Old tennis balls have been donated to Global
HOW FAR OUR TENNIS BALLS HAVE TRAVELED!
affecting by the earthquake.

In an effort to enhance communication, we will be mailing bi-annual newsletters to update the community on capital projects and to answer questions you as a Park District resident may have. We welcome any suggestions for future publications.

Please email at jhertster@crystallakeparks.org.

To improve the quality of fishing in Crystal Lake and other park ponds, the Crystal Lake Park District regularly stocks a variety of species following a plan developed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

In 2019, Crystal Lake, Willows Edge, Shamrock Hills and Veteran Acres ponds will be stocked and a creel survey will be conducted to help determine future fishing stockings needs of Crystal Lake and ponds.

2018 CRYSTAL LAKE

10" Northern Pike
15-18" Tiger Muskie
3.5-4" Redear Sunfish
3.5-4" Walleye

2018 SHAMROCK HILLS

1-1.5" B. Largemouth Bass
1.4-1.6" Channel Catfish
3.8-4.5" Largemouth Bass
6.1-11" Channel Catfish
8-8.5" Hybrid Sunfish
4" 5" 8" 10" 12" 15" 20" 25" 30" 35" 40" 45" 50" 55" 60" 65" 70" 75" 80" 85" 90" 95" 100"

In an effort to enhance communication, we will be mailing bi-annual newsletters to update the community on capital projects and to answer questions you as a Park District resident may have. We welcome any suggestions for future publications.

Please email at jhertster@crystallakeparks.org.

Boating on Crystal Lake

IN ORDER TO PURCHASE A CARD YOU MUST PROVIDE:
- A CURRENT ILLINOIS DRIVER’S LICENSE
- ILLINOIS WATERCRAFT REGISTRATION CARD

PURCHASED JAN 2-LABOR DAY
- SENIORS (AGES 60 & OLDER) $40
- LABOR DAY $80
- ALL CARD FEES $15

How far our tennis balls have traveled!

Old tennis balls have been donated to Global

The Park District seeks your feedback so that we can continue to meet the community’s evolving needs. We are conducting a community survey to better understand and serve you through our park system, facilities, programs and events.

We have selected A-Qity Research & Insights (an independent research firm) to conduct this survey. Randomly selected households will receive a survey invitation in the mail in the next few weeks. If you receive one, please follow the instructions to complete it as we hope to have a strong response from the community.

If you are not part of the random household selection, there will be plenty of opportunities for you to complete a survey after the random sample has had time to complete their surveys. This way all Park District households will have the opportunity to provide feedback. Thank you in advance for your participation!

The Crystal Lake Park District

Values your opinion!

Dandelions

Why are there so many dandelions in our parks?

For a few weeks each spring, the Park District is asked the question “Why are there so many dandelions in our parks?” The Park District strives to balance the well-being of all residents with the aesthetics and safety of our parks.

We purposefully do not spray weed killer in most of our parks because broad applications of pesticides can be considered harmful to those who come in prolonged contact with the pesticide. In addition, parks provide water absorption which eventually infiltrates into many areas including groundwater and Crystal Lake. These weed killing products can impact aquatic invertebrates.

The Crystal Lake Park District seeks your feedback so that we can continue to meet the community’s evolving needs. We are conducting a community survey to better understand and serve you through our park system, facilities, programs and events.

We have selected A-Qity Research & Insights (an independent research firm) to conduct this survey. Randomly selected households will receive a survey invitation in the mail in the next few weeks. If you receive one, please follow the instructions to complete it as we hope to have a strong response from the community.

If you are not part of the random household selection, there will be plenty of opportunities for you to complete a survey after the random sample has had time to complete their surveys. This way all Park District households will have the opportunity to provide feedback. Thank you in advance for your participation!

The Crystal Lake Park District

Values your opinion!

Dandelions supply honeybees with pollen. By spraying the flowers, pesticides are introduced into bee hives.

So next time you see a dandelion, make a wish and know that in a few weeks the dandelions will disappear for another year!
In 2018 the Crystal Lake Park District applied for and was granted the FIRST AND ONLY Wetland Restoration Fund grant, overseen by the McHenry County Technical Advisory Committee. The total cost of the project was $138,810, with all but $20,000 being provided by the Wetland Restoration Fund.

WHAT IS THE PROJECT?
The project consists of 7.81 acres of wetland restoration involving hydrologic modifications and invasive species control. The wetland enhancement plan includes the installation of grade control structures constructed of rip rap within eroded channels to create a more diffuse water flow and raise the local water table. Clearing of invasive woody vegetation that compromises the fen hydrology and contributes to the channel erosion was a key component of the overall plan.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED?
Phase 2 of the project commenced in 2018 with invasive species control during the growing season. The grade control structures were installed and in early 2019 the woody vegetation clearing was completed. Native seeding will be completed in the spring of 2019 that will be followed by a five year period of management and maintenance. The improvements are designed to have no influence on off-site flooding potential. The primary benefits of Phase 2 include reducing bank erosion by slowing flow velocities in the eroded channels, improving outflow water quality, restoring fen hydrology and biological diversity enhancements through the removal of invasive species and re-establishment of rare native fen vegetation.

UPCOMING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Asbury Park – Following the park district’s playground replacement plan, the existing playground at Asbury Park will be removed and replaced. Neighbors and other members of the public will be invited to a planning meeting to share ideas and suggestions for the new playground. The planning for this project will begin later in 2019.

Veteran Acres Oakwoods Lodge Parking Lot – The small parking area near the pond at Veteran Acres will be renovated to improve parking conditions and alleviate flooding that causes the lot to be unusable.

PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Spoerl Park – The tennis courts and basketball court at Spoerl Park are being rebuilt due to large cracks and uneven surfaces which made play difficult and created trip hazards. Work will proceed throughout the spring with the goal of opening the new courts in early June.

Feinberg Park – The tennis court at Feinberg Park will be crack-filled and resurfaced in the near future. Additionally, the basketball court will be overlaid with asphalt then resurfaced due to cracks, low spots and poor playing surface. Work will begin soon with the goal of opening the courts in early June.

Rocket Club – The paved area around the front entrance of the club will be renovated to improve handicap accessibility. This includes moving the handicap accessible parking spaces from their existing location and closer to the front door, changing grade and slope of existing areas of pavement, and altering the curbs and sidewalks in a few locations.

Shamrock Hills Park – The existing driveway will be widened and parking will be added to provide public access to the park. Future plans for remodeling the building for public use are underway but are currently not funded.

Wyndwood Park – The tennis court at Wyndwood Park is being rebuilt due to large cracks and uneven surfaces which has made play difficult. In addition, at the request of neighborhood residents, a basketball court is being added. Work will proceed throughout the spring with the goal of opening the new courts in early June.