

### SEPTEMBER 2023 PARK MONTHLY REPORT

This month in the park departments the employees have been very busy with various projects. The cemetery employees cleaned up the spoil piles and cleaned out some unwanted small trees growing out of a bush. We have been busy working on the sand filter at the pool as we are removing the rest of the sand so Mark B. and Chris J. can finish cutting the bottom section apart. This week employees moved a tree from Chrysler Park to Vets Park as it was in they way of the sewer project coming through. At Platt Park another large ash tree was brought down as we have been focusing on this park for ash tree removal. The employees took some time on Friday to clean vehicles inside and out. Mark took to the north facing side of the building with the power sprayer to keep it clean. On the west trail there was a dead ash tree from the timber area that dropped near Redgate Park that we cleared off. With the extremely dry weather we have been watering trees in parks, street trees and for other departments. The employees completed a playground project this month. The old safety fiber was removed, a new weed barrier was put down and rubber mulch was put down. Carolyn and Craig are doing a great job with the campground, Steve S. had a couple more shelter reservations and cleaning bathrooms. I had a meeting scheduled with the tree board on Monday as we are compiling our locations for planting trees next month with funds received with Trees Forever grant.

The cemetery employees have been working on placing prefab foundations to rotate our extra foundation stock. Notice was put in the paper for cemetery foundations this past week as we will complete our fall pour in the next couple of weeks. The park employees and cemetery employees have both been busy working on taking out dead ash trees out of the parks and grinding stumps. I met with a citizen about a couple locations for a possible memorial bench placement. On Friday I learned that we were awarded a grant through the DNR, Community Forestry grant for close to \$5,000. This matching fund, which we will use funds raised from spading trees from the tree nursery will enable us to purchase and plant 70 trees for the park system. Most of the trees will be planted at Platt Park as the employees have removed 68 ash trees from this park alone. The rest of the trees will be planted at the complex which will complete the tree planting around the front two diamonds. This very large tree planting will take place on Wednesday October 4th at 8am in Platt Park and we could use all the volunteers possible. On Friday, a few of the tree board members and I travelled to Decorah to talk with their city arborists to discuss and swap ideas. Also, on this trip we observed their gravel bed that they built this past year. The tree board is considering building a gravel bed so that we can buy bare root trees in the spring at a discount price and keep them in the gravel bed then plant the trees in the fall, stretching our funding to buy more trees. The employees installed foul poles this week in Wings Park, and an old random utility pole was removed this week from Wings Park as well. Marc B. and Chris J. finished removal of the old filtration system at the aquatic center, Carrico was put on notice that the facility is ready for them to install the new filter and piping. I sent out the agenda for the park and rec meeting for the September meeting.

The employees have been mowing certain areas of the cemetery with the 3" of rain we received on Friday evening. The employees have been taking down ash trees in the parks as the end is in sight. There are a few smaller ash trees at City Park and 2 large ash trees at Wings Park that Dave Mauer will drop for us next month as that will conclude ash trees in the main areas of the city properties. This season the employees have taken down 136 trees on city properties on top of all their other responsibilities. There are still some along trails and wooded areas that we will make sure that they drop the right way. This week the new slides for City Park arrived that are a CIP item, which will most likely be installed in the springtime as we are shorthanded staff. This past week all the fire extinguishers were collected and serviced. The park employees laid out the soccer field and set the nets for the rec soccer program and dragged the parking lot at the complex. The park employees have been slowly chipping away at trimming back the plantings downtown as the season is coming to a close. The park employees moved a concrete slab to diamond one for the Hoth memorial bench, which will be placed as soon as it gets delivered. The cemetery employees removed some rail lines that someone stuck in the ground years ago to protect a couple of water valves at Woodlawn. The employees installed two castings that were donated from the sewer project in the NE to eliminate anyone running into the rails and easier to mow around. Trail cleaning is



never ending this time of year as the leaves are really starting to drop. The course sign was installed at City Park for the disc golf course this week. I have been busy laying out locations for our large tree planting next week at Platt Park. Again, we will be planting 70 trees between Platt Park and the Sports Complex next Wednesday Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at 8am at Platt Park. As always, we can use as many volunteers as possible for this tree board planting. The agenda for the tree board meeting on Monday was sent out this week. The aquatic center has been completely winterized with all the water lines blown out and drains protected. The employees spent time removing the arching tree over the trail at Platt Park as it was time to remove it as the base was deteriorating and they formed up a memorial bench foundation for the Delong family. The cemetery employees have been busy preparing monument foundations at Woodlawn as the deadline has passed. The employees got a jump on digging out tree planting locations at Platt Park so that the tree planting will proceed quicker. T-posts, string, and watering bags have been purchased for the planting as we are looking to have a great day improving these great facilities. The park employees are cleaning the bathrooms every morning now that Horan Cleaning is done for the season. Carolyn and Craig will be wrapping up the season at the campground here in two weeks as they have done an excellent job once again. We met with the park and rec commission last Monday as we reviewed the park fee schedule and went over progress.



















BURIALS ASH REMOVAL



STUMP GRINDING

FOUL POLES INSTALLED



COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANT

TREE WATERING



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



GRAVEL BEDS

POLE REMOVED



www.oelweinparks.org



MOWING ASH TREE REMOVAL



SLIDES ARRIVED

EXTINGUISHERS SERVICED



DRAGGING COMPLEX

TREE TRIMMING



 $\mathrm{DOWNTO}\overline{\mathbb{W}}N$ 

BENCH FOUNDATION

GRAVE PREP.



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## **COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANT PLATING:**

WHEN: WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 8:00AM

WHERE: PLATT PARK

TREES: 70 TREES BETWEEN PLATT PARK AND COMPLEX

CASTINGS INSTALLED







# MORE ASH TREE REMOVAL









TREE REMOVED FOUNDATIONS TREE PLANTING PREP

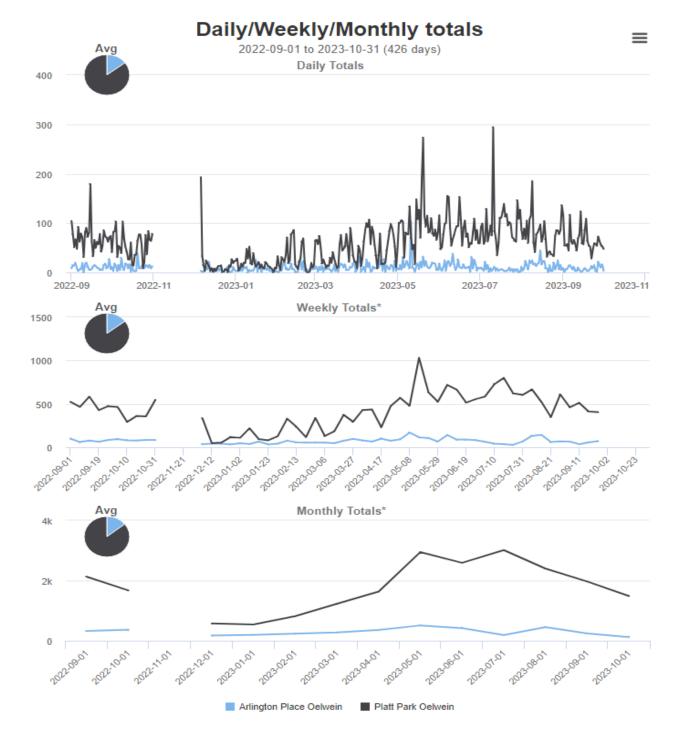


FILTER/PIPING REMOVAL COMPLETED









<sup>\*</sup> Based on Average Daily Traffic (ADT)

# Master Summary

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Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT <sup>†</sup>	ADT <sup>†</sup> x365	Days with data
2022	Arlington Place Oelwein	146	207	158	148	199	290	426	332	327	362		173*	8.303	3,031	330
	Platt Park Oelwein	394	548	1,002	1,297	1,984	1,877	2,736	2,877	2,127	1,672		572*	51.497	18,796	330
2023	Arlington Place Oelwein	193	235	274	356	510	421	190	451	241	124*			10.493	3,830	274
	Platt Park Oelwein	543	816	1,229	1,635	2,948	2,592	3,013	2,399	1,969	1,488*			62.745	22,902	274

ADT<sup>†</sup> = Average Daily Traffic

<sup>\* =</sup> based upon that month's ADT Learn more Indicates months with less than 6 days of data.



## **DAILY ACTIVITIES**

- ➤ CLEAN/ORGANIZE SHOP AREAS
- ➤ PICK UP DOWNTOWN AREAS
- ➤ MAINTAINING PARK, CEMETERIES
- MAINTENANCE ON EQUIPMENT
- > SAFETY MEETINGS
- ➤ MEET WITH CONTRACTORS

- ➤ RETRIEVE & UPLOAD TRAIL COUNT DATA
- ➤ WOODLAWN BURIALS
- ➤ CHECK & CLEAN RESTROOMS/RESERVATIONS
- > WATERING DEPOT PARK
- ➤ DRAG GRAVELED AREAS/SWEEP TRAILS
- ➤ WATER HANGING BASKETS

## **PROGRESS ON PROJECTS**

- ➤ WEBSITE UPDATING
- > TRAIL EASEMENTS/GRANTS
- > WORK ON PARK AND REC MASTER PLAN
- ➤ PATCH PARK/CEMETERY ROADS
- ➤ GRINDING STUMPS
- ➤ ASH TREE REMOVAL
- > TRAIL MAINTENANCE
- PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS
- ➤ WORK AT DEPOT PARK

- ➤ POOL FILTER REMOVED
- CASTINGS INSTALLED WOODLAWN
- ➤ CEMETERY SIGN WORK
- > FALL FOUNDATIONS PREPPED
- > AQUATIC CENTER WINTERIZED
- ➤ FIRE EXTINGUISHERS SERVICED
- > INSTALL FOUL POLES DIAMOND 1
- > PLAYGROUND RUBBER MULCH WINGS

# **NEXT MONTH AND FUTURE PROJECTS**

- ➤ REMOVE OLD WELL HOUSES CITY PARK
- ➤ REPLACE DECKING ON OLD BRIDGE
- ➤ GRANT WRITING
- ➤ ASH TREE REMOVAL
- ➤ POOL FILTER INSTALL
- ➤ TRAIL SEGMENT 2
- ➤ TRAIL SEGMENTS 4/5 ALIGNMENT
- CEMETERY SIGN INSTALL
- ➤ GRINDING STUMPS
- ➤ DIRT WORK COMPLEX

- ➤ PAINT ACCENT BRICK POOL
- ➤ REMOVE PRIMITIVE AT REDGATE
- ➤ PLAYGROUND SLIDES CITY PARK
- ➤ WINTERIZING FACILITIES
- ➤ TREE PLANTING OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>
- ➤ TREE PLANTING OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>
- ➤ POUR FOUNDATIONS/BENCH FOUNDATION
- ➤ FINISH DOWNTOWN TRIMMING
- ➤ FLAGPOLE DIAMOND 3
- > CLOSE UP CAMPGROUND FOR SEASON

JOSHUA JOHNSON MA
OELWEIN PARK SUPERINTENDENT