



Park Paths

Vernon Hills Park District Community Newsletter

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Spring 2009

Tree & Bench Donation Program

Make a special contribution to our environment! Donate a tree or park bench in honor of someone special!

Trees are sold at cost, with prices ranging from \$350 - \$475, depending on the type of species selected. Tree donations are accepted year-round, but are only planted in the spring or fall (weather permitting). Oak trees are planted only in spring. Tree donations can be personalized with a bronze plaque, which is sold at cost.

For those who like to sit and relax in the parks, a bench donation might seem especially appropriate. The Park

District has selected a park bench that is available in a variety of colors that will complement any of its parks. Benches may be purchased beginning at a cost of \$700, and can be personalized with a bronze plaque.

All trees will be maintained as part of the Park District's routinely scheduled park maintenance operations. Should your donated tree become damaged or diseased within five years, it will be replaced at no cost to you.

A [Tree & Bench order form](#) can be downloaded from the website or call Cheryl Baron at (847) 996-6933.



Your Party - Our Place! Picnic Shelter & FAC Rentals

The Park District has six large [picnic shelters](#) available to rent for your family reunion, corporate picnic or special party!



Hartmann Park

Picnic permits are available at the Sullivan Community Center beginning April 7 for Vernon Hills residents. Refer to the website or Spring/Summer brochure for amenities at each park site.

The [Family Aquatic Center](#) is a cool place to hold a [private party!](#) The entire FAC is available for rent on Friday & Saturdays evenings. Reservations will be accepted beginning May 3. Contact Jay B.

at (847) 996-6807 for information.

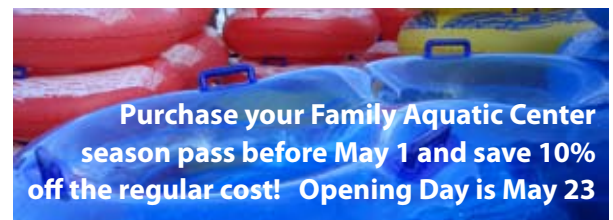
Splash into summer with your [birthday party at the FAC!](#) The Backyard Grille is offering four catering packages to suit your needs. Race down the slides, lounge in the lazy river, and splash in the pools! Reservations will be accepted beginning April 15. For more information, call (847) 721-1752 before May 15; or call (847) 996-6812 after May 15.

Green Team Report

The Park District has partnered with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to create a [Migratory Bird Display](#). This educational exhibit will feature several migratory bird species commonly found in northern Illinois. Visit the [Sullivan Center](#) on Earth Day, April 22, for the exhibit unveiling.

Watch for new [recycle containers](#) in our parks this spring! Please help our environment by recycling your paper and plastic bottles and disposing of garbage in the trash containers.

FAC Season Aquatic Passes



[Earth Hour](#) - Join your neighbors around the world and conserve energy together. On March 28, from 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm, turn off the lights in your house.

Spring Special Events

Loop the Lakes 5K Run & 2-Mile Walk is Saturday, April 25 in Century Park. The race begins at 9:00 am at the Boat Dock shelter on Lakeview Parkway and “loops” around Big & Little Bear Lakes. All ages are welcome! Pre-register by April 17 and save \$5!



In 2007, the District won the IAPD Youth License Plate Award for the best promotion of the Family Kite Fly! This event brings awareness to the Park District license plate design offered through the **Illinois Secretary of State**. The purchase of each plate supports funding for after-school programming.

Keep your eyes to the skies on April 25 at 11:00 am in Century Park! Bring your own kite to the free **Family Kite Fly!** or call the Park District by April 14 and we will provide you with a free kite. No registration is necessary.

The 3rd Annual **Kids Fishing Day** is Saturday, June 6 from 9:00 am - Noon on Big Bear Lake in Century Park. Kids, ages 5-13 years old, will benefit from instruction from the Libertyville Fishing Club before heading down to the lake to catch the “Big One”! Bait is provided. A limited number of poles will be available to use during the event. Prizes will be awarded for the first fish and largest fish caught in various age categories. Pre-registration is required. Resident fee: \$5

Fishing in Park Ponds & Lakes

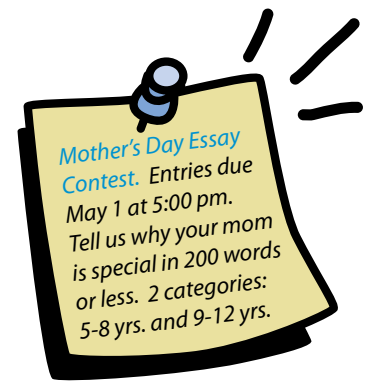
Residents can enjoy fishing at any one of eight ponds or lakes located within our parks. The lakes have been stocked with bass, bluegill, northern pike, catfish,

and walleye. The Park District encourages catch and release.

Fishing by electric-powered boats is permitted at Big and Little Bear Lakes and at Lake Charles.

A fishing license is required for those 16 years and older.

Bathymetric maps and a 2008 Fishery Report can be found under **Parks/Fishing** on the website.



Meet Flo McNelly, Horticulturist

Flo McNelly joined the Park District's Parks Department in July, 2008. Flo came to us from the New Jersey State Park Service. She has a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture from North Carolina State University.

This spring, Flo will be transforming the front landscaping of the **Special Recreation Association of Central Lake County's** headquarters in Hartmann Park into a sensory garden. A person's senses will be enhanced through plant materials that are texturized, fragrant and colorful.



Summer Fitness

The **Fitness Center** is located in the Sullivan Community Center. Take advantage of the summer fitness special offers! **Summer Punch Card** - 5-day punch card for only \$15, valid June 1-July 31
Summer Fitness Pass - 3-month resident membership for only \$75! Great for college students! Valid May 11-August 14

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