

Parks and Recreation Department

November 2025

Parks

- Public Works completed fall clean up and winterization for the parks.
- Public Works staff will begin getting ice ready for the season. There will be no warming house this season. City staff will focus on renting the Able Park Building.

Department Activity

- Recreation Program Supervisor Patrice started on Nov 10 and is jumping into the role. She brings great ideas, and planning skills to the position.
- Clare has wrapped up her participation in Emerging Recreation Leaders Institute. She made some good connections with other Recreation staff.
- Director Scanlon is working with Patrice on training.
- Seniors Clubs are growing: We have seen an uptick in all clubs for drop in participation. These free clubs are open to anyone.
- We had record turn out for our Travel Shows this fall. Our Wednesday evening show 35+ people in attendance and our Thursday show had 56+ people in attendance. 4 of our extended trips have over 20 people signed up (we have 6 total trips).
- Recreation Department offered 29 classes/programs in November. Two community classes that we offered were Stayin' Steady with Mallory Haas and Islamic Resource Group. Both classes were well attended and requested again.
- The DNR ReLeaf Grant was submitted and Director Scanlon is working on the Anoka County CDBG Grant.
- Packet attachments: Highlights from upcoming Winter Catalog. Several new programs are included and updates/revamp of existing programs.
- Able Park Summer Program is changing to full days with a new branding and name:

Able Park Adventurers

- Director Scanlon attended the following meetings and events during June:
 - Department Head Meeting
 - City Council Session
 - Weekly Park and Rec Staff Mtg
 - Adaptive Programs Mtg (Anoka County)
 - SLP Lions Pancake Breakfast Celebration
 - Meetings with potential program "Learn to Fly"

Park and Recreation Commission

- Park and Recreation Commission met in November and continues to look at ways to grow and improve.
- Commission members had some suggestions for our ice rinks that Director Scanlon will review with Public Works for next season (do to prep of this project).

Tower Days 2026 June 4-6, 2026

- Planning is underway – we are looking forward to the new format and events for 2026
- We have secured the band “Good for Gary”, fireworks and new this year “Ninja Anywhere”
- The committee will continue to review activities over the next couple of months.
- In the past we have had 7 levels of sponsorship. We have rebranded this and reduced the number of offering to 5.