



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division

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SUBJECT: \$50,000 Available to the Community in Parks Fund Neighborhood Grants

BY: Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator

\$50,000 Available to the Community in Parks Fund Neighborhood Grants

The City will make \$50,000 available as part of the Parks Fund to support projects and initiatives which will enhance and improve city parks and recreation. The Neighborhood Grant program is designed to provide direct support for community groups and organizations to add value in our City parks. The maximum grant to be awarded is \$5,000 per request. The City is partnering with the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation on this granting program.

Grant applications are due on April 1, 2014. To download the application, go to the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation's website at <http://www.dsacommunityfoundation.com/community-parks-and-recreation-program-1>

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee with recommendations for funding presented to the Parks Commission and then to the City Council for final approval.

Parks Fund Neighborhood Grant Projects must:

- Take place entirely or primarily on existing recognized units of Duluth's parks, recreation, and trails system;
- Support the mission of Duluth's Parks and Recreation Division to fulfill the essential recreational, educational, cultural, and environmental needs that create a dynamic community; and
- Encourage both financial and volunteer efforts.

Priority is given to projects that support one or more of the following key elements of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

- Improve the quality of existing parks (especially neighborhood parks),
- Focus on connecting the community through trails and bikeways,

- Have fewer, but higher quality recreation buildings,
- Enhance stewardship of natural resources,
- Expand partnerships with schools for community recreation and gathering,
- Increase use and recognition of volunteers and volunteer groups.

The following grants were awarded during the fall of 2013:

COGGS: Duluth Multi Use Trail Improvements and Construction \$5,000

Valley Youth Center: Memorial Park Ice Rink \$5,000

Woodland Hills-Neighborhood Youth: Winter Warmth \$5,000

Chester Bowl Improvement Club: Chester Bowl Youth Programming Improvements \$4,500

Courage Kenny Northland: Courage Kenny Northland "Mobility Mat" Project \$3,000

Duluth Area Horse Trail Alliance: Master Equestrian Trail Plan for Western Duluth \$5,000

Hartley Nature Center: Year-round Environmental Education Classroom \$5,000

Healthy Duluth Area Coalition: Cycle Aid Station Project \$5,000

Lincoln Park Business Group: Cross City Trail \$5,000

Park Point Community Club: Lafayette Summer Youth Program \$3,500

Youth of Duluth: Youth of Duluth Study Ball Program \$5,000

Duluth YMCA: Tot-Time Upgrades \$5,000

- Fall Total \$56,000
- Spring Total \$79,875
- 2013 GRANT TOTAL \$135,875

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