

Parks and Recreation Department

April 2025 Report

Parks

- Terrace Park – Installation of the playground is underway.
- Soccer nets are up at Able Park – we have been receiving calls Thanking the Parks for putting them up this year. Shout out to Ben and Brett for getting that done.
- Community Raised Garden Beds at Sanburnol – We have 2 of the 14 spots remaining for the community garden
- Adopt-a-Flower Garden Program – each year residents may volunteer to maintain a flower garden in one of the parks. If interested please fill out form: <https://slprec.org/parksrec/webform/adopt-flower-garden-interest-form>
- Adopt-a-Drain Program -residents may adopt a storm drain in their neighborhood to help keep our waterways clean. Register at: <https://adopt-a-drain.org/>

Department Activity

- Our new Recreation Program Supervisor Clare Waddell started May 31. She is stepping right in and getting to know the community and our participants. She brings a great energy to the department.
- Tower Days – Staff are working hard to put the final touches on Tower Days
- The annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on April 12, participants had great things to say about the event. We look forward to continuing with the SLP Tradition.
- Staff begin organization of summer programs, coaches mtgs and getting all the shirts ready for softball. We have uptick in registrations this summer. Our numbers are at 192
- North Metro Leagues continue to be popular
- We have added a morning yoga class – this time fits well for the retirees’ and others
- We completed our first extended trip of the year. This Mystery Trip led us to Sioux Falls South Dakota. 3 of the top stops during our trip were: USS South Dakota Battleship Memorial, Fendt Lodge in Jackson, MN and EROS – Earth Resources Observation and Science Center.

- Our 55+ Driver Education completed it's first class back at City Hall, both instructor and participants really like the larger TV and sound.
- Earth Day was held at the end of the month. We had great weather, participation was lower than we hoped. Those that did participate really helped put the shine on the city. We also gained some new Adopt a Drain participants.
- Director Scanlon attended the following meetings and events during March:
 - Training of new staff - Clare
 - Park and Recreation Commission monthly meeting
 - Tower Days Planning Meeting
 - Department Head Meeting
 - Senior Safety Fair Committee
 - Construction Meetings
 - City Council Session
 - Anoka County Adaptive Programming Committee
 - AMC Spring Grant Cohort Webinar
 - Weekly Park and Rec Staff Mtg

Upcoming Activities

- Tower Days
 - June 5-8
- Day Trips
 - Mille Lacs Fishing – May 22
 - History Theater “Whoa, Nellie” – May 29
- City Hall Open House

Tower Days - June 5-8, 2025

- See brochure
- Musical groups (Good for Gary on Saturday evening and Free & Easy on Sunday evening), Lumberjacks and fireworks vendor are contracted.
- Saturday we will be having AWF – American Wrestling Federation for 3-5 pm.
- Temporary Change of Traffic Flow for Tower Days surrounding Lakeside Lions Park, please see attached.
- Roads on the parade route and leading up to the route will close at 5:30 pm Thursday, June 5.
- We are still working on securing additional sponsors for Tower Days. The SLP Lions donation is greatly appreciated.
- Applications for the parade, Craft and Business Fair, and food vendors are available on our website.
- The Committee's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 28 at 6:30pm Spring Lake Park City Hall. If interested in joining the committee please contact Anne at ascanlon@slpmn.org
- As events and activities are confirmed, they will be posted on www.slprec.org website.

Tower Days at Lions Lakeside Park on Saturday, June 7 and Sunday, June 8, 2025. These festivities are an annual event, but there is going to be a change in traffic flow during the hours of the events each day. Here is the breakdown for the changes:

- McKinley St NE will be one-way traffic going southbound from 81st Ave NE to 79th Ave NE
- 79th Ave NE will be one-way traffic going eastbound from McKinley St NE to Pleasant View Dr NE
- Pleasant View Dr NE will be one-way traffic going northbound from 79th Ave NE to 81st Ave NE

This change will allow for parking on both sides of the street, but still maintaining a traffic flow as there will not be opposing traffic. There will be temporary signage along the route during the weekend. As always, vehicles parked on the street are not allowed to block mailboxes or driveways. The area along 79th Ave NE along the park side of the street will be reserved as handicap parking, along with some motorcycle parking east of the entrance to the park. Please see the attached map for further explanation of the temporary change.

This temporary traffic flow change is only for the two days of Tower Days at Lions Lakeside Park during the hours of the festivities.

