

PHALEN REGIONAL PARK

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION 2013 UPDATE

Since the last Phalen Regional Park Master Plan newsletter update, a number of projects at Phalen Regional Park have made progress or have been completed. In addition, there are a few projects about to start.

Phalen Channel Improvements

Restoration of Phalen Channel is nearing completion! The project includes reshaping the shoreline, new sediment catching manholes, fishing access outcroppings, a fishing pier, native plantings, and new picnic tables.



Construction began in late 2012. Before cold weather forced the contractor to wrap things up for the season, picnic tables and concrete pads, trees, and bituminous trails were removed and a large portion of the shoreline shaping was able to take place. Then, higher than normal rains in the spring

and early summer slowed down the construction. Although the water level of the channel remained higher than normal throughout the summer, the contractor was able to incrementally complete work as channel water levels receded throughout the summer.

By late July, the majority of the work was completed. When the channel has had a chance to return to its normal level later this summer or fall, the contractor will return to install the rock riffles in the channel and finish the shrub planting along the shoreline.

Phalen Tennis Courts

Construction of four new lighted tennis courts near the intersection of Johnson Parkway and Maryland Avenue has recently been completed. The tennis courts replace courts that were removed a few years ago when a wetland was constructed in the area.

Phalen - Round Lake Oak Savanna Restoration

The City of Saint Paul Environmental Staff have partnered with the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District, Ramsey Conservation District and Conservation Corps - Minnesota on

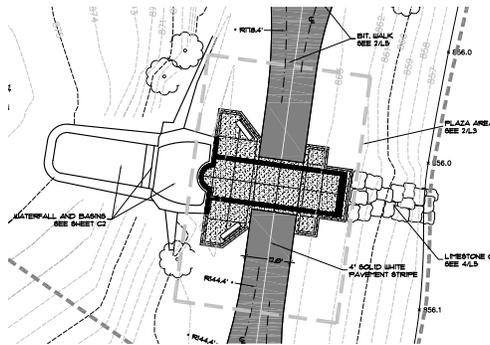
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restoration of the Oak Savanna between Lakes Phalen and Round, as well as, shoreline improvements on Round Lake. They have removed significant amounts of invasive species from the Oak Savanna, reseeded areas with native grasses and forbes, and installed two fishing access outcroppings on Round Lake.

Phalen Waterfall Restoration

Restoration of the waterfall near the



north end of Lake Phalen will begin soon. Restoration plans include the addition of a mechanical system to draw water from Lake Phalen to the top of the waterfall. The water will then cascade over the waterfall, flow



through decorative channels in the pedestrian and bicycle path, and down a stone cascade at the shoreline. The restoration of the waterfall should be complete in the fall of 2013.

Phalen Beach Splash Pad

Funding for a splash pad at Phalen Beach is proposed through the Metropolitan Council for the 2014 - 2015 funding cycle. A splash pad is a water play feature with in-ground and overhead spray jets. Unlike a pool, the water drains from the surface leaving no standing water. While the City has two small neighborhood scale splash pads located at Lewis Park and Conway Recreation Center, a splash pad at Phalen Beach is intended to be larger in comparison to meet the demand of a Regional Park facility.

Please visit our *Current Projects* Website for periodic updates and advertisement of upcoming meetings. The website address is as follows:

www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?nid=1199

If you have any questions or comments about any completed, in progress, or future projects at Phalen Regional Park, please feel free to contact Bryan Murphy, the Project Manager for the Master Plan at 651-266-6411 or by email at: bryan.murphy@ci.stpaul.mn.us