



Friends of Milwaukee County Parks

Park People Summer 2018 Newsletter

Meet Our New President

A change in leadership in our Board of Directors is occurring soon. It is with great excitement we introduce Nadine Weske as the new Board of Directors President. Nadine will be stepping into the role in October. We would like to thank Kate Ciurlik for her years of service.

Nadine Weske earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from UW Milwaukee in 1997. After graduation, she continued working in the insurance industry switching from sales to claims. In 1999, she moved to Madison with her husband accepting a new position and earned the prestigious CPCU insurance designation. After acting as Loaned Executive to United Way, she returned home to Milwaukee in 2005 to start a family and is now a stay at home mother of two. Nadine volunteers at her childrens' school, is a Girl Scout leader, on the parent advisory board of McMenamin Irish Dance Academy, member of the Junior League of Milwaukee and lifetime member of Lake Park Friends. There are so many wonderful parks but Lake Park is her "neighborhood" park where friends can be found, has a fascinating history including being designed by Olmsted plus beautiful views of Lake Michigan.

New Friends Groups

We would like to welcome some new friends groups to the Park People:

Officially joined:
Tiefenthaler Park

In the process of joining:
Rainbow Park
Smith Park
McCarty Park

Check Out These Friends Groups

We heard some exciting things took place in some of our parks this summer. A few Friends Groups share with us the events they had going on.

Here you can read the article and view the video on Tiefenthaler Park Friends Group:
<https://radiomilwaukee.org/story/community-stories/stand-4-peace-day-tiefenthaler-koller-family/>

Friends of Pulaski Park-Cudahy recently sponsored the 4th annual Bluegrass in the Park event. This year the Pop Up Beer Garden sponsored by the County Parks was added to the event.

Three bands entertained a large crowd of Bluegrass fans and many who came to enjoy a day in the park. Featured again this year were: Bluegrass AllStars, KR Bluegrass Band and the Dillweeds Bluegrass Band. Each year the entertainment is free. Hot Dogs, Brats, Walking tacos, snacks and refreshments are offered for sale by the Friends Group.

In addition, local businesses and members donated items that were made into basket raffles. A special raffle was held for a hand made quilt donated by a former Cudahy resident.

This is the biggest event of the year and draws many people to the park, residents and followers of each of the bands. Because of the success of our event, we were able to completely install new windows in the pavilion. The pavilion was used only for storage in the past 25 years and now is available to rent.

Our next event is PUMPKINS IN THE PARK, and annual Halloween event where

pumpkins are available to purchase as well as tricks and treats.

Greater Milwaukee Foundation's On The Table MKE

by: Susan Spoerk

The Park People will be participating this Fall in The Greater Milwaukee Foundation's On The Table MKE gathering. This event is the region's largest community conversation. On the Table MKE was introduced by the Foundation in 2017 as a forum for diverse discussions, a birthplace for creative collaborations and a catalyst for taking action to improve our community.

The Park People will host two tables. One for The Park People Weed-Out®— a volunteer initiative designed to significantly reduce the proliferation of invasive plant species in our parks. Table will include stake holders from The Park People Board of Directors, a representative from Milwaukee County Parks Department and a past volunteers to discuss impact of the program. The second table will be The Park People Friends Groups - The Park People assists interested individuals in the creation of Friends Groups for their neighborhood parks. Ultimately, these groups work to promote and enhance their parks through volunteer efforts, fund raising, and events. Over the years The Park People has assisted in the formation of over thirty groups.

Tables will include stake holders from The Park People Board of Directors, a representative from Milwaukee County Parks Department and representative Friends Group leaders to discuss impact of the program.

Annual Meeting Recap

We held the annual members meeting on July 18, 2018 at Zablocki Park. President Kate Ciurlik discussed this past years accomplishments and potential ideas for revamping the organization. Some of the highlights shared were:

- Board and staff introductions
- Weed Out achievements
- Concordia University project and updates on using social media
- China Lights no longer being managed by Park People
- The new website for Park People
- Oak Leaf Discovery Tour

We also heard from Eddee Daniel with A Wealth of Nature Organization.

Fall 2018 Weed-Out® Dates

Below are the scheduled fall weed out dates.

- Brown Deer Park- Sep. 22, Oct. 20 9am-12pm. meet at the boat house
- Doctors Park- Oct. 13 9am-12pm. meet in the parking lot
- Grant Park- Sep. 22, Oct. 6 (rain date: Oct. 20) 9am-12pm. meet at the tennis courts
- Estabrook Park- Oct. 21, Nov. 11 9am-12pm meet at the northwest corner of the main parking lot (biergarten)
- Hoyt Park- Oct. 6, Nov. 3 9am-12pm. meet at 1800 N. Swan Blvd. (pool parking lot)
- Kletzsch Park- Nov. 10 9am-12pm meet at park pavilion.
- Lincoln Park- Oct. 6, Oct. 27 9am-12pm. meet at Blatz Pavilion parking lot, 1301 E. Hampton Ave.
- Lake Park- Sep. 22, Oct. 20 9am-12pm. meet at the warming house near the playground at north end of the park
- Honey Creek Pkwy- Oct. 27, Nov. 4. meet at 8024 Brookside Pl. Wauwatosa

For more information or to get your park on the fall weed out schedule please contact Barry at: 414-273-7275.

Park Market

The Park Market helps beautify our parks while also providing individuals with a unique way to honor special people and events in our lives. Who do you want to honor?

You have 3 options of trees: ornamental, evergreen, or shade.

You have 6 options of benches: 6' steel in black or green, or 2 different wood styles both available in either 6' or 8'.

Dedicating a bench or tree in your favorite park is a wonderful way to help your parks and to:

teach children about stewardship
commemorate a special event
honor an accomplishment
create a meaningful memorial for a loved one

For more information please visit: <https://parkpeoplemke.org/park-market/> or call Barry at: 414-273-7275

We Are Here to Help

The Park People is fortunate to have Barry and Kim in the office to support your needs

and answer your questions. Please call during office hours or email anytime asking for assistance (success stories also welcome). They are happy to direct you as needed but have a lot of knowledge on most friend group related issues including insurance information and license concerns. Later this year, Milwaukee County Parks will hire a Volunteer Coordinator to replace August Ball.

Consider Joining The Park People Board!

Do you love your Milwaukee County Parks? And are you the type of person who wants to make a difference in the community? If so, please consider joining The Park People Board. We are seeking 5 new board members to start January 2019. Board meetings are monthly and held in the evening hours. Volunteer time outside of board meetings averages 2-5 hours per month.

Annual Appeal

Watch your mailboxes for the annual appeal letter coming soon. It is with your support that we can continue to do great things in the Milwaukee County Parks!

Thank You for Supporting Park People

Your help in supporting the Park People's mission to support Milwaukee County Parks is so important. We appreciate all our donors. Thank you for your Annual Appeal donations and for renewing your memberships.

Another easy way to donate is through [Amazon Smile](#)



Thanks for being a member and making a difference! Make good use of our parks during the beautiful fall color change.
