



PARKS MONTHLY UPDATE, SEPTEMBER 2022
PARKS / CEMETERY / AQUATICS / CAMPGROUND / TRAILS

Park and Recreation

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This month in the park department we have been super busy completing tasks with very limited staff. The concrete work has been completed on trail segment 3, landscaped and seeded. This segment is connecting the existing west side trail to the downtown as we have received many compliments for this project. The gates at the railroad crossing are a requirement of the railroad that must stay in place. Nate and I have been working on winterizing the aquatic facility pulling shade structures down, covering boards and slides. We fixed the lights on diamond one as one set was not working in the outfield. The employees constructed an area for the campground to stop the split wood to stay dry until sold. The employees took the batting cage at Wings Park for storage and have been busy cutting down dead ash trees when they have the time. The guys went through the viaduct area with leaf blowers and cleaned that out once again. Chris J. ground out all the stumps from the ash trees that were removed from Woodlawn and put down black dirt and grass seed. I met with Brian with Fehr Graham to get some final readings so the drain project at the pool can be sent out for bidding. The airplane project is moving right along as the gravel was put down around the concrete pad and the two benches showed up for installation. This month I hosted the tree board meeting at the park shop as we discussed our upcoming tree planting in October. I have been working on several grant opportunities along with getting quotes on CIP items.

This month we had a donation from Greg Bryan and Dave Garrigus delivered to the sports complex. Greg and Dave donated a couple loads of black dirt that we will spread on the soccer fields to improve the soil conditions. The park guys were busy taking ash trees down at City Park this past month. At Woodlawn cemetery they had a full burial on Tuesday to prepare for. The cemetery guys also took down several ash trees in block 20 on Wednesday as we keep chipping away at these ash trees. I arranged for Alliant Energy to come in and trim a couple of dead ash trees away from the power lines at City and Chrysler Parks. This month, after completing the mowing the guys started blowing the water lines out at the aquatic facility with the air compressor. We also brought the extra picnic tables back to the shop area from Redgate Park for the season. Fire extinguishers were serviced this month for all the departments. Nate took the harley rake to the ballfields at Wings and utilized the new sod cutter for the last burial at Woodlawn. The airplane project is wrapping up as the two benches were installed this month. The fence at Oakdale Cemetery was installed as part of the segment 3 trail project and looks fantastic. The contractor was in to install the signs on the new trail segment that will complete the project. I have been working on pricing for various projects and grant proposals. Notice was put in the paper, city websites and Facebook for concrete foundations orders to be submitted for Woodlawn. I met with the trail committee this month and sent out the agenda for the park and rec meeting on the third Monday night at City Hall. I have also been working on the layouts for the disc golf signs to be installed at City Park for the new disc golf course.

This month the employees mowed all the city properties once again as the weekly rains will not stop but cooler air has arrived this month. The employees have been busy with other tasks such as sweeping facilities, trimming, and cleaning up areas in the parks. The employees are taking care of the bathroom responsibilities for the remainder of the season. Last week we were busy at it, taking more ash trees down at City Park. We are almost at completion winterizing the aquatic center as a few last areas need to be completed. On the trail project the contractor was in to install signs and paint the cross bars across 4th street. On Monday evening I hosted the park and rec meeting at city hall to give updates on various projects. The airplane project is wrapping up as we helped Jake move some limestone rocks to the area and the lights are being fine-tuned. I have been busy working on various grants for future trails and other projects. At the cemetery we had a full burial and two cremations this week.

This week the employees did not mow the city properties as cooler weather has set in thankfully. The employees have been working on taking dead ash trees down in Platt Park this past week. The employees have been leaving the main trunks lay and they disappear overnight thankfully saving us time and money. The cemetery foundation orders have come in, so Chris, Dion, and Willie have been busy cutting sod and forming up foundation forms this past week. The park employees took an afternoon and installed 4x4 posts at City Park for the disc golf course that we are still working on. The park employees started the huge task of trimming the downtown streetscape this week as they chose to clear the lilies then tackle the bushes. Other tasks completed include dragging the complex parking lot and the gravel roads at Woodlawn. On Sunday Sept. 25th, the airplane ceremony took place at 1:00pm on a very windy afternoon. There was a great turnout for the event and this a fantastic addition to the park facilities. This month I picked up the 46 trees from Cannons Greenhouse for the tree boards annual tree planting. This planting is made possible by a \$5,000 grant this department receives through Trees Forever. I met with Alliant to give them access to change the gas meter at the pool for the main pool boiler. The grant though upper explorerland was submitted to the state for trail money through the Cares Act as well as the federal rec trails grant for future trail development.



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SEGMENT 3



SEGMENT 3



SEGMENT 3





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WINTERIZING AQUATICS



DI LIGHTS



CAMPGROUND



BATTING NET



TREE REMOVAL



VIADUCT CLEANING



STUMP REMOVAL





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DRAIN PROJECT



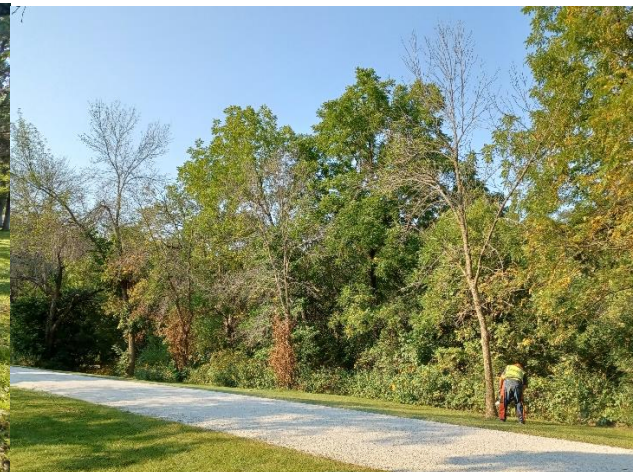
AIRPLANE PROJECT



DONATION



ASH TREE REMOVAL CITY PARK





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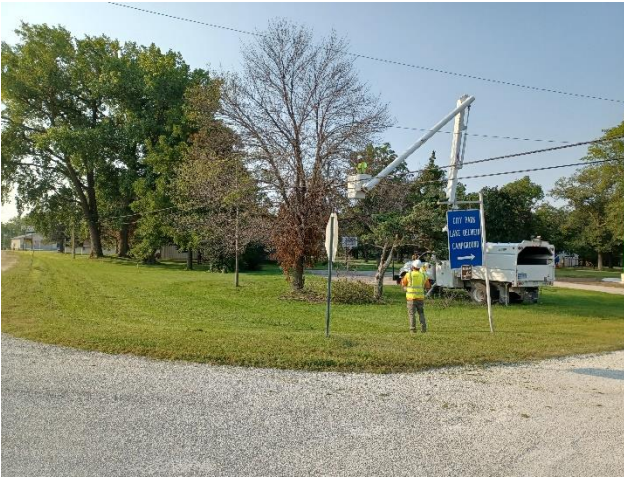
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ASH TREE REMOVAL AT WOODLAWN



ALLIANT TREE TRIMMING



POOL WINTERIZATION



PICNIC TABLES





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FIRE EXTINGUISHERS



BALLFIELDS



SODDING



AIRPLANE PROJECT



FENCE INSTALLED OAKDALE





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TRAIL CLEANING



TRIMMING



CLEANING



ASH TREE REMOVAL



SIGNAGE INSTALLED





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AIRPLANE PROJECT



ASH TREE REMOVAL



FOUNDATIONS





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NEW FLAG



DOWNTOWN



GRADING ROADS



AIRPLANE CEREMONY





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DOWNTOWN



TREES FOREVER



NEW METER



MORE ASH TREE REMOVAL



TRAIL GRANTS

IOWA
economic development

**IOWA
DOT**
SMARTER | SIMPLER | CUSTOMER DRIVEN



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Daily Activities

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- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| ❖ Clean/organize shop and equipment | ❖ Meet with contractors |
| ❖ Pick up garbage downtown | ❖ Retrieve & upload trail count data |
| ❖ Checking/maintaining parks, cemeteries | ❖ Weed spraying |
| ❖ Maintenance on equipment | ❖ Water downtown flowers |
| ❖ Order supplies for all departments | ❖ Trail sweeping |
| ❖ Safety meetings | |

Progress on Projects

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- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| ❖ Website updating | ❖ Stump grinding |
| ❖ Trail easements/grants | ❖ Ash tree removal |
| ❖ Work on Park and Rec master plan | ❖ Trail Segment 3 |
| ❖ Grant writing | ❖ CIP pricing/budget |
| ○ CAT | ❖ Winterized pool |
| ○ NEIC | ❖ Airplane project completed |
| ○ TAP | ❖ Trimming downtown streetscape |
| ○ Trees Forever | ❖ Trees picked up for Trees Forever planting |
| ❖ FRT grant submitted | |
| ❖ Order CIP Items | |

Next Month and Future Projects

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- | | |
|---|---|
| ❖ Remove old well houses at City Park | ❖ Ash tree removal |
| ❖ Drinking fountain install Platt Park | ❖ Install solar umbrella at pool from ITC |
| ❖ Arching sign for entrance at Woodlawn | ❖ Pool filter project |
| ❖ Replace decking on old bridge | ❖ Prairie planting |
| ❖ Grant writing | ❖ Diamond 3 in-field fencing |
| ❖ Disc golf signage | |

JOSHUA JOHNSON
OELWEIN PARK SUPERINTENDENT

