pm, as well as Summer Open Skating, June 11-August 27, Wednesdays 2-4pm.

The **Bayfront Family Center** opened Tuesday, May 27 and was followed by two weeks of jam-packed school picnics- many of them utilizing the large store of recreation equipment which is free for



*Rec equipment available for use at Bayfront Family Center!*

public use. Hundreds of kids a day from schools all over the northland came through the park eating lunch, playing games and crowding Playfront to capacity. Everyone got along, shared the space and equipment and highlighted the special relationship that we are developing with the schools in our area.

**Bayfront Family Center Hours**  
Monday through Thursday  
11AM-7PM

rain), access the concession and vending area or get great up-to-date information on our awesome city, parks division ... and/or life in general, the Family Center is the place to go! During open hours, City staff will be in the area and on hand to assist families with answers to questions, equipment use and other issues that might arise.

The **Family Center** will be open all summer, Monday – Thursday from 11-7pm and is a great place to stop in. Whether you wish to use the equipment, get out of the sun (or

Parks and Recreation will be helping the police department kick off their new **Duluth Police Activities League (DPAL)** with a free event at the Clyde/Heritage Center's venues on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. DPAL is a national organization of Police Departments who have made the commitment to reach out to youth on a neighborhood level and in the spirit of friendly competition to develop better relations. The Duluth Police have worked hard to get their guys 'accepted' into the club, which makes them better able to leverage grants and ideas to further improve youths perception of police and vice-versa. There will be fun activities, sports, demonstrations, prize drawings and food. Anyone who wants to bring the kids and connect with "Duluth's finest" police officers are welcome.

Parks and Recreation staff will also be on hand, and is an integral part of, bringing you the **Whipper Snapper Races** at Bayfront Festival Park on Friday, June 20. These races are for elementary-aged youth who kick off Grandma's Marathon. They give everyone a chance to participate in one of Duluth's signature events of the summer.

The annual **Sandmodeling Contest and Water Safety Expo** will take place on Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, from 11- 3pm at the Park Point Beach House.

# Bayfront Festival Park Recognized as “Best Outdoor Music Venue” in Minnesota

The Star Tribune named Bayfront Festival Park the Best Outdoor Music Venue in the state in their 2014 Best of MN issue.

From the Star Tribune: “About the only recent performer who didn’t remark from the stage about the lovely scenery surrounding Duluth’s harbor-view amphitheater was the guy born just up the hill from it, [Bob Dylan](#). It has the Aerial Lift Bridge, hilly city skyline and occasional passing ore boat for a backdrop, the cool breeze off Lake Superior for natural air-conditioning and a huge grassy lawn for stretching out. Long the home of the popular Bayfront Blues Festival in early August, the park has grown in stature among music fans in recent summers, with Dylan returning to it last year and Wilco being there the past two summers ... Coolest of all: Families can bring kids under 12 to shows for free, as is dictated by the city.”

View summer events at Bayfront Festival Park to the right.

## BAYFRONT FESTIVAL PARK

South 5th Avenue West and Railroad Street •  
<http://bayfrontfestivalpark.com/>  
Bayfront Festival Park is managed by the DECC  
(Admission fee to some events)

JUN 7	.....	WALK FOR ANIMALS
JUN 20	.....	WHIPPER SNAPPER RACES
JUN 28	.....	TRAMPLED BY TURTLES, DOOMTREE, LOW, HALEY BONAR
JUL 3	.....	PARTY IN THE PARK WITH HAIRBALL
JUL 4	.....	CITY OF DULUTH FOURTHFEST CELEBRATION
JUL 10	.....	DIERKS BENTLEY WITH SPECIAL GUEST SARA EVANS
JUL 12	.....	THE GLOW RUN 5K - DULUTH
JUL 15	.....	LIBERTY DAY PICNIC
JUL 19	.....	BAYFRONT REGGAE & WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL
JUL 26	.....	ALL PINTS NORTH SUMMER BREWFEST
AUG 1-2	.....	HOWLING MOON MUSIC FESTIVAL
AUG 8-10	.....	BAYFRONT BLUES FESTIVAL
AUG 14	.....	RED ROCK RADIO GRILL WARS
AUG 16-17	.....	ART IN BAYFRONT PARK
AUG 22-23	.....	THE TRIBUTE FEST
AUG 24	.....	SUPERIOR MAN TRIATHLON
AUG 30	.....	DULUTH SUPERIOR PRIDE FESTIVAL
SEP 1	.....	LABOR DAY PICNIC
SEP 6	.....	LAKE SUPERIOR HARVEST FESTIVAL
SEP 6	.....	TWIN PORTS BRIDGE FESTIVAL
SEP 19-21	.....	DULUTH HOT AIR BALLOON FESTIVAL
SEP 20	.....	KIWANIS FAMILY KITE FLY

## MOVIES IN THE PARK

LEIF ERIKSON PARK • FREE!

11th Avenue East and London Road  
ALL MOVIES ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC:  
BRING A BLANKET

July 11 - **Brave**, 9:00 pm, PG  
July 18 - **Annie**, 8:50 pm, PG  
July 25 - **Rock of Ages**, 8:40 pm, PG-13  
Aug 1 - **School of Rock**, 8:30 pm, PG-13  
Aug 8 - **Chicago**, 8:20 pm, PG-13  
Aug 15 - **Sound of Music**, 8:10 pm, G  
Aug 22 - **Top Gun**, 8:00 pm, PG  
Aug 29 - **Frozen**, 7:50 pm, PG

\*All movies start approximately 15 minutes after sunset times. Brought to you by the Greater Downtown Council

## Movies in the Park to Start in July

See the 2014 schedule to the left.

## Busker Permits at Capacity

Parks and Recreation has issued all 25 Downtown Waterfront Busker Permits for this year. The busking season runs from May 1 – October 1. Buskers provide a variety of entertainment during tourist season in the designated areas of the Lakewalk, from the Historic Endion Station to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and in Lake Place Park.

# Rentals

Summer is the time to utilize the great outdoors of our city and to host your special occasion in a beautiful green park! Prime dates in many of our 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. 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, dependant 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.

Our parks and community recreation centers are becoming more and more popular for hosting graduation and birthday parties, showers and many other activities! For example, the Duluth Heights Community Recreation Center will also be the site of an Estate Sale the weekend of June 21-22! Learn more about hosting your event in our parks and centers. Event guides for different types of permits are available online at [www.duluthmn.gov/parks/reservations](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/reservations) or by contacting the appropriate staff listed above.

# Senior Services

On May 21 seniors enjoyed a great performance by Todd Eckart at the Morgan Park Senior Center for the **Senior Appreciation Day**. There were 145 people in attendance.

**AARP DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASSES!** Are you a licensed driver age 55 or older and want a discount on your car insurance? If so, join us in June for AARP’s Defensive Driving 4-Hour Refresher Class at your choice of two sites and dates. **Please Note:** This is for qualified drivers that have previously attended the AARP 8-Hour Class for defensive driving.

Defensive Driving Refresher Classes	
Tuesday, June 10   1-5 PM	Thursday, June 26   1-5 PM
Evergreen Senior Center (5830 Grand Ave)	Portman Senior Center (4601 McCulloch St)

A first-time class will be held at Portman Senior Center (4601 McCulloch St) on Wednesday, June 11 and Thursday, June 12 from 5-9 PM. Learners must attend both sessions.

AARP members pay only \$15, non-members pay the full class fee of \$20. Pre-registration is required. Call 218-730-4319 to sign up. *Classes brought to you by AARP and the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division.*

# Trails and Bikeways

**Wayfinding Signage** has been installed around Duluth. New signs indicating the way to our regional parks and trail amenities have been put up, assisting visitors to Duluth to these facilities. Look for signs to Brighton Beach, Enger Park, Hartley Park and more! If you have questions or suggestions, call the trails comment line at 730-4323.

After nearly two years, the **re-build of 7 Bridges Road** has begun. The June 2012 flood severely affected this beloved parkway, which stretches from Superior Street up to Hawk Ridge. The road had just undergone an extensive re-building project - the bridges were all tuck-pointed and in some cases rebuilt, and the roadway resurfaced when the rain that fell for over two weeks severely saturated the clay soils in the area. Severe slumping occurred on several sections of the road just up from the first bridge on Occidental Boulevard. On Monday, June 2, 2014 contractors began the process of clearing the area, not just for road construction, but also for ski trail realignments. The new road will essentially follow the ski trail alignment from the current parking spot up 7 Bridges Road down to the first bridge. As a result, the ski trail (and its lights) will be moved to accommodate the project. In addition, the COGGS' bike trails in the same area will be re-routed. People are being asked to be respectful of the construction work and to stay out of the area until further notice.

The **Duluth Area Horse Trail Alliance** is hosting a trail building and design workshop to be held over a four-day workshop beginning June 19, 2014. Mike Riter of Trail Design Specialists is hosting the workshop. The DAHTA also recently hired trail designer, Jim Shoberg, with a grant from the Duluth Parks Fund. Jim is hoping to find the DAHTA a trail route from the terminus of the DWP Rail Line at Beck's Road to the horse trails in Jay Cooke State Park.

**National Trails Day** was June 7, 2014 and the Duluth Cross Country Ski Club (DXC) and the Cyclists of Gitchee Gumees Shores (COGGS) both held trail improvement events in Lester Park on their respective trails.

Public meetings on the **Cross City Trail** alignment yielded 88 participants at the first informational meeting held May 28, 2014. The next public input session will be on June 17, 2014 at 5:30pm at Denfeld High School in the commons area. For more information on that please contact John Kelly at [jkelly@duluthmn.gov](mailto:jkelly@duluthmn.gov).

A public meeting on the **Cross Country Ski Trails Master Plan** was held on June 5. Comments are being accepted at the City of Duluth's website at [www.duluthmn.gov/parks](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks).

**Flood repairs** in the following areas are expected to happen during 2014: DWP Rail Line, Western Snowmobile Trails, Old Thomson Hill Road, Congdon Park, Chester Park, Hartley Park, St. Louis River Trail, and more.

# Volunteer Program

**Thank you to the following groups and individuals who contributed their time and talent to parks!**



***Lincoln Park Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Graders and Staff***

Clean and Green and Invasive Projects in Lincoln Park

***Volunteer Impact:***

*Lincoln Park Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Graders and Harbor City International School students teamed up with the City of Duluth and the MN Department of Health to complete the Devonshire Trail Project. Hauling rock and limestone, the students connected a gap in the Devonshire Street sidewalk with a gravel trail, providing Lincoln Park Middle School students a safe route to their school.*

***Harbor City International School students and instructors***

***Jenny Ahern and Pete Langr***

Clean and Green projects, creek clean-up, trail projects, Invasive projects and Duluth Public Library book sale set-up

***Fond du Lac Community Club***

Clean and Green clean-up in the FDL neighborhood

***Duluth Preservation Alliance***

Clean and Green clean-up in Enger Park

***Riverside Community and Neighbors***

Clean and Green in Riverside Community

***Stowe Elementary School – 1<sup>st</sup> Graders and Staff***

Clean and Green projects at Fond du Lac Park

***Volunteer Impact:***

*Nearly 60 first graders and nine adults teamed up with the City of Duluth to beautify Fond du Lac Park. Hauling mulch to apple trees, picking up trash and planting annuals in the corner garden, these "little" youth made a "big" difference.*

***Holy Rosary School*** – Clean and Green clean-up along the Lakewalk and Railroad Tracks

***Morgan Park Community Club*** – Clean and Green clean-ups in Morgan Park neighborhood

***Chester Bowl Improvement Club*** – Clean and Green clean-up at Chester Bowl

***Merritt Park Community Club*** – Clean and Green clean-up at Merritt Park

**Loll Designs, Involta and Good Sheeters and Bent Paddle Brewery** – Clean and Green clean-up of Keene Creek and Tree Plantings – Nearly 900 pounds of garbage pulled out of the creek!

**Boys & Girls Club of the Northland** – Clean and Green clean-up at Park Point 12<sup>th</sup> Street Beach – They'll be adopting the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Beach and Franklin Tot Lot for clean-ups all summer!

**Woodland Hills** – Clean and Green clean-up at Washington Square and University Square.

**Nortrax, Inc** – Clean and Green clean-up of Park Point 12<sup>th</sup> Street Beach

**Northwood Children's Services** – Clean and Green clean-up of 40<sup>th</sup> Ave W and Skyline



**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 to 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 [cskaft@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskaft@duluthmn.gov). Please contact Cheryl Skaft, 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).

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, 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 [cskaft@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskaft@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 [cskaft@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskaft@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

# Spring Parks Fund Grants Announced

Eleven applicants were awarded the sum of \$45,650 (\$50,000 was available to award). A total of 17 applications requesting a total of \$67,026 were submitted. The remaining balance (\$4,350) will be added to the awardable amount for the Fall 2014 round.

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Award Amount</u>
COGGS	Trail Signage	\$5,000
COGGS	Duluth Traverse Trail Construction	\$2,500
Duluth Community Garden Program	Let's Grow Edible Duluth	\$3,350
Duluth Sister Cities International Inc.	Duluth Sister Cities Summer Celebration	\$5,000
Goodwill	MOFAS Summer Youth Employment Program	\$5,000
Lake Superior Zoological Society	Volunteer Docent Program	\$5,000
Neighbors of Lower Chester Park	Basketball Hoops and Trash/Recycling Bins	\$1,800
One Roof Community Housing	Central Hillside Park Revitalization	\$5,000
Salvation Army Rookie Basketball	RBA 3 on 3 Tournament	\$4,000
Wheels on Trails Organization (ARC)	Experience DITH Outside - for Non-traditional Users	\$4,000
Woodland Hills	Summer Explorers Club	\$5,000

## 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 in 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	Lincoln Park Trail --- Lincoln Park Dr and W 3 <sup>rd</sup> St
Congdon Park Trails --- 32 <sup>nd</sup> Ave E & Superior St	Magney-Snively Trail --- 1/4 mile west of
Grassy Point Trail --- end of Leisure Street	100 <sup>th</sup> Ave W and Skyline Pkwy
Hartley Park Trails --- 3001 Woodland Ave	Park Point Trail --- end of Minnesota Ave
Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve --- 4000 E Skyline Pkwy	Piedmont Trail --- Adirondack & Hutchinson Rd
Kingsbury Creek Trail --- Dead end of Waseca St	Western Waterfront Trail --- 7300 block off
Lakewalk --- Canal Park to Brighton Beach	Grand Ave/Pulaski St
Lester Park Trail --- 60 <sup>th</sup> Ave E and Superior 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 areas are also available. The skateboard park is located at 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue West and Grand Avenue. Skate ramps are also located in 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---	Lafayette --- 3026 Minnesota Ave
South 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave W & Railroad St	Lester --- 61 <sup>st</sup> Ave E & Superior St
Blackmer --- Beverly St & 84 <sup>th</sup> Ave W	Lilliput --- 315 E 5 <sup>th</sup> St
Cascade --- 6 <sup>th</sup> St & 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave W	Lincoln --- 25 <sup>th</sup> Ave W & 5 <sup>th</sup> St
Central Hillside --- Lake Ave & 4 <sup>th</sup> St	Memorial --- 5315 Grand Ave
Chester Bowl --- 1800 E Skyline Parkway	Merritt --- 4017 W 7 <sup>th</sup> St
Duluth Heights --- 33 W Mulberry St	Morgan Park --- 1242 88 <sup>th</sup> Ave W
Endion --- 1602 E Second St	Norton Park --- Coleman & 81 <sup>st</sup> Ave W
Fairmont --- 72 <sup>nd</sup> Ave W & Grand	Observation --- 914 W Third St
Fond du Lac --- 131 <sup>st</sup> Ave W & 5 <sup>th</sup> St	Park Point --- 45 <sup>th</sup> St & Minnesota Ave
Franklin --- 12 <sup>th</sup> St & Minnesota Ave	Piedmont --- 2302 W 23 <sup>rd</sup> St
Grant --- 901 E 11 <sup>th</sup> St	Portland Square --- 4 <sup>th</sup> St & 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave E
Grosvenor Square --- Pitt & 49 <sup>th</sup> Ave E	Portman --- 4601 McCulloch St
Harrison --- 3002 W Third St	Riverside --- 55 Cato St
Hillside Sport Center --- 408 E 8 <sup>th</sup> St	Washington Square --- Superior St & 43 <sup>rd</sup> Ave E
Irving --- 20 S 57 <sup>th</sup> Ave W	Wheeler Field --- 35 <sup>th</sup> Ave W & Grand Ave
Keene Creek --- Bristol St & 63 <sup>rd</sup> Ave W	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) Please use the phone numbers listed or call the Parks and Recreation office at 218-730-4300.