

City of Johnston Parks & Recreation 2010 Summary



In spite of the weather challenges that 2010 provided, the Johnston Parks and Recreation Department was able to keep the parks and trails well maintained and even add some amenities. Two new picnic shelters, a parking lot, a basketball court and a trail extension were some of the completed projects. A major renovation of Crown Point Community Center started and a Management Plan was developed for the Beaver Creek Natural Resource Area.

The Johnston Parks and Recreation Department offers parks and trails that benefit the community by providing natural settings, open space and recreational opportunities for people to get outdoors and work on healthy lifestyles. The Department also provides two facilities, Crown Point Community Center and the Simpson Barn, that can be rented for family gatherings, special events or neighborhood get-togethers.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments and get out and enjoy your facilities.

Ron Ward
Parks and Recreation Director

Partnerships

Polk County Senior Dining Site at Crown Point Community Center	Johnston Station Historical Society
St. James Lutheran Church for temporary site for Senior Dining Site	Johnston Lions Club for Farmers Market and Residential Tree Program
Johnston Partnership for a Healthy Community for Clothes Closet at Crown Point and Food Pantry	Johnston Chamber of Commerce for trail sign donation
Johnston Little League	Bike Iowa supporting "Bike to Work Week"
Johnston Girls Softball Association	Iowa Parks and Recreation Association as a co-host for the IPRA's Fall Workshop
Johnston Community School District Community Education	

Park & Trail Development

- Lew Clarkson Park trail extended to NW 54th Ave.
- Pointe Vista Park added a parking lot, basketball court and a picnic shelter
- Ray Schleihs Park added a picnic shelter and park signs
- Crown Point Community Center remodeling, Phase 1 began

Park & Trail Planning

- Parks and Recreation chapter of the City's Comprehensive Plan updated
- Beaver Creek Natural Resource Area Management Plan developed
- Beaver Drive Trail study initiated
- Augustine Trail design and engineering
- Providence Point Park development planned

Trail Maintenance

- Green Meadows Greenbelt Trail concrete leveled
- Beaver Creek Greenbelt Trail flood repair
- Northglenn/Morningside Park trail repair
- Ashton Point trail repair
- Trail signs purchased from Iowa Prison Industries

Urban Forestry

- Staff planted 40 trees
- 60 tree removals by staff
- 24 tree removals by contractor
- 90 stumps ground
- 160 trees sold in the annual Residential Tree Program
- Spring and fall brush and limb drop off days at Public Works Facility
- Trimmed trees in parks, greenbelts, along trails and on street right of way
- Finished tree inventory of trees on city property
- Updated Tree Ordinance brochure
- Held an invasive plant removal workday in the Beaver Creek Natural Resource Area



Beaver Creek Natural Resource Center



Retaining walls at Green Meadows



Improvements on Lew Clarkson Trail



Pointe Vista Park basketball court



Pointe Vista Park parking lot

The City of Johnston maintains 15 parks and more than 30 miles of trails.



Pointe Vista shelter



Ray Schleih's shelter



Eagle Scout project at Rittger's Oaks



Residential tree program



Bike rodeo



Bike rodeo

Park Maintenance

Cleaned up, graded and installed riprap to Adventure Ridge Park retention basin

Installed a speed bump on the Lew Clarkson Park drive

Installed heaters, hand dryers and baby changing stations to Lew Clarkson Park restrooms

Removed failing retaining wall in Green Meadows Greenbelt and replaced wall

Installed Red Twig Dogwood bushes in the Green Meadows Greenbelt

Grant Applications

MidAmerican Trees Please! Program, received \$2,000

Des Moines Area MPO Surface Transportation Program, Transportation Enhancement for Beaver Drive Trail for \$400,000

Staff Training

Shade Tree Short Course at Iowa State

Commercial Applicator License

Safety training on blood borne pathogens, hazard communication, CPR/AED, and personal protective equipment

IPRA Spring Conference in Sioux City

IPRA Fall Workshop in West Des Moines

NRPA Nation Conference in Minneapolis

Connected Green Meadows Greenbelt playground to trail system

Removed old plant material from Green Meadows Greenbelt planters and installed daylilies

Removed bushes from 59th Court

Cleaned flood debris from trails

Planted Red Twig Dogwoods along north side of City Hall parking lot

Prepared Crown Point Community Center for remodeling

Special Events

Green Days

Family Bike Round-Up

Farmers Market

Helped 5 organizations plan fundraiser walk/run events

Eagle Scout Projects

Pointe Vista Park pond trial and landscaping project was completed

Rittgers' Oaks landscaping project completed

Facility Rentals

Dewey Park Shelters - Rented 76 times

Simpson Barn - Rented 705 hrs.

Crown Point - Rented 1714 hrs.

(Closed Sept. 1, 2010 for remodeling)

Routine Maintenance

Mow and trim 163 acres of parks, trails, cemeteries, and common areas

Inspect and repair playground equipment

Monitor 30 miles of recreational trails

Maintain lights in the Green Meadows Greenbelt and Crown Point parking lot

Snow removal (during 3rd snowiest winter on record)

Litter pick up and trash removal, including pet waste stations

Locate cemetery plots

Custodial duties at Crown Point, Simpson Barn, Lew Clarkson and Dewey Park restrooms, and (6) picnic shelters

Maintain electrical, plumbing, HVAC systems in park buildings

Maintain medians on Merle Hay Road, 62nd Ave, 70th Ave, Pioneer Parkway, and 86th Street

Clean drainage flume in Green Meadows Greenbelt

Mulch around tree on city properties

Maintain irrigation systems on Merle Hay Road and at the Library

Repair vandalism damage

Turf maintenance: applied 29,280 lbs. of fertilizer, applied 60 gallons of weed control, aerification

Water new trees

Sweep trails and parking lots

Maintain vehicles and equipment

Winterize park buildings (Dewey, Lew Clarkson, Terra Lodge)

Parks and Recreation Department

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