



PARKS MONTHLY UPDATE, AUGUST 2021
PARKS / CEMETERY / AQUATICS / CAMPGROUND / TRAILS

Park and Recreation

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This month in the park department, the rangers have been mowing and trimming all the properties. I have been working and submitted the REAP grant proposal this month as the DNR switched their format the month that the grant is due. Progress is ongoing with the trail in the northwest part of town as they have rounded the corner of Great Western Avenue and are headed east on 6th street. Jay completed maintenance at the pool replacing a set of blind in the concession area and the required monthly bacteria sample was taken. The aquatic center had two more pool parties this last month of operation. Jay also repaired the bike fixit station at Wings Park that was vandalized this summer. At Wings Jay is wrapping up grinding the stumps from the dead ash trees that we removed a few weeks ago. At Redgate Park, Miller Construction poured the sidewalks around the bathroom area and the short section from the shelter to the playground equipment. On the first Monday of the month, the Tree Board met at the park shop as we discussed our upcoming tree planting this fall.

On the second Monday, I presented to the rotary club about the progress that we are making with the trail system. On the second Tuesday evening of the month I travelled to the Fayette County Conservation Department by West Union and presented our REAP project for grant funding. This year the DNR switched to an online program that they launched the month that it was due so I have been working on transferring the data over to the new format. We had a delivery of acid at the pool last week to finish the year. The final day for the aquatic center was August 22, with the dog dip the last 2 hours of that evening. With the storms that blew through that week, we had a large branch fall and hang on a power line at the campground. We called Alliant Energy and they were able to send a truck out to get the branch cut off the line so we could drag it away. The trail contractor is moving along 6th street NW rather quickly this month as they are up to the church property. This month we received new stenciling for the truck to promote our website that has all our program information posted on it. At Redgate, the plumber has finished what he can as we are waiting on the partitions to be installed as we are hoping to wrap this project up. This month I asked Transco if they would be able to help us with some railroad ties to freshen up the bocce ball court and they came through, donating several ties. This month I was able to download our first month of data from the trail counters. I can load to the same website that the NE Iowa counties use and compare count numbers and graph the usage. We are using this data in the cities REAP grant proposal going out this month as well.

On the third Monday, I hosted the park and rec meeting at City Hall where I gave a trails presentation for trail segments 2 & 3. These two segments are planned to be constructed next summer. Both departments have been working on Redgate Park this last two weeks giving it extra attention for Italian Days. Jay finished taking the newly painted tables out to Redgate; Dan Ohl has been painting the memorial plaques on the small shelters. We are waiting on the bathroom partitions to be installed, the countertop to arrive and some landscaping. Jay power sprayed a few of the welcome signs around town. The trail contractors are wrapping up the concrete pouring in the northwest part of town. They replaced a segment by the pool that had cracked and will start backfilling once all the approaches are poured. I met with contractors about the pool filter this week getting some more details about a future possible project. The pool is winding up the season this Sunday August 22nd with a dog dip from 5-7pm. Woodlawn cemetery has been busy this month with four cremation burials with two out of town funeral homes and two with Jamison Schmitz funeral home and one burial.



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The park and cemetery departments spent the last two weeks putting in an extra time at Redgate Park to make it look its best for Italian Days. We even opened the new bathrooms for them to use even though Miller Construction has not finished installing the bathroom partitions. The EAA fly-in event at the Oelwein airport had a great turnout on Saturday morning. Once the rain cleared, they had eight planes that took kids up for a 10-12 minute airplane ride over Westgate the circle around over Oelwein and back to the airport. On Sunday the 2nd we hosted the last day for the aquatic center with the dog dip from 5-7. On Tuesday at 3PM, we had the storm blow through town that did a lot of damage to all the parks, cemetery, and trails. All the properties had tree damage in one way or another. Woodlawn took the brunt of the storm AGAIN, as Jay and I have been there helping the cemetery employees cut up trees. A large oak tree uprooted and fell on a storage building. An electrical pole was crushed under this tree with a live wire in the mess. We called Alliant on Wednesday morning; they showed up at 10am on Thursday morning after a second call to disconnect the line so we could start working on clearing the oak tree. The campground did lose power on Wednesday, which had nothing to do with the power lines in the park and was restored that afternoon by Alliant. The trails contractor is finishing a few sections in the northwest part of town and beginning the dirt work. On Thursday morning, we prepared a grave for a Friday burial at Woodlawn. With our limited staff this season, we will continue to work through the storm damaged properties and trails as quickly and safely as we can.

TRAIL PROGRESS



STUMP GRINDING



MAINTENANCE





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REDGATE SHELTER



TRAILS PRESENTATION



COUNTY PRESENTATION

**CITY OF OELWEIN
MUNICIPAL URBAN
TRAIL SYSTEM**



City of Oelwein Urban Trails Master Plan

2021

POOL DELIVERY



DOWN BRANCH



TRAIL PROGRESS





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PROMOTION



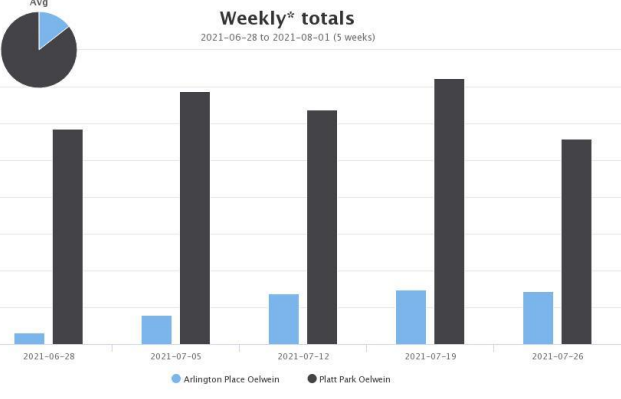
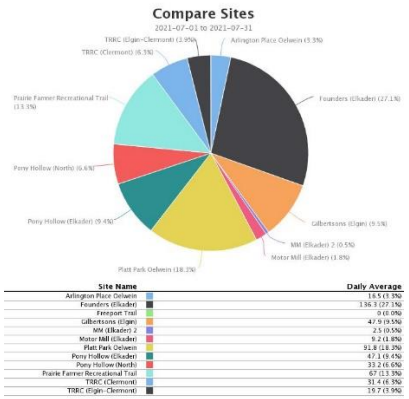
REDGATE



REDGATE PARK



TRAIL DATA



REDGATE



WELCOME SIGNS



REDGATE





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TRAILS



FILTER PROJECT

DOG DIP



ITALIAN DAYS

EAA





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2021 POOL SEASON END



DOG DIP



STORM EVENT



WINGS

WOODLAWN



OAK UPROOTED

REIDY PARK





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WOODLAWN



LOG CABIN



TRAILS WORK



WOODLAWN



BURIAL PREP





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Daily Activities

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- ❖ Sanitizing shop and equipment
- ❖ Pick up garbage downtown
- ❖ Water hanging baskets
- ❖ Checking/maintaining parks, cemeteries
- ❖ Maintenance on equipment
- ❖ Order supplies for all departments
- ❖ Safety meetings
- ❖ Meet with contractors
- ❖ Retrieve & upload trail count data

Progress on Projects

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- ❖ Website work ongoing
- ❖ Trail easements/grants
- ❖ Work on Park and Rec master plan
- ❖ Bathroom/shelter project at Red Gate park ongoing
- ❖ Trail Segment 1 work
- ❖ Turned in City REAP grant proposal
- ❖ Trails presentation to Rotary
- ❖ Redgate park prep for Italian Days
- ❖ Conclude great season with pool
- ❖ Drain pool, start winterization
- ❖ Dog dip
- ❖ Storm cleanup ongoing

Next Month and Future Projects

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- ❖ Disc golf course install
- ❖ Diamond 3 in-field fencing
- ❖ Website work
- ❖ Remove old well houses at City Park
- ❖ Drinking fountain install Platt Park
- ❖ Diamond 1 building work
- ❖ Arching sign for entrance at Woodlawn
- ❖ Electrical project at City Park
- ❖ Replace decking on old bridge
- ❖ Grant work
- ❖ Pool shelter install
- ❖ Motor/Pump replacement at pool
- ❖ Block signs at Woodlawn
- ❖ Install basketball anchors/ hoops at Wings Park

JOSHUA JOHNSON MA
OELWEIN PARK SUPERINTENDENT

