



Shaping the Future of Our Parks

For more information on any of the projects listed below, please visit oakparkparks.com and select Future Plans and Current Projects. Park master plans, community meeting and focus group meeting notes, park concepts, future playground apparatus and more are just a mouse click away.

Planning for the Future of Cheney Mansion

The Park District of Oak Park is currently in the process of developing a site plan or blueprint for the renovation of the 2 acres of landscaped grounds which surround Cheney Mansion. Two community meetings have already been held and **a final meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15 at 7pm at Cheney Mansion, 220 N. Euclid, to present a final plan recommendation.** The site planning process will focus on improving accessibility into this historical property, owned and operated by the Park District. To view current site plan concepts visit www.oakparkparks.com and select Future Plans and Current Projects, then Cheney Mansion in the left column.

Wenonah Tot Lot Renovation

Renovation of the Wenonah Tot Lot, which began in early October, will include new playground equipment and interpretive signage based on an automotive theme. New ornamental fencing, benches, game tables and landscaping will also be part of the renovation. Yes, the ever-popular turtle will be relocated but will remain onsite. Substantial project completion is expected by December 15, 2009 with final completion targeted for the end of April 2010.

Scoville Park Memorial Restoration and Rededication

The final wax finish and buffing has been completed on the World War I War Memorial statue and the large plaque on the reverse side of the monument in Scoville Park. Unfortunately, when the Monument's stairs were being reset, it was discovered that the concrete footings beneath had deteriorated. Work has begun to repair the deteriorated areas and reset the stairs. This unanticipated condition has delayed the completion of the project and the re-dedication ceremony for the Monument originally scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 2009 has been postponed until Memorial Day, May 31, 2010. Look for more details regarding the rededication ceremony in the spring and summer Program Guides.



Did You Know? The grounds at Cheney Mansion, located at 220 N. Euclid Avenue, are public. Stop by and enjoy them today!

The End is Near!

The development of site plans for Scoville Park and Lindberg Park in 2010 signals the end of the Park District's six year process of establishing specific plans for future park renewal of all District parks. The planning process for Scoville Park will be initiated in March with focus groups followed by community meetings and on-line questionnaires to collect citizen input. This historic park, deemed our "Village Green," was originally designed by noted landscape architect Jens Jensen. Look for information about this planning process in the spring brochure to be delivered in late February. The planning process for Lindberg Park, the District's largest park at nearly 14 acres, is slated to begin in September. Please bookmark the future plans and current projects page on the Park District website to follow the progress of these planning processes and learn about future community meetings where Oak Park residents are invited to help shape the future of our parks.

A New Look for Randolph Tot Lot

In the fall of 2009 a site plan was developed for the renovation of Randolph Tot Lot which includes the piece of property stretching from Grove Avenue to Oak Park Avenue south of Randolph Street. As with most park renovation projects, this project will be completed in phases with Phase 1 focusing on the tot lot west of the alley. Park improvements, including new playground equipment, landscaping and pathways, is scheduled to begin in March with completion in July 2010.

2010 Park Improvement Projects

Several other park renovation projects are on the agenda for 2010. Improvements to Maple Park and Euclid Square Park are scheduled to begin as part of the Park District Capital Improvement Plan and the Oak Park Conservatory garden project will be completed. Construction at Maple and Euclid Square Parks is slated to begin in March and work at the Conservatory will begin following the annual herb sale in May. More details on these projects will be posted on the Park District's website under Future Plans and Current Projects.

Join the GREEN TEAM

If you are interested in helping to care for a local park, we need you for the Park District Green Team, an initiative of the Park District's newly organized Greening Advisory Committee. Green Team members, under the guidance of volunteer park stewards, will donate a few hours per month to monitor and maintain biodiverse areas, monitor trees, remove invasive species from naturalized areas and help ensure green operations on all of our park lands while improving the overall quality of our parks. Interested steward candidates should have a working knowledge of or interest in horticultural practices which might include gardening, prairie restoration and perennial plant and tree care. For more details contact Henrietta Yardley at 708.725.2450 or henriet-tay@oakparkparks.com.

