



PROJECTS

LAKWOOD MEADOWS PARK

Construction at Lakewood Meadows Park began this fall and the Park District is excited for warmer weather to get back to work! The park's underground service utilities are installed and the stormwater detention system is functioning as designed. Park amenities will include:

- Six Pickleball Courts
- Basketball Court
- Splash Pad
- Playground
- Large Picnic Shelter & Grill
- Games include Baggo & Ping Pong
- Outdoor Classroom
- Pollinator Garden
- Council Ring
- Loop Walking Trail

The District received an IDNR OSLAD Grant for \$600,000 used to partially fund this park project and an additional \$162,000 from Gametime/IPRA Playcore grant for playground components.



Aerial View of the new Lakewood Meadows Park under construction



LIPPOLD PARK - MICKEY SUND SPORTS COMPLEX AND BONCOSKY DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Lippold Park's Mickey Sund Sports Complex is currently under renovation. The baseball fields are receiving a facelift which includes excavating, re-aligning utilities and re-grading the area. The old fencing and backstops were removed in November and drainage improvements are under way. Stormwater management is a large component of the improvements at the Mickey Sund Sports Complex.

Field 4 will have a dirt infield and Fields 1-3 will remain with grass diamonds. Fields 1 and 2 will receive new scoreboards and all fields will have new dugout benches and bleachers.

Additionally, the Boncosky fields will have some minimal site re-grading to improve drainage.



Grading improvements at Mickey Sund Baseball Fields

DELLA PARK PLAYGROUND

The Park District held a community meeting last summer where residents viewed and shared ideas and preferences for play equipment and park amenities at the Della Street park site. The goal is to break ground in May. The project entails replacing the playground equipment and adding a challenge course. Additional amenities include a shade shelter and picnic tables, a bench, interpretive signage, baggo game, and circular stone seating area. A perimeter walking path will enable visitors to enjoy nature through an area of habitat restoration within the park. The District received an IDNR OSLAD Grant for \$329,000 to partially fund this park project.



Rendering of Della Street Park improvements to be made this summer.

WOODLAND ESTATES PARK COURTS REHABILITATION PROJECT

The District hosted a community meeting last summer and conducted an online survey to ask residents what their interests were in adding pickleball courts and a new shade shelter to the park.



Responses were in favor of adding pickleball, keeping one tennis court and the basketball court, and adding restroom facilities (enclosed porta-potty). The wood gazebo will be removed for a cluster of rounded rock benches for small gatherings on the concrete pad. A larger metal shade structure, located north of the parking lot, will offer space for family picnics. The contract was awarded last fall with project work scheduled to start this spring.



REMOVING INVASIVES

The Parks Services department has been busy this winter clearing invasive species throughout the district. This includes clearing underbrush and dead trees that are infringing on paths and ponds.

- Willows Edge
- Woods creek Park
- Woodland Estates Park
- Butternut Preserve
- Sterne's Woods and Fen
- Veteran Acres
- Lippold Park-Herrick Trail
- Shamrock Hills

Native seed mix was spread in areas that were cleared.

The Parks Services employees have been educated on land management techniques and plant identification in order to complete low disturbance ecological restoration projects.



Walnuts were removed in the fen at Sterne's Woods. This was to allow more conservative species to establish.



Invasive underbrush was removed from the west side of the Woods creek Park path to Alexandra Blvd.

'23-'28 COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN

Work continues to complete items identified as part of the 2023-2028 Comprehensive Master Plan.

Updates include:



Pickleball Expansion: Tennis court renovations now include pickleball lines and six dedicated pickleball courts will be unveiled at Lakewood Meadows Park opening this summer.

Park Services Relocation: A new facility was acquired to accommodate the Park Services department which has outgrown its location.

Racket Club Financial Plan: A five-year plan ensures the club covers operational and most capital expenses while contributing to the Park District Capital Fund. Outdoor court improvements are being repaid to the Park District Capital Fund through the club's budget.

Intergovernmental Agreements: Renewed agreements with School Districts 47 and 155 allow reciprocal use of facilities at no cost, benefiting both organizations and taxpayers.

Maintenance Facility Improvements: Completed short-term maintenance upgrades, including floor resurfacing and new roof.

Planning & Development: Playground and shelter renovation schedules have been updated, the ADA transition plan revised, a \$600,000 OSLAD grant secured for Lakewood Meadows Park and a \$329,000 OSLAD grant for Della Park.

Lakewood Meadows Park: Construction is underway, with completion expected in late spring/early summer 2025.

Park District Police Review: Evaluation of the Crystal Lake Park District Police Department confirmed the necessity to continue operations.

Environmental Monitoring: There are ongoing efforts to assess and maintain the health of Crystal Lake.

Community Engagement: The District continues to expand marketing, social media outreach, surveys, and location-specific input meetings.

Lippold Park & Boncosky Complex: Improvements are underway at the Sund Baseball Complex and drainage enhancements are being completed at Boncosky fields.

West Beach Enhancements: Planned updates include new deck and ramp railings, boat launch replacement, paved launch area and additional dry storage.



1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
Crystal Lake IL 60014

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Crystal Lake, IL
60014
Permit #28



PARK REPORT

Vol 16 Spring 2025

*****ECRWSS*****

Residential Customer

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue Crystal Lake, IL 60014
TEL: 815.459.0680 FAX: 815.477.5005

OFFICE HOURS

M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM

DRIVE THRU HOURS

M-F 8:30 AM - 12 PM

APR-JUL

SAT 9:30 AM - 12 PM

CLOSED

MONDAY, MAY 26
FRIDAY, JULY 4

CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG



OFFICE SERVICES

SEASONAL BEACH PASSES
BOAT LAUNCH KEY FOB
FISHING KEYS
WATERCRAFT STORAGE
HOUND TOWN DOG PARK KEYCARD
PROGRAM REGISTRATION
FACILITY & PICNIC SHELTER RENTALS

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ERIC ANDERSON • CATHY CAGLE
DEBBIE GALLAGHER • JASON HEISLER • KAREN JOHNSON
LINDA MATTHIAS • SARAH MICHEHL



A MESSAGE FROM
JASON HERBSTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Spring is a time of renewal, and we are excited to welcome the season with a variety of opportunities for you to enjoy through our parks, programs, and facilities. As the days grow longer and the weather warms, we encourage you to explore all that your Park District has to offer.

This spring, the commitment to enhancing park amenities continues with park improvements at Woodland Estates Park, court and shelter renovations at Woodscreek Park, fencing and field improvements at the Mickey Sund complex at Lippold Park, just to name a few.

We are looking forward to the grand opening this summer of our Lakewood Meadows Park located on Haligus Road in Lakewood. A significant step was taken to support operations by acquiring a new facility for the Park Services department. The current maintenance facility is the original facility that was constructed back when the Park District had a couple of parks and very few facilities. The new facility will allow all Park Services functions to be consolidated under one roof, resulting in a more efficiently run operation.

Three Park Board Commissioners will be leaving the Board in May. Thank you to Sarah Michehl, Linda Matthias and Eric Anderson for their service and leadership to the community for the past four years. Much has been accomplished under their leadership.

As always, we encourage you to stay engaged and share your feedback. Whether you are enjoying a scenic trail, attending a community event, or participating in a program, your input helps shape the future of our Park District. Thank you for your continued support-we look forward to seeing you out and about this spring!

REGISTER ONLINE FOR SUMMER CAMPS

DAY CAMP
YOUTH SPORTS
AQUATICS
STEM
DANCE
THEATRE

VISIT OUR ONLINE
DIGITAL GUIDE



SAT APRIL 26
8:30-9:30 AM



MEET AT McCORMICK PARK

RAIN OR SHINE

GROUPS LARGER THAN 8 SHOULD CONTACT
PRESTON AT PSKULTETY@CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG

An Illinois law regulating low-speed electric scooters went into effect on August 9, 2024. The Crystal Lake Park District does not authorize the use of low-speed scooters on park district property.



SEASONAL JOBS

The Crystal Lake Park District was recently voted one of the best employers of teens in McHenry County. Job openings can be found at crystallakeparks.org/ABOUT_US/JOBS.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:

Summer Camp Counselor
Lifeguards & Beach Staff
Golf Learning Center
Tennis Instructors/Pros
Concessions Staff
Parks Grounds & Laborers



BOAT LAUNCH KEY FOB LAKE USAGE DECALS

APR 1, 2025-MAR 31, 2026
Park District Residents Only

In order to place your watercraft (i.e. boats, jet skis, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, inflatables etc) on Crystal Lake, from either a public or private launch, you must be a resident of Crystal Lake or Village of Lakewood or reside in the Crystal Lake Park District boundaries. Park District resident boat owners must purchase a new key fob each year to use the Main or West Beach launch ramps.

All watercraft must enter through the launch gate. Residents living on the lake who wish to use the launch once at the beginning and end of the season should contact 815.459.0680 x 0 for access. **LAUNCH OF ANY WATERCRAFT VIA KAMIJIMA PARK IS PROHIBITED.** One launch key fob per household. The boat must be registered to the resident's address regardless of dual ownership.

Key fobs are not available to personally owned businesses, rental or vacant property owners in Crystal Lake whose primary residence is not Crystal Lake.

Daily admission fees apply to the permit holder and all guests wanting to use the beach and swimming areas at Main or West beach.

Both boat launch key fobs and lake usage decals are sold at the Administration Office. **BOAT LAUNCH KEY FOBs WILL NOT BE SOLD WITHOUT THE PURCHASE OF LAKE USAGE DECALS.** Fobs and Decals will only be sold to the Park District Resident listed on the Watercraft Registration Card. The following information must be provided in order to purchase fobs and decals.

WATERCRAFT OWNERS NEED TO PROVIDE:

- Proof of Residency: Current Driver's License or State ID
- Current Illinois Watercraft Registration Card(s) OR
- Current IDNR Application Renewal Receipt (s)
 - A photo of the Illinois Watercraft Sticker will not be accepted.
 - Information on documents must match.
 - Proof of Horsepower is required. If the horsepower is not listed on the registration card or on the original bill of sale, the decal fee will be \$200.

BOAT LAUNCH ACCESS KEY FOB FEES:

\$90 (18 Yrs - 59 Yrs) | \$45 (60+ Yrs) | \$15 Replacement Fob

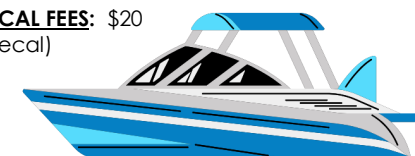
MOTORIZED WATERCRAFT DECAL FEE:

0-39HP \$50 | >40-99HP \$75 | >100-199HP \$125
>200+ or Unspecified HP \$200

NON-MOTORIZED WATERCRAFT DECAL FEES: \$20

REPLACEMENT DECAL: \$1 (w/old decal)

Accepted Payment:
Check, Cash, or Credit Card



DATES TO REMEMBER

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

- FRI MAR 21: LIPPOLD PARK BATTING CAGES OPEN
- WEEK OF MAR 24: SPOERL PARK & VETERAN ACRES COURTS OPEN
- TUE APR 1: HOUND TOWN KEY FOB RENEWAL
- TUE APR 1: WATERCRAFT DRY STORAGE RENTAL
- SAT APR 5: LIPPOLD FAMILY GOLF CENTER OPENS
- TUE MAY 6: SUMMER REGISTRATION BEGINS
- SAT MAY 24: MAIN BEACH OPENS