



# 2019 Parks Department Annual Report

Park and Recreation

[www.cityofuelwein.org](http://www.cityofuelwein.org)



Presented By:  
The City of Oelwein

Special thanks to:  
Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation  
Pawtively Oelwein  
Oelwein Rotary Club  
Oelwein Lions Club  
Rotary District 5970

Gather your family and friends and leash up the pups and come join us for the grand opening celebration of the Oelwein Dog Park!

**City of Oelwein Dog Park Grand Opening**  
@ City Park  
Thurs. August 22nd 5:30—6:30

Please note that your dogs are leashed at all times while within the designated dog park area. Dogs can be unleashed outside the DOG PARK if dogs must be registered and for rescue pets allowed. If your dog is uncomfortable around crowds please consider leaving them at home during the event and returning with them after the opening.

Submitted By  
Joshua Johnson MA  
Park Superintendent





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### Running total of Grants/Donations/In-Kind

08/15/2016	Trees Forever	Complex	\$1,210.00
01/25/2017	Trees Forever	Platt/Wings	\$2,124.00
05/22/2017	NEIC	Diamond 3	\$6,880.30
08/07/2017	Deb Kellogg	Memorial Bench	\$854.00
10/20/2017	Colleen Stasi	Memorial Bench	\$854.00
01/24/2018	FEMA	City Park Road	\$3,962.87
01/27/2018	Trees Forever	Complex	\$4,000.00
03/01/2018	AmeriCorps	8 person crew	\$960.00
03/01/2018	AmeriCorps	7 person crew	\$840.00
03/14/2018	FCCF	Drinking Fountains	\$2,000.00
03/26/2018	Paint Iowa	Diamond one building	\$261.72
05/10/2018	Hancor	4" Tile donated -D3	\$400.00
04/01/2018	Greg Bryan	Bridge - in-kind	\$5,000.00
04/01/2018	Andrew Miller	Bridge removal - in-kind	\$5,000.00
05/02/2018	Well mark	Wings Trail Extension	\$87,353.00
05/31/2018	NEIC	Wings Trail Extension	\$8,814.00
06/20/2018	Dave Sondrol	2 Memorial Bench's	\$1,708.00
08/06/2018	AmeriCorps	21 person crew	\$2,520.00
08/20/2018	Trees Forever	Multiple Parks	\$1,019.20
09/06/2018	AmeriCorps	5 person crew	\$1,800.00
09/14/2018	Roger Polark	Trails	\$10,000.00
09/24/2018	State FEMA	City Park Road	\$528.38
12/06/2018	Gary Gilson	Memorial Bench	\$854.00
12/20/2018	OCSD	Grave Heater	\$500.00
02/02/2019	ITC	Bike Fixit Station	\$3,000.00
04/01/2019	Paint Iowa	Campground Buildings	\$261.72
04/15/2019	Trees Forever	Street Trees	\$5,000.00
06/15/2019	Jim Lindstrom	Memorial Bench	\$854.00
10/07/2019	R.J. McElroy Trust	Pool Shade Structures	\$5,000.00
10/08/2019	Nursery Trees	Tree Spading	\$2,275.00
10/29/2019	Dave Sondrol	Cemetery Signs	\$10,000.00
12/31/2019	Friends of Trails	Donations	\$4,125.00
08/29/2020	NEIC	Trails	\$250,000.00
08/29/2021	NEIC	Trails	\$250,000.00
08/29/2022	NEIC	Trails	\$250,000.00
08/29/2023	NEIC	Trails	\$250,000.00
08/29/2024	NEIC	Trails	\$175,000.00
			<b>\$1,354,959.19</b>



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### Parks

- ❖ Install first dog park at City Park, received \$27,000 from NEIC
- ❖ Installed first trail side stretching station
- ❖ Received \$3000 from ITC to purchase bike fixit station
- ❖ Took over maintenance of downtown streetscape
- ❖ Developing Parks Master Plan
- ❖ Update Park and Recreation Brochure
- ❖ Update CIP Items
- ❖ Update Park / Campground / Aquatics / Cemetery Fee Schedules
- ❖ Update Department Equipment Maintenance Schedule
- ❖ Monthly safety meetings/ checklists
- ❖ Monthly Park and Recreation Board Meetings
- ❖ Develop trails committee and hold monthly meetings
- ❖ Host monthly tree board meetings
- ❖ Biweekly dept. head meetings/individual
- ❖ Conducted employee interviews /evaluations
- ❖ Weekly/Monthly/Yearly reports
- ❖ Monthly playground equipment inspections
- ❖ Weed spraying as needed
- ❖ Pesticide Applicator CEU's
- ❖ Shop/vehicle/equipment maintenance
- ❖ Playground equipment replacement
- ❖ Order lime chalk, marking paint for rec leagues.
- ❖ Tree trimming / mulch fall leaves
- ❖ Prep diamonds for rec leagues
- ❖ Daily cleanup of downtown area
- ❖ Attended Upper Explorer land Meetings
- ❖ Replace / repair vandalism on as needed basis
- ❖ Continued trail maintenance – brush/tree trimming and dead tree removal
- ❖ Install fountains at City Park
- ❖ Split day lilies downtown to even the flower plantings
- ❖ Receive volunteer award for Tree Board members
- ❖ Paint Diamond 1 concession building
- ❖ Cleared trails of snow in winter
- ❖ Hosted 72 shelter reservations
- ❖ Wings Park trail and bridge project
- ❖ LED park lighting conversions
- ❖ Purchased equipment and aerated all rec fields in fall
- ❖ Refurbished diamond one flag pole



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Park and Recreation

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### Cemetery

- ❖ Raised funds to purchase funds for new signs
- ❖ New grave heater built by school with local
- ❖ Rocked up north roads
- ❖ Cleaned up all work shops
- ❖ Dead trees removed and stumps ground out
- ❖ Started removal of excess dirt that's been accumulating
- ❖ Cleaning up fence lines
- ❖ Updated paperwork
- ❖ Memorial Day flag raising
- ❖ Pour foundations in Spring and Fall
- ❖ Updated equipment with new rear discharge mower
- ❖ Painted offer exterior
- ❖ Contractors installed new garage doors
- ❖ Contractors conducted chip sealing roads

### Aquatics

- ❖ 23<sup>rd</sup> season for facility
- ❖ Certified Pool Operator CEU's
- ❖ Daily Aquatic Center checks
- ❖ Annual state inspection
- ❖ 140 season passes
- ❖ Red cross Swim Lessons
  - ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Session 150
  - ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Session 152
- ❖ Private Lessons 32
- ❖ Pool Facility Rentals 12
- ❖ Primed and painted all exterior doors
- ❖ Moved eye wash station
- ❖ Touch up paint on railings, diving board stands and shade structure
- ❖ Install blinds on windows in concession area
- ❖ POR paint piping in pump room
- ❖ Replace pool caulk lines
- ❖ Met with contractors for improvement projects
- ❖ Annual boiler inspections
- ❖ New garbage cans for concessions
- ❖ Received \$5000 grant from the McElroy Trust for improvements



## 2019 Parks Department Annual Report

Park and Recreation

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### Campground

- ❖ Third year for hosts Carolyn and Craig Rorhick
- ❖ Painted shower house exterior walls and floors
- ❖ Stirred up pads with Harley rake
- ❖ Painted picnic tables
- ❖ Updated several electrical outlets
- ❖ Replaced gaskets and parts of yard hydrants
- ❖ Had 51% occupancy rate

### Tree Board

- ❖ Met on a monthly basis
- ❖ Entered City vehicle in parade to increase awareness
- ❖ With the help of the FFA program planted 200 saplings at Sports Complex
- ❖ Received \$5000 grant for Trees Forever
- ❖ Planted 54 trees in the street boulevards
- ❖ Received Governors Volunteer Award
- ❖ Received Tree City Award - 2018
- ❖ Update street tree list
- ❖ Numerous street tree inspections

### Trails Committee

- ❖ Met on a monthly basis
- ❖ Received a grant from the Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation in the amount of \$1,175,000
- ❖ Developed trails master plan
- ❖ Applied to smaller grants
- ❖ Attended upper explorer meetings
- ❖ Developing trails presentation for council
- ❖ In-Kind work conducted from two local contractors for Wings extension
- ❖ New bridge set and 750' of concrete trail completed for Wings Park extension
- ❖ Developed Friends of the Trails to raise additional funding
- ❖ Conducted crack sealing on the east trail this spring
- ❖ Entire east side trail sealed for maintenance this fall



## 2019 Parks Department Annual Report

Park and Recreation

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### Shelter Reservation Summary

	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	TOTAL
City Park #1 – Railroad “Big” Shelter		3	5	8	9	4		29
City Park #2 – Rechkemmer Shelter			1	1		1		3
City Park #3 – New Shelter		1		2				3
City Park #4 – Lion’s Shelter (N Side)			1	2	2			5
Platt Park #1 – Old Shelter			1		1			2
Platt Park #2 – New Shelter		1	4	5	6	2		18
Redgate Park #1 – Largest shelter in park			1	4	2	1	1	9
Wings Park #1 – Near N Playground Equipment			1	1		1		3
Wings Park #2 – Between Diamonds #2 & #3								0
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>72</b>

Railroad Shelter  
29x\$30 = \$870

All Others  
43-7=36 36x\$25=\$900

**Total**  
**\$1,770**

2016  
78

2017  
78

2018  
64

2019  
72



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### City of Oelwein Camping Registration Comparison

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
January													
February													
March						9			9				
April	34	7	7	55	1	68		12	36	29	20	41	25
May	239	267	273	224	289	403	419	420	246	353	354	586	1365
June	332	369	585	494	633	489	455	590	404	493	695	723	396
July	349	404	285	379	421	613	782	444	496	336	628	472	504
August	240	380	287	459	478	403	448	358	561	578	950	767	473
September	384	457	235	231	309	429	623	477	420	407	512	207	368
October	103	109	69	64	106	149	125	61	227	247	285	82	57
November						28	9	9	14	10	30		
December						21					15		
<b>Occupancy Rate</b>	27%	31%	28%	30%	36%	42%	46%	39%	39%	39%	56%	46%	<b>51%</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	1681	1993	1741	1906	2237	2612	2861	2371	2413	2450	3479	2878	<b>3188</b>

(Based upon 6200 available sites)

Tent Nights Stayed      50  
 Firewood sold              23  
 Paddleboard/Kayak      56  
 Tent w/Camper            48





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Before



After



Snow removal



New grave heater primed



Maintenance



LED lights



Grave heater



Trails easement presentation



Trails master plan



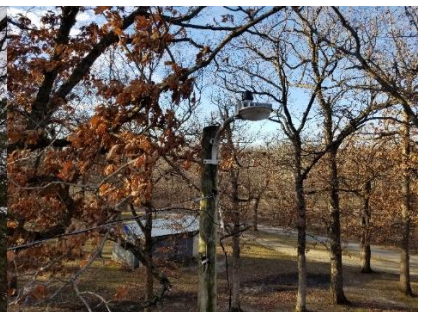
LED conversion

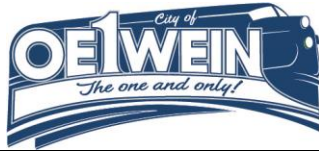


Campground side



Light by south bathroom





**Park and Recreation**

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Old main shelter light

Light with no power to it



Trail cleaning

New grave heater ready

Waterloo Courier



Grave dug

Cemetery plowing

Trails



Gate damage

Cemetery truck down

Extreme cold





Park and Recreation

[www.cityofoe1wein.org](http://www.cityofoe1wein.org)

Still cleaning shop out



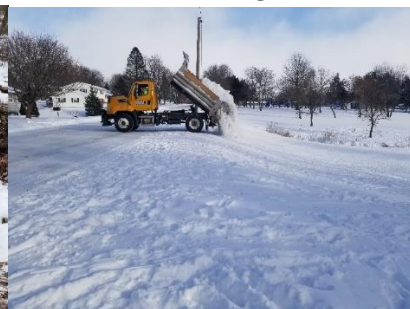
Drifting



CPO Class

Drainage at Red Gate

Snow for sledding



Saturday grave

Splash Pad meeting

Sidewalk clearing



Pool upgrades

Trails grant writing



**a community thrives**<sup>®</sup>

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Dot trail grant proposal



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR

IOWA STATE RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM FUNDING



Park and Recreation [www.cityofoe1wein.org](http://www.cityofoe1wein.org)

Rotary Presentation

CEU class Marquette

Vehicle Maintenance



Sidewalks Cleared

Propane Filled

Manchester Class



Maintenance

Fixit Station



Woodlawn spring flooding

Clerks meeting

Preparations for flooding





Council presentation on aquatics updates



Dot SRT grant



Filling winter graves



Decals on community development



Install signage



Soccer nets to complex



Trail sweeping



Yard light replacement at Woodlawn, LED



Prairie burnings



Viaduct cleaning



LED upgrade



Dog Park dirt work



Senior project



Sod cutting at complex



Down tree by campground



Wind damage



Tree at cemetery



Mower inspection



Dressing up parking lot



Campground Cleaning



FFA Presentation



Complex tree planting





Park and Recreation

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Downtown mulch



Sodding pool area



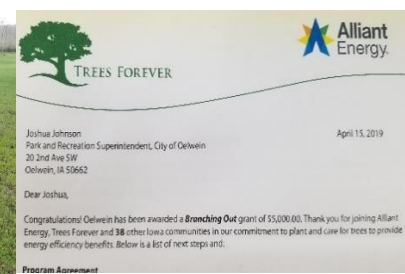
Arbor Day proclamation



Foundations



Branching Out grant



Trimming Oakdale



Mowing ball fields



Painting campground shower house



Downtown electrical panels



Pool maintenance



Downtown flowerbeds



Mulching



Mowing properties





**Park and Recreation**

[www.cityfoelwein.org](http://www.cityfoelwein.org)

Dog park fencing



New park mower



Pool Preparations



Dog Park work



Mowing



Concrete pouring



Contractors



Campground



Log Cabin fence removal



D3 infield fencing



New Oakdale Flag



Down tree at Woodlawn



Pool work







**Park and Recreation** [www.cityfoelwein.org](http://www.cityfoelwein.org)

Pool chemical deliveries



Pool



Dog Park



Flag Raising



Replacing diamond lights



Downtown maintenance



Campground



Mowing and trimming properties



New Cemetery Mower



Vandal headstone damage



Trees Forever grant



FFA project



Tree Board in Parade



Preparations for celebration





**Park and Recreation**

[www.cityofoe1wein.org](http://www.cityofoe1wein.org)

**Cleaning**



**Campground**



**Street sweeping**



**Bleacher repair**



**Platt Park mulch**



**Road maintenance at Woodlawn**



**Seal coating Woodlawn**



**New aerator for ball fields**



**Pool open for season**



**Swim Lessons**



**Open swim**



**Truck repair**



**Crack sealing east trail**



**Mosquito spraying**



**Diamond 3 maintenance**





**Park and Recreation**

[www.cityfoelwein.org](http://www.cityfoelwein.org)

Diamond 3 maintenance



Complex road repair



Pool maintenance



Empty lot cleaning



Log cabin

Wild Parsnip review



Diamonds

Pool maintenance

Broken tire swing



Platt Park

D1 flag





**Park and Recreation**

[www.cityfoelwein.org](http://www.cityfoelwein.org)

Reidy Park



Downtown maintenance



Aquatic Center



Cemetery spoil pile removal



Mowing, mowing, mowing



Tree Damage Red Gate



Lightning strike Woodlawn



Red gate tree damage



Woodlawn tree damage



Chemicals delivered to pool



Mowing for 4<sup>th</sup>



Safety Fiber finished at Reidy Park





Park and Recreation

[www.cityofoe1wein.org](http://www.cityofoe1wein.org)

Signage Update

New trash receptacles



State inspector annual

Tree dropped Woodlawn

Dead Tree removal



Before and after

Dog Park concrete poured



Graffiti at Red Gate

Tree limb removal

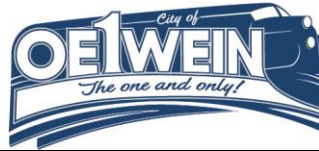


Complex trees

Woodlawn vandals

Woodlawn Burials





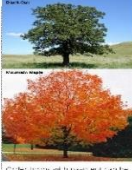
Park and Recreation [www.cityofoe1wein.org](http://www.cityofoe1wein.org)

Prairie planting-red gate



Tree Sale

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
PHONE NUMBER:	
NUMBER OF TREES:	Large _____ Medium _____ Small _____
TOTAL:	



**Wild SALE**  
SAVE HOW

How would you like to enjoy the shade and benefits of a large tree with little to no work? The City of Delbert is transplanting trees valued at \$200 all for the low cost of \$200 each. We are scheduling these for fall transplanting so remove yours TODAY!

Call the City of Delbert at 336-2222 for more information or to schedule yours today!

Delbert City Hall  
1000 1st St. Delbert, IA 52002

Dog park

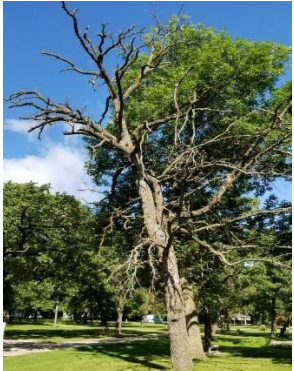


Dog park



REAP grant submitted

Dead tree removal City Park



Garage door prep cemetery

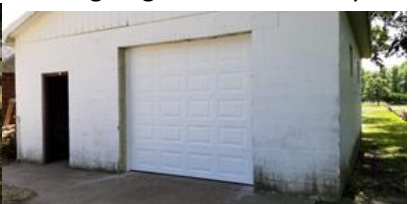
LED conversion

Tree City Award



Stretching stations at Wings Park

New garage doors cemetery





Park and Recreation

www.cityofuelwein.org

Little libraries



Dog Park



Dog Park work



Stretching station pad



Signage Updating



Bike Fixit Station



Ledesma article



Dog Dip



Dog Park

Presented By: The City of Oelwein

Special thanks to: Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation, Pawsitively Oelwein, Oelwein Rotary Club, Oelwein Lions Club, Rotary District 5970

**City of Oelwein Dog Park Grand Opening**  
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Park and Recreation

[www.cityofoe1wein.org](http://www.cityofoe1wein.org)

Dog Park



Downtown care under parks



Cameras



McGrane/Lindstrom Bench



\$5000 grant for Aquatic Center



# McElroy Trust

Shelter cleaning



Red Gate cleaning



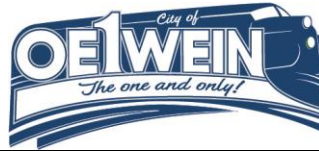
Led conversion @ Wings



Tree Removal







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[www.cityofuelwein.org](http://www.cityofuelwein.org)

**Woodlawn maintenance**



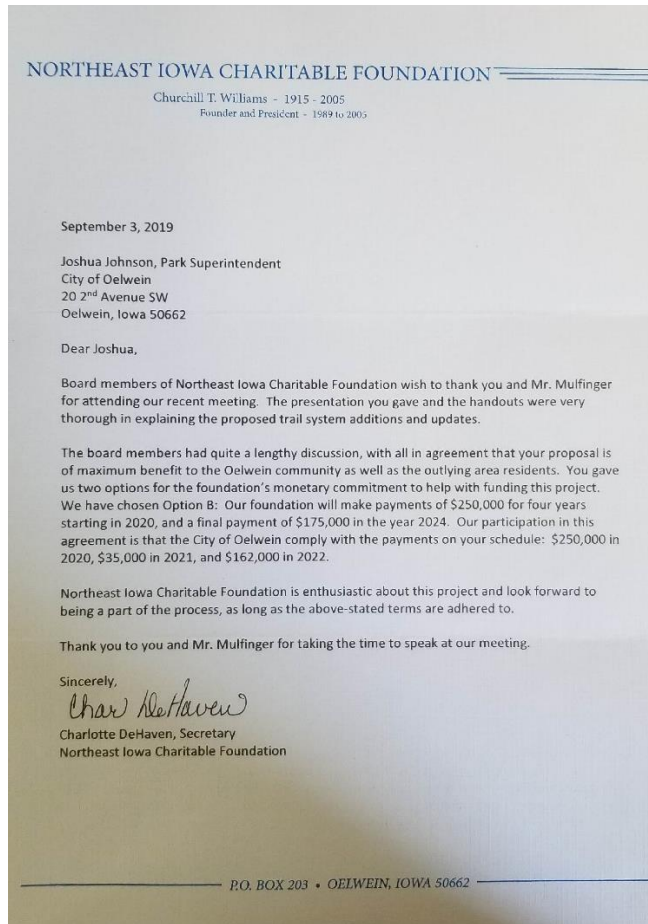
**Oakdale Cemetery repairs**



**Oakdale Cemetery repairs**



**\$1.175 Million grant for trails**





**Park and Recreation**

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Landscaping at pool



Blinds install concessions



Removal hanging flowers



Painting fittings



Woodlawn burials



Railings and doors primed



Bridge prep



Cover power sprayed and painted



Stretching station



Diesel truck repair



Tree sales



Pool work



Dead ash tree removal



Diamond 3 light pole





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Pool tile work



Plantings



Pool painting



Pool painting



Safety meeting



Bridgework



Stretching station



Chrysler Park plantings



Pool plantings



Staking for Wings trail project



Bridge removal



Abutment removal



New pilings



East trail sealing



East trail sealing





Park and Recreation

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East trail sealing



Aeration

Trail Building

Fenced off saplings



Winterizing

Pella trail summit



Friends of the Oelwein  
Municipal Urban Trail

Pilings



Bridge work

Trail building

Office painting



Winterizing

Stump grinding

Floor painting



Wings bridge



Trail install

Bridge pilings

Shower house painted



Blvd trees

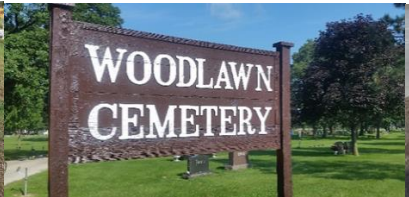
New tires

Dog park bench



Foundations

Possible project of sign upgrades at Woodlawn



Use existing pedestals



Footings Wings bridge

Maintenance

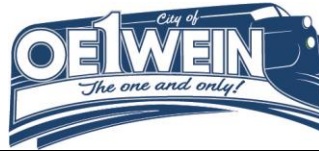


Trees Forever planting – 54 trees in street boulevards



Tree Board Volunteer Award





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Tree Board Volunteer Award



Trail cleaning



Trail construction continues

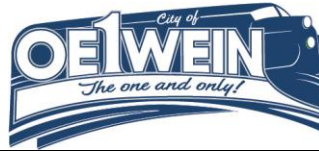


2018 Tree City Application submitted



Wings trail project





Park and Recreation

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Wings trail project



Ice melt for city



Continuing education

Willow tree dropped



New possible window for concessions LED lighting

Growth award application



Tree Board Volunteer article

Oelwein wrestling opens season with pair of dual victories

See SPORTS, page 12

**\$1.25** | [www.oelweindailyregister.com](http://www.oelweindailyregister.com) THURSDAY, DEC. 5, 2019 Enjoyed by you and 4,700 other well-informed readers!

## Oelwein Tree Board presented with Governor's Volunteer Award

Members put in an estimated 27,000 hours of service

**By DEB KUNKLE**  
news@oelweindailyregister.com

A group of dedicated volunteers, the Oelwein Tree Board, was recently honored with a Governor's Volunteer Award at a special recognition ceremony in Cedar Falls. Oelwein Parks Superintendent Josh Johnson nominated the Tree Board

because of their unwavering support to maintaining the beauty of an urban canopy and all things green in the community.

"They volunteer all the time for various projects and plantings, and help fill in. They have worked with the FFA Boosters, the DNR, and recently planted 53 trees the city received from

a Trees Forever \$5,000 grant," Johnson said. "They are really a first-rate group of guys."

Members of the Oelwein Tree Board are Bill Brownell, Tom Fick, Ron Lenth, Jeff Milks and Kyle Scheel. Governor Kim Reynolds presented the Governor's Volunteer Award to the Oelwein Tree Board on Oct. 31 at the

See AWARD, page 2

Members of the Oelwein Tree Board were presented with the Governor's Volunteer Award at a ceremony in Cedar Falls. From left are Gov. Kim Reynolds, Oelwein Parks Superintendent Josh Johnson, Tree Board members Ron Lenth and Bill Brownell, and UNI President Mark Nook. Board members Tom Fick, Jeff Milks and Kyle Scheel were not able to attend the ceremony.

Carla Wehmeyer

Electrical Upgrade

EAB in City Park

Anchors for Volleyball

Viaduct cleaning







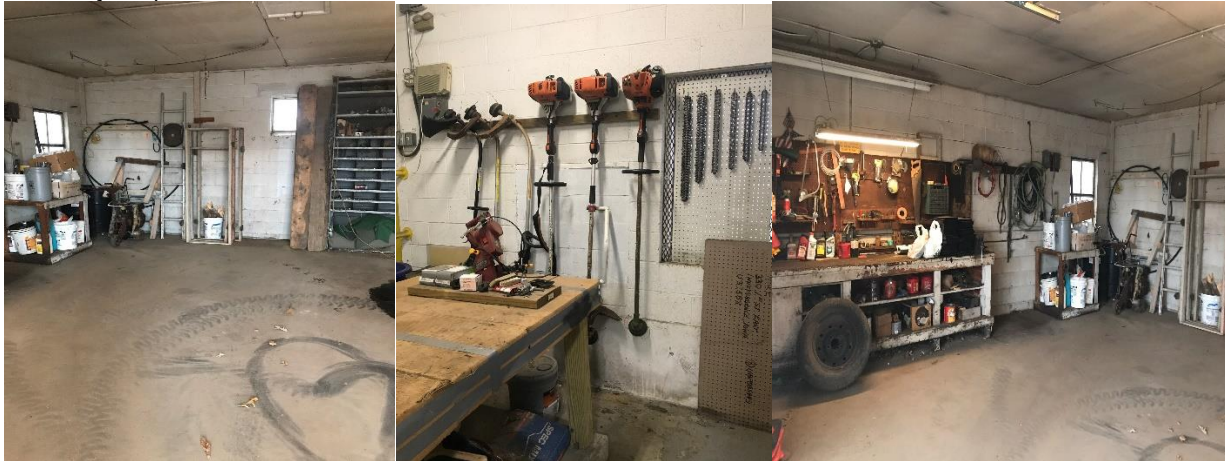
Well mark report

LED Lighting

New drinking fountains



Cemetery shops



**OPRD Mission Statement:**

“It is the mission of the Oelwein Parks and Recreation Department to create recreational opportunities and provide consistent, reliable public service; creating diverse programs and services to promote community involvement; and being a leader in recreation and leisure services while preserving our facilities for future generations.”

Joshua A. Johnson MA  
Oelwein Parks Superintendent  
20 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. SW  
Oelwein, Iowa 50662  
319-283-5440 - City Hall  
319-283-0544 – Cell

Email – [jjohnson@cityofuelwein.org](mailto:jjohnson@cityofuelwein.org)

