



FARMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Austin Holm, Parks Maintenance

Austin started working for the parks and recreation department in June as a parks maintenance worker. Previously he worked seasonally for the City of Eagan for the last four years while in college. He is looking forward to learning new things in his new position, and seeing the city's progress throughout his career. Austin grew up in Eagan and currently lives there. Outside of work, he likes to hunt, farm, and enjoys anything with an engine. Make sure to say hi to Austin when you see him out and about!



Emilee Shearer Recreation Supervisor

Emilee started as the Recreation Supervisor in August. For nine years, Emilee worked for the Farmington Parks and Recreation Department as a Recreation Assistant/Program Supervisor. She grew up in Farmington and will be soon finishing her doctorate degree in Communication Studies. In her new position, she looks forward to putting her own twist on the city's recreation programs. In her free time, she likes to spend time with her boyfriend, family, and friends, as well as cooking, reading, and watching football and hockey.



John Carpenter Parks Maintenance

John joined the parks maintenance team in November. He worked as a seasonal staff member for the cities of Cottage Grove and Apple Valley prior to joining the city. He is looking forward to driving machinery he has not had a chance to use, as well as, working to provide the best park experience to residents of Farmington. In his spare time, John enjoys deer hunting, fishing, ice fishing, playing guitar, bowling, and trapping.

CELEBRATE MILESTONE & WELCOME NEW STAFF

Dan Thielbar 1984-PRESENT

New Hires: Austin Holm, Emilee Shearer, and John Carpenter



Literacy Nights
Sponsored by ISD. 192



Food Truck Festival
Sponsored by Empire & Farmington
Parks and Recreation Commissions



Story Trail in the Park
Sponsored by Farmington Library &
Park and Recreation



Popcorn at all Music & Movie Events
Sponsored by Marschall Line



Ceramics and Painting Classes
Sponsored by Muddy Waters Studio

Partnering with local organizations, businesses and residents is what makes Farmington Parks and Recreation a successful system. The people in our community are generous with their ideas, muscle and money to make our programs, parks and facilities the best they can be. We are happy to have such wonderful continued support as we strive to meet the needs of our growing community.

Adopt a Parks Partners

Dokken Family
Elizabeth Koss and Dave Seipp
Empire Rockets 4H Club
Farmington Ambassador Program
Farmington Barber
Farmington Boys Basketball
Farmington Girl Scouts
Farmington Sno-Tigers
Farmington Tiger Dance Team
FHS Outdoors Club
FHS Side Line Cheerleading
Finch and Daisy
Great Oaks Academy
Kim Landerville
Lovely Woods
The Lien Family
Middle Creek East HOA
Porter Family

Program Partners

Bethel's Rock Church
Community Education
Dakota Electric
Dakota County Sportsman's Club
Dakota County STS

Dew Days Committee
Farmington Library
Farmington Youth Hockey
Finch and Daisy
Friends of the Mississippi
Happy Harry's Furniture
Heritage Figure Skating Club
ISD 192
MN DNR
Rotary Club
South of the River Recreators
Southern Hills Golf Course
Muddy Waters

Movies/Music in Park Sponsors

Appliance Renew
Castle Rock Bank
Chemquest/HOBO
Dakota Electric Association
Family Vision Clinic
Farmington Gymnastics
Farmington Liquors
Farmington Youth Hockey Association
Marschall Line
Minnwest Bank
Muddy Waters Studio

Old National Bank
Premier Bank
Stephen Cocrellie Farmers Inc.
The Legacy
VFW Post #7662

Support from Ads at the RRC

Akin Hills Pet Hospital
Castle Rock Bank
Rotary Club
Dakota Electric Association
Eucumen Centennial House
Family Vision Clinic
Farmington Liquors
Top Notch Properties
Trinity Health Services

Support from Dasher Ads at the Schmitz-Maki Arena

Above All Hardwood Floors and Carpet
Castle Rock Bank
Cosmopolitan Orthodontics
Dakota County
Dakota County Lumber
Dakota Marine
Edina Realty- Mike Heinzerling

Farmington Liquors
Farmington Youth Hockey Association
Farmington Youth Lacrosse
Grant Heating and Air
Hedlund Irrigation
Heritage Figure Skating Club
Impact Auto Repair
Lakeville Orthodontics
Meadowview Orthodontics
Nivala Team
Northfield Hospital and Clinics
Pam McCarthy Agency Inc.
Pellicci Hardware
Randy Fulsaas
SOL - I.S. Solutions
State Farm Insurance
Transition Reality

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Community Engagement



Commercial grade 4 scoop spreader replaces 2006 1-2 scoop residential spreader.



Seppi skid loader mulching head replaced 2017 swing boom cutter that can't be safely used by one person and doesn't pose the same cutting capabilities as the Seppi.



Two Toolcats with brooms were purchased to replace 2007 toolcat whose floorboard was held together with welding, a major safety concern.



Henderson dump body replaced rusted dump body on 2007 truck with only 55,000 miles.



New Perkins garbage packer to pick up downtown and parks.



2022 John Deere Gator replaced a 2004 Workman that was rusting away and had several safety concerns.



Toro Groundmaster replaced a towed behind mower. The tractor was a 2004 John Deere and the gang mower attachment was from 2006.

Equipment	Cost
Seppi Mulching Head	\$39,938
2021 Toro Groundmaster	\$115,795.91
2022 John Deere Gator	\$20,726.76
Two Toolcats with Brooms	\$129,169.05
Spreader	\$7,500
Henderson Dump Body	\$19,870
Total	\$332,999.72

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Infrastructure Support



Parks completed several important projects this year including:

- Flagstaff Meadows Park Master Planning
- Tree Planting at Prairie Pines
- Trail reclamation at Mystic Meadows
- Installation of a root barrier at Mystic Meadows
- Fishing pier improvements at Lake Julia Park
- Feely Fields and Arena parking lot improvements
- Railings were raised on bridges by the Arena and Kuchera's entrance to meet ADA regulations
- Sunny Hills Park playground completion



Flagstaff Meadows Park | Master Plan



2022	2021
230	275
Hours of Field Dragging	



2022	2021
6,115	4,209
Skaters at outdoor rinks	



2022	2021
32	32
Flower Baskets & Planters Watered Daily	



Root barrier at Mystic Meadows Trail.



Sunny Hills Park

Farmington Elementary makes great use of the outdoor ice Parks Maintenance staff floods and maintains for them. In fact, Principal Kim Bolleson tweeted:

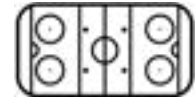
"So many smiles! We love our rink!"
@FarmingtonMN

Students also created Thank You cards for the staff.



PARKS AND TRAILS

Infrastructure Support, Community Engagement



2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
795.25	777.75	335.75	478.5	18	19	244.5	269.5	88	96	1,481.5	1,640	\$329,317.50	\$361,099	211	221
FYHA Hours of Ice		High School Hours of Ice		Senior Men Hours of Ice		Summer Ice Hours of Ice		Misc. Ice Hours of Ice		Total Hours of Ice		Total Revenue Ice Rental Pre-audit		Learn to Skate	
														326	
														375	
														Skating Special Events	

A new skate sharpener was purchased.



The Spruce St. project and parking lots changed the traffic patterns at the arena. People are getting used to one way in and out on the west side of the arena. The parking lot lights are new. The parking lot on the east was also paved. This project will be finished this year.



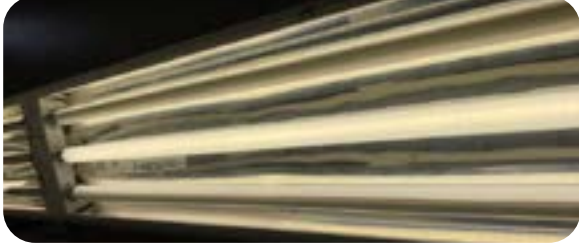
Skate with Santa collected 181.5 lbs. of food that was donated to 360 Communities Farmington Food Shelf.

SCHMITZ-MAKI ARENA

Community Engagement, Infrastructure Support

In addition to their daily duties, Building Maintenance staff:

- Strip and wax the floors 2x per year.
- Clean the carpets at all the buildings 2x per year.
- Clean the Rambling River Center after rentals.
- Assist with setting up all the polling locations during election years.



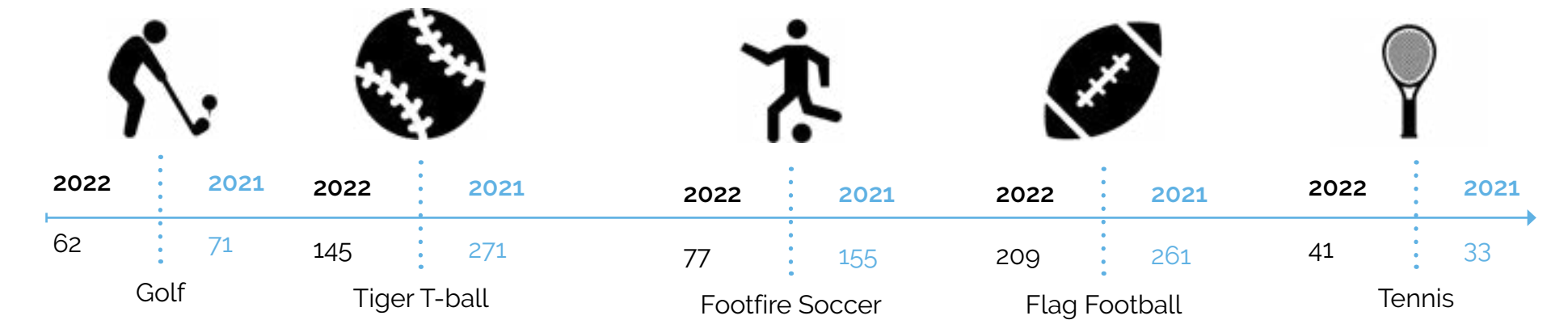
Staff have been replacing lights with more efficient LED bulbs citywide,



Staff repainted the large conference room at City Hall.



Staff dug a trench by hand to accommodate the cable for the new camera at Fire Station 2.



Tiger T-ball and Footfire Soccer had sessions throughout June and July, utilizing parent volunteers and recreation staff.

This year, we brought back the "Pie a Coach in the Face" event from 2017. During the last night of T-ball, kids play various T-ball related games and are able to win the chance to pie one of their coaches in the face by hitting a ball off the tee into a bucket. This event is fun for the kids, parents and staff alike!

The last night of soccer included a fun game where the kids played against their parents. The kids had a blast on this game night!

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Infrastructure Support

SPORTS

Community Engagement



Puppet Wagon is also sponsored by Empire. In addition to partially funding the wagon, staff performs at an Empire park and they promote the program with sandwich board signs in the Empire neighborhoods.

Seasonal staff worked hard to make the puppet shows more engaging and perfecting the sound. They did such a great job, we received the following:

I just wanted to reach out and let you know how awesome the puppet wagon was today! The sound system worked great, the show was engaging and the kids loved the music and dancing in the beginning. We appreciate you guys taking the time to come back and show us your new and improved show! We look forward to the rest of the summer!
 thanks,
 Sara Soriano
 Assistant Director Cornerstone Preschool and Childcare



Geocaching, Storytime in the Parks and Story Trails are all done in partnership with the Farmington Library. We have seen huge increases in participation in these programs.



RECREATION

Community Engagement



2022 2021

212 140

Parent/Child Dance



2022 2021

191 79

Pond and Park Clean up



2022 2021

133 92

Dew Run



2022 2021

740 475

Music in the Park



2022 2021

191 324

Movies in the Park



2022 2021

1,293 1,321

Halloween Walk



2022 2021

156 153

Trains and Treats



2022 2021

200 279

Secret Holiday Shop

The Tiger Cub Pep Fest and Halloween Walk are co-sponsored by Parks and Recreation and Farmington Community Education.

At the Tiger Cub Pep Fest, families enjoyed getting together and dancing to a DJ following the Homecoming Parade to cheer on the Farmington Tigers.

At the Halloween Walk, businesses connected with the community as they handed out candy and other treats to the families in attendance.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Community Engagement



2022 2021

11,777 8,728

Program Participants



2022 2021

399 471

Members



2022 2021

132 79

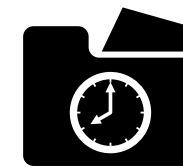
Rentals



2022 2021

65 57

Volunteers



2022 2021

2,437 2,135

Volunteer Hours



2022 2021

\$53,186.57 \$25,819

Fundraising and Donations



Programming continues to increase bringing us closer to pre-pandemic numbers. Fitness classes, trips, and bingo top the list.

Ramp handrails were completed and installed.



A celebration bench and landscaping were installed in honor of the 40th Anniversary. The donation of landscaping (magnolia tree, plants, limestone boulders, and mulch) was donated by MN Nice Gardens and Landscapes.

We had a blast celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Rambling River Center. In addition to a hog roast with music by the Polka Dots, we held a pumpkin decorating contest, had a photo booth and put together a time capsule to be opened in 2062.



Neil Anderson, Minnwest Bank, presented the Rambling River Center Advisory Board with a check for \$16,000 for the passenger van.

The former bus was pulled from service in August for failing to pass the DOT inspection.

All fundraising and donations in 2022 went toward funding the passenger van.

RAMBLING RIVER CENTER

Community Engagement

The bath house at Evergreen Knoll Park was removed.



Graffiti and vandalism are ongoing issues.



Emerald ash borer (EAB) has hit Farmington, 117 turf area park trees were identified with EAB. Twenty-seven trees (Prairie View Park and Fair Hills) were treated. Fifteen trees (Hill Dee Park, Rambling River Park, and Westview Acres) were cut down.



An advisory committee was created to develop a Master Plan for Jim Bell Park and Preserve. The intent of this group was to help steward the planning process, provide input on deliverables and concepts, advise on implementation, and assist with public engagement and outreach. In April, three concept plans were presented to the city council.

It was at this point in the master planning process the team decided to evaluate the city's park system as a whole. The Park System Analysis and Asset Management Tool were presented to the City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission in November.

We look forward to updating Farmington parks to meet the needs of Farmington's growing population.

RAMBLING RIVER CENTER ADVISORY BOARD

The RRC Advisory Board planned and hosted a very successful 40th Anniversary Party. They also held several successful fundraisers including the Arts and Crafts Fair and Breakfast & Silent Auction. Thank you Marjorie Koski, Judy Janke, Pennie Page, Larry Smith, Mary Garlets, Pat Hennen, and Blanche Reichert.



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

This Parks and Recreation Commission worked with HKGi and the advisory committee to present three master plan ideas for the Jim Bell Park and Preserve. They reviewed playground equipment proposals and went on a tour of the parks and facilities with the City Council and the RRC Advisory Board. Thank you David McMillen, Katherine Caron, Katie Putt, Ashley Crabtree, and Elizabeth Koss.



CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Infrastructure Support & Community Engagement

BOARD & COMMISSION

Community Engagement



QUESTIONS

Community Engagement