



1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
Crystal Lake IL 60014

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PARK REPORT

Vol 7 Summer 2021

*****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

APRIL 3-AUG 28, 2021
SATURDAYS 9:30 AM-12 PM

SEPT 1, 2021-MARCH 30, 2022
WEDNESDAYS 5-6:30 PM

CLOSED

MONDAY, JULY 5
MONDAY, SEPT 6
MONDAY, OCT 11

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 the Crystal Lake Park District and community emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, much has changed in a year.

Financially, the Park District experienced significant loss of revenue from program and user fees, but the changes made to operations allowed the Crystal Lake Park District to emerge in good shape.

Here's what happened, how the Park District responded, and what can be expected moving forward:

- The Crystal Lake Park District's approach was to follow the Restore Illinois Plan and apply it to the services, programs and operations of the organization. When services were able to be restored per the plan, they were done as soon as possible with safety as the top priority as has always been the case at the Crystal Lake Park District.
- While opening operations, programs and services was a priority, financial management of the Crystal Lake Park District was equally as important.
- The Crystal Lake Park District is funded in two ways; approximately 50% taxes and 50% user fees. The tax revenue was critical in maintaining the Crystal Lake Park District's ability to maintain and provide essential services like playgrounds, parks and trails.
- With the lack of fees being generated due to the mandated shut down, significant changes were made to operations to reduce expenses. No seasonal staff were hired in the Park Services Maintenance Department, many projects were placed on hold or eliminated and a spending freeze was implemented on all items deemed non-essential. Minimal seasonal staff were hired for beach operations, day camps and the Lippold Family Golf Center once those areas were allowed to operate per the Restore Illinois Plan.
- Due to these actions, the Crystal Lake Park District 2020-2021 fiscal year budget is showing operations ending in the black while the approved 2020-2021 budget had planned to end up in the red.
- Projects placed on hold or eliminated last year will hopefully be completed this year along with additional improvements to the parks throughout the community.
- The 2021-2022 budget will show a bottom line loss due to intended spend down of fund balance to complete needed projects throughout the Crystal Lake Park District.

The Crystal Lake Park Board of Commissioners and staff greatly appreciate the community's patience and understanding as we have all worked together to navigate our way through these challenging times. Here's to a great summer!



NEW COMMISSIONERS

On April 6, 2021, four new commissioners were elected to the Crystal Lake Park District Board.

The Board meets at 6:30 pm on third Thursday of each month. These meetings are open to the public and take place at the Park District Administration Office, 1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue. Agendas, meeting minutes and presentations are available for review at crystallakeparks.org/boardinfo.



Eric Anderson



Karen Johnson



Photo
Coming
Soon

Linda Matthias



Sarah Michehl

4TH OF JULY
FIREWORKS AND CONCERT
SUN JULY 4
MAIN BEACH
300 LAKESHORE DRIVE, CL

9 am-2:30 pm
Regular
Beach Admissions

After 2:30 pm
\$5 per person
Children under 3 free



Jun 1 Soda	Cover Band	100 Yr. Commemorative Cup
Jun 8 CL Community Band	Community	Stand Up for Crystal Lake
Jun 15 Mason Rivers	Country	Dress Country Line Dance Lessons
Jun 22 The Millennials	Cover/Rock	Crystal Lake Trivia Contest
Jun 29 Voices in Harmony	Community	Karaoke Fun
Jul 6 Peftycash	Tribute/Oldies	Hula Hoop Contest
Jul 13 Classical Blast	Classical Rock	Light Up the Lake
Jul 20 Russler & Beach Bum Band	Caribbean	Dress Caribbean Limbo Contest
Jul 27 CL Community Band	Community	Crystal Lake Food Drive
Aug 3 The Jolly Ringwalds	80s Cover Band	Guess 80s Songs
Aug 10 Nerdvana	90s Cover Band	Dress Nerdy

IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, THE DECISION TO CANCEL THE CONCERT WILL BE MADE AT 4 PM. SIGN UP AT RAINOURLINE.COM FOR ALERTS OR CALL 815.410.4475

PARK PARTNERS: BAIRD & WARNER (PRIGGE), DUNKIN CL, HOME STATE BANK, HUNTINGTON LEARNING CENTER, KELLER WILLIAMS (GOODALE/ORMSETH), NORTHWEST HERALD, ROTARY CLUB OF CRYSTAL LAKE DAWNBREAKERS, STAR 105.5, VINEYARDS CHURCH

CELEBRATING 100
JOIN THE PARK DISTRICT AND T-MOBILE TRUCK TEAM FROM 6:30-7 PM FOR FUN TRIVIA CONTESTS AND PRIZES!
T-Mobile
FREE TUESDAY CONCERTS BEGIN AT 7 PM

MAIN BEACH

300 LAKESHORE DRIVE, CRYSTAL LAKE
815.477.5404

REGULAR SEASON

Jun 5 - Aug 12 (7 days/week)
Beach closed 8/13 due to special event

9 am - Dusk

POST SEASON

Weekends only
(Aug 14 & 15, 21 & 22, 28 & 29, Sep 4-6)

11 am - 6 pm

WEST BEACH

2330 LAKE AVENUE, CRYSTAL LAKE
815.477.5009

REGULAR SEASON

Jun 5 - Aug 13 (7 days/week)

10 am - 7 pm

A handicap beach wheelchair is available at both Main and West Beach. Please contact the Beach Office for further information at 815.477.5404.

FIREWOOD SALE



Each spring and fall, the Environmental Committee hosts a firewood sale from dead trees cleared by Park Services. Wood will be seasoned anywhere from 4-12 months and primarily consist of oak. You load and haul from the **Lippold Park Maintenance Building**.

SAT JUNE 26 8-11 AM

REGISTER IN ADVANCE AT CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG

\$75 for 150 pieces Code: 231602-03
\$40 for 75 pieces Code: 231602-04

What is done with the money collected from firewood sales?

A native pollinator garden is being planted in the grass triangle in front of the Main Beach parking lot. This low lying area often floods, limiting the types of plants that can thrive.

As the bee population has continued to decline, the Committee is focused on creating a little oasis for pollinating insects to flourish.



Park District staff volunteered their time on May 12 to plant!



Thank You

RANDY KNIPFEL

Randy Knipfel, Parks Facility Supervisor, recently retired after 42 years of dedicated service. Randy started as a laborer when attending high school and moved up the ranks through the decades.

Randy was instrumental in the maintenance and care of sports fields, beaches and buildings. Randy's easy going nature and commitment to the Park District and community will be missed by all.



100 TREES

As one of the numerous 100th anniversary celebrations planned for 2021, the Crystal Lake Park District is planting 100 trees throughout the park system. Tree planting took place in May and featured a variety of species, many of them native to northern Illinois. Trees were planted at:

Main Beach (near the parking lot)
Spoerl Park
Feinberg Park
Asbury Park
Ladd Park
Woodland Estates Park
Four Colonies Park
Sam Johns Park



Look for temporary tags on each new tree to identify the species. Last year the Park District Board of Commissioners adopted an Urban Forest Management Plan that outlined goals for the planting and maintenance of trees throughout the park system. This 100 tree planting project follows those recommendations.

CHAIR FAIR!

While visiting Main Beach this summer, you may notice a lot of uniquely decorated Adirondack chairs sprinkled throughout the park. Thank you to the more than 60 local businesses who participated in our 100 Year Anniversary Chair Fair. Each business decorated their chair any way they wished. The chairs will remain on site through the summer season-and possibly beyond.



Relax this summer in one of the decorated chairs!

Send us your summer photos!
[#mainbeachchairfair](https://twitter.com/mainbeachchairfair)



ANYONE WHO WORKED AS CAMP STAFF IS WELCOME!
RSVP AT CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG/NEWS/CAMPSTAFFREUNION

PROJECTS

Ladd Park Playground

The playground at Ladd Park, located in the Coventry neighborhood between Devonshire and Coventry Drives, has undergone a radical transformation. The old playground (ca 1996) was removed and new equipment is being installed.



The new playground was designed with wonderful input from the neighboring community and will exceed handicap accessibility standards. Ladd Park will be the first playground in the Park District with a stand-alone zip line and a wheelchair swing. New benches and picnic tables are included in the playground layout.

Park Entrance Signs

New illuminated signs have been installed at the entrance to some of the major parks – Veteran Acres, Main Beach and Lippold Park. The signs feature the new Crystal Lake Park District logo and are energy efficient.



Future Projects

The following projects are tentatively slated for the next 12-18 months. Keep an eye on the Project Update section on our website for more detailed information and timelines.

- Major renovation of the **Veteran Acres Tennis and Basketball Courts**, including new pavement, lighting and fencing.
- Installation of lights on the **Spoerl Park Pickleball Courts**.
- Remodeled reception desk and offices and new exhibits at the **Nature Center**.
- New handicap accessible playground safety surfacing at **Veteran Acres and Woods creek Parks**.
- New playgrounds at **Brighton Oaks, Kamijima and Lapins Parks**.
- Remodeled food service area at **Main Beach**.

SUMMER AT A GLANCE

CONCERTS IN THE PARK PRESENTED BY T-MOBILE
Information located on back page of the newsletter.

BIKE WITH YOUR NEIGHBOR
SUN JUNE 13 12-2:30 pm

MAIN BEACH

Hosted by the City of Crystal Lake Sustainability Committee, Bike with your Neighbor showcases three fun bike routes for all ages! Stop back at Main Beach after the ride for prize drawings and a Bike Safety Rodeo hosted by the Crystal Lake Park District Police.

100 YRS OF FUN
SAT JULY 10 11 am-3 pm

COLONEL PALMER HOUSE

Stop by the Palmer House at 660 E. Terra Cotta Avenue for an action-packed, free celebration of parks and recreation. We will have exhibits, demonstrations, crafts and activities featuring 1800s fun!

FRIDAY THE 13TH FEST
FRI AUG 13 5:30-10 pm 21+

MAIN BEACH

TICKETS: \$15/PERSON AT EVENTBRITE.COM

Wait, what? An adult evening dedicated to Jason and a campy 80s slasher movie...on CRYSTAL LAKE? Get your freak on by attending our Friday the 13th Fest loaded with bloody fun!

Hang out with friends in our beautiful park, play some games and listen to Acoustical Explosion. Games: Human Foosball, Hatchet Throwing, Archery, Board Games. At dusk, enjoy the Friday the 13th movie on the large screen with experiential surprises!

A beer garden featuring a special *Camp Crystal Lake* beer brewed by CL Brewing and seltzers available. Food trucks include Your Sister's Tomato, Fork 'N Fry Poutine, Toasty Cheese and Brothers' BBQ. Julie Ann's is crafting a special Friday the 13th custard for the evening as well.

No outside beverages or food allowed. Rain or shine. No boats.

CLOSED ALL DAY: Main Beach swim area and Main Beach north picnic area.

West Beach swim area open 10 am-7 pm and boat launch open.

MONARCHS & MUSIC
SUN AUG 15 12:30-4:30 pm

MAIN BEACH

The Monarch Coalition brings to the beach an engaging Monarch Fair loaded with activities, games and monarch education. Buy a pollinator plant and help us repopulate the monarchs! Wander to the band shell where we will be showcasing local bands for your entertainment.



Old Asbury Park Playground Now in Thailand

After the new Asbury Park playground was installed last year, the old playground found a new home halfway across the globe! The Park District works cooperatively with Kids Around the World, an organization that facilitates the delivery and installation of used playgrounds. Our playground was installed at a school in Chiang Mai Thailand.

