

# EMPLOYMENT

The Crystal Lake Park District has been impacted by staffing issues similar to all other businesses in our community. We continue to struggle to fill important positions throughout the Park District and encourage anyone looking for a fun and rewarding job to visit the Crystal Lake Park District website to see what position might peak your interest.

Summer positions along with year round positions are available at highly competitive wages. **Where else better to work than for an organization whose mission is to enrich all lives through recreation, parks and nature – in other words, providing fun!**



## SUMMER JOBS

FLEXIBLE HOURS

ABOVE AVERAGE PAY!

- Beach Manager & Staff
- Head Lifeguard & Lifeguard
- Swim Lesson Instructor
- Watercraft Instructor
- Day Camp Counselor
- Camp Extended Time Aide
- Concession Staff
- Golf Center Assistant Manger
- Golf Center Range Attendant
- Summer Tennis Instructor
- Racket Club Summer Grounds Maintenance
- Parks Seasonal Laborer
- Facility Maintenance/Custodian
- Field Maintenance/Special Events Supervisor

# APPLY TODAY!

**CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG**  
**JOIN US TAB**  
**JOB & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**  
**ONLINE JOB PORTAL BUTTON**

# TAX LEVY



## 2021 CRYSTAL LAKE PARK DISTRICT TAX LEVY

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the 2021 tax levy was 1.4%. According to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL), the Crystal Lake Park District is able to increase the tax levy of the capped funds by the CPI or 5%, whichever is less. The Park Board of Commissioners approved a flat levy with new growth.

**What this means is the Crystal Lake Park District did not collect the full dollar amount it was entitled to under the PTELL, providing a savings to property tax payers.**

# FIREWOOD SALE

**SAT APR 2 8-11 AM**

**LIPPOLD PARK MAINTENANCE GARAGE**

**\$75 for 150 pieces Code: 231602-07**

**\$40 for 75 pieces Code: 231602-08**

**REGISTER IN ADVANCE AT CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG**



# VANDALISM

Unfortunately over the past year, we have all seen the problems that vandals create, including porta-potties tipped over, a bike repair station stolen from Woods creek Park, spray-painted picnic tables and picnic shelter, fixtures removed from public restrooms and deliberately dismantled playground equipment. Vandalism is not only a nuisance, it is also costly and dangerous.

The Crystal Lake Park District's full-time year-round park police department works closely with the City of Crystal Lake and Village of Lakewood Police to keep your parks and facilities safe. As we head towards warmer weather, patrol time is maximized as we expect increased park usage, especially on nights and weekends.

**Please....if you see something, say something.**

**If you live near one of our parks and have information concerning a criminal damage incident, please use one of the methods below to contact us:**

**If an act of vandalism is in progress: CALL 911**  
**SEECOM DISPATCH: 815-356-1114**  
**Park District Phone: 815-459-0680**  
**Email: Chief John Longo, jlongo@crystallakeparks.org**

# PROJECTS

## NEW PLAYGROUNDS IN THREE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Six of our neighborhood and community park playgrounds are getting a big upgrade this spring!

New poured-in-place rubber safety surfacing will be installed at Woods creek (Crystal Castle Playground), Veteran Acres (Acorn Alley) and Woodland Estate Parks. Warm weather is needed to install this type of surfacing, so projects will take place in May or June. Notices will be placed at each playground within 2-3 weeks of project start date.

The playgrounds at Kamijima, Brighton Oaks and Lapins parks will be completely replaced. The designs for the new playground equipment were derived after neighborhood meetings and online input. These projects are expected to begin in April and be completed in June. Visit our 'Project Update' website page for construction start dates.

## VETERAN ACRES TENNIS COURTS

A major facelift project started late last year at the Veteran Acres tennis courts. New paving, fencing and lighting have been installed. Once the weather turns warm, the colored surfacing and lines can be applied and the courts will be reopened to the public. Since the final stage of construction is dependent on the weather, expect the courts will be closed until May. We apologize for the inconvenience, but players will definitely appreciate the improvements!



Brighton Oaks Playground Concept (partial)



Veteran Acres Tennis Courts



## PARK DISTRICT AWARDED EXHIBIT GRANT

The Crystal Lake Park District was notified on February 15, 2022 that it has received a grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to fund all new interpretive exhibits at the Nature Center. **The \$363,000 grant covers 100% of the costs of the new exhibits.**

The new exhibits will be the final phase of several improvements that have taken place at the Nature over the past several years. This past winter, the Nature Center received a much needed facelift which included new offices and program area upgrades.

Watch for project updates on our website and Park District social media.



## DIRECTOR OF PARK DEVELOPMENT AND INTERPRETIVE SERVICES RETIRES



Ann Viger

For over 30 years, Ann Viger has been responsible for the improvements to the parks, playgrounds, natural areas and facilities throughout the Crystal Lake Park District. In her role as Director of Park Development and Interpretive Services, she was responsible for securing more than \$1 million in grant funding for park development during her tenure.

Ann spearheaded the replacement of every playground and park renovation. In 1994, Operation Playground was created and through Ann's tireless efforts in fundraising and volunteer recruitment, popular wooden playgrounds at Main Beach and Woods creek Park were constructed. Ann lead several facility projects that featured the new West Beach facility, the renovation to the Main Beach building, the installation of the turf fields at Lippold Park, the development of Lippold Park, renovations at the Nature Center and Colonel Palmer House to name just a few.

In addition to her role at the Park District, Ann has been extremely active in the community serving as an active Board Member for the Chamber of Commerce, an Ambassador for the Chamber of Commerce, served on the City of Crystal Lake Economic Development Commission and is the current Vice President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society. Ann was also past president of the American Society of Landscape Architects. With Ann's departure, two things are known for sure - Ann will be greatly missed by the Crystal Lake community in her role at the Park District and her incredible impact in the park, facility and natural areas of the Crystal Lake Park District.

**Thank you, Ann, for your years of dedicated service to the community. Enjoy!**





1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue  
Crystal Lake IL 60014

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# PARK REPORT

Vol 9 Spring 2022

\*\*\*\*\*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

AUG-MAR  
WED 5 - 6 PM

### CLOSED

MONDAY, MAY 30  
MONDAY, JULY 4

CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG



### OFFICE SERVICES

SEASONAL BEACH PASSES  
BOAT LAUNCH KEY FOB  
FISHING KEYS  
WATERCRAFT STORAGE  
HOUND TOWN DOG PARK KEY CARD  
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

As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic (hopefully for the last time), programs, facilities and parks throughout the Crystal Lake Park District are busy. An indicator that the community is ready to move on from where we have been for the past two years, is the higher than normal enrollment in several program areas. Many programs are seeing numbers exceeding pre-pandemic levels. Even with the winter weather, parks and trails remain busy all hours of the day.

A positive that has been borne from the COVID-19 pandemic is that the value of parks and recreation and the importance it plays in everyone's life has been re-established. The physical, mental and social benefits of the opportunities provided by the Crystal Lake Park District are endless for all ages. An art class, a walk on a trail, sports, dance, special events, martial arts, camp, active adult programs, fitness classes, a swim in the lake – the list goes on – enhances the quality of all lives whether we recognize it or not.

As preparations are well underway for the summer of 2022, we encourage you to take some time for yourself to enjoy what your Park District has to offer you to improve your quality of life. The digital Winter/Spring activity guide can be found on the Crystal Lake Park District website along with the Summer Camp guide. If there is something we are not offering that is of interest to you, please reach out and let us know. Be safe and remember to take time for fun... you deserve it!

## CHILDCARE INFO



### MONTHLY ONLINE PAYMENTS

If you have a student registered in our Extended Time program, monthly payments may be paid online. Statements will be emailed the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Instructions can be found on our website under the 'Extended Time/Billing Info' tab.

### CHILDCARE TAX STATEMENTS

Childcare tax statements were emailed January 18 to households that participate in our Summer Day Care and Extended Time programs. Please check your spam folder in the event you have not received your statement.

## MASTER PLAN



The Crystal Lake Park District has embarked on a Comprehensive Master Planning process that will take place over the course of 2022. The end result of the process will be a plan used to guide the Park District over the next 5+ years in providing services and making improvements throughout the Park District based on the information gathered. A statistically accurate survey will be conducted along with informal surveys to assist in gathering important information to guide this process. Community focus groups will also be used to provide the necessary feedback.

As we work through this process, updates and notifications of focus group meetings will be posted on our website, social media, newsletters, and other ways we connect with our residents. The COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced that the services of the Crystal Lake Park District are critical to the health and well-being of the community and the timing of input from the community could not be better.



# REGISTER ONLINE FOR CAMPS TODAY!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

- FRI MAR 25: LIPPOLD PARK BATTING CAGES OPEN
- MON APR 4: SPOERL PARK PICKLEBALL COURTS OPEN
- SAT APR 9: LIPPOLD FAMILY GOLF CENTER OPENS
- MON APR 18: SPRING SOFTBALL LEAGUE STARTS
- MON MAY 2: SUMMER REGISTRATION BEGINS
- SAT MAY 28: MAIN AND WEST BEACH OPEN



PLEASE HELP CLEAN UP OUR COMMUNITY PARKS AND NEIGHBORHOODS!

SAT APRIL 23 8:30 AM-1 PM



MEET AT MCCORMICK PARK

RAIN OR SHINE  
LARGE GROUPS CAN CONTACT  
JOHN AT 815.351.9080



### NEW FOUNDATION FORMED TO SUPPORT THE PARK DISTRICT

A group of community members have come together to form the Crystal Lake Parks Initiative Foundation (CLPIF). The purpose of the foundation is to raise funds to support efforts above and beyond the normal means of the Park District. Fundraising efforts will support projects and initiatives for Crystal Lake Park District parks.

The CLPIF's first big fundraising event will be the reinvention of the Cardboard Regatta at Main Beach on July 23. The volunteer Board of Directors are Bryan Younge, Michele Hartwig, Felicia White, Jeff Goodmanson, Shawn Zimmerman, Shawn Tegtmeier and Beth Alberger.



Interested in becoming involved with the CLPIF?

Visit the Foundation website for more information  
[crystallakeparksinitiative.com](http://crystallakeparksinitiative.com)

CARDBOARD REGATTA  
SAT JULY 23