Summer 2008 Newsletter

Note from the Development Director

It is going to be an incredible construction season! So many parks are getting attention from community groups, I hardly know where to begin with this update. I'll just *Dig In*!



Beth Nordlund

Recent News

The Alaska State Legislature gave some grants directly to the Anchorage Park Foundation, and many to Anchorage parks. <u>See funding list here</u>. Thank your legislators!

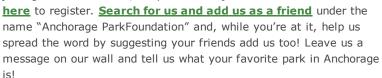
The Anchorage Park Foundation awarded <u>16</u>
<u>Challenge Grants</u> totaling \$312,000 for parks and trails. See webpage for each award <u>here</u>.

Parks & Recreation hired 42 **teens ages 16-18** and **6 assistant crew leaders ages 17-20** this summer for <u>Youth</u> <u>Employment in Parks!</u> See our website to track their progress.

The Anchorage Park Foundation welcomes new board member Eleanor Andrews!

The Anchorage Park Foundation is on

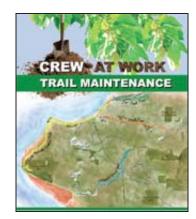
Facebook! If you aren't already a member, joining Facebook is fast, easy and fun – just click



Construction Updates

Expect the Coastal Trail to receive asphalt repairs from a 2 person work crew throughout the summer. The Rasmuson Foundation donated funding that made it possible, and we will be showcasing the **crew progress** all summer long.

 Tikishla Park: Gomez Rink boards and lighting are down, and work will continue through the summer.



events

Citizen Weeds Warriors

June 17, Lidia Selkregg Chalet 6-8pm

June 24, Westchester Lagoon 6-8 pm

July 10, Goose Lake 6-8 pm July 19, Foxtree Park Noon-2pm

July 23, Northwood Park 6-8 pm

Aug. 21, Westchester Nature Trail 3-5 pm

June 30 Flight of the Raven Unveiling, Peratrovich Park 1 pm

August 23 Cuddy Family Midtown Park Grand Opening

December Get Outdoors Summit

The **Anchorage Park Foundation** strives to build *Healthy Parks - Healthy People*by mobilizing public support
and financial resources for

Anchorage parks, trails, and
recreation opportunities.

Board of Directors

Eleanor Andrews Matt Carle Jeff Clarke Ernie Hall Janie Leask Vic Mollozzi Stewart Osgood David Wight



- Reflection Point at Kincaid Park: Work on the new viewing platform atop a bunker has begun. Please stay off the site until work is completed.
- Tanglewood Park Boardwalk: Materials are purchased and construction begins in July.
- University Lake Trail: Construction is underway in rebuilding one of the muddiest sections of trail at University Lake, completion June 14. <u>Aerial photo here</u>
- **Singletrack Trail**: Trail building begins in July in Far North Bicentennial Park, with *Youth Employment in Parks*!
- Pena, Fairbanks & Didlika Parks: New fencing will be installed this summer.
- **Lloyd Steele fields**: Field transformation will begin at the conclusion of the soccer season in August.

Kyle Zencey Organizes Recycling for Lyn Ary

Teen Kyle Zencey is an active Lyn Ary park user and has initiated the first recycling program in Anchorage parks. Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling (ALPAR) provided bins for aluminum and plastic recycling for placement at Lyn Ary and Balto Seppala Parks. Kyle plans to take the recycling to the



center at least weekly, and he'll be monitoring participation to help us determine if and when this is worth doing in other parks.

Thanks for your community spirit Kyle!

Science in the Parks

The Anchorage Park Foundation is helping to bolster the science underlying park management with four new grants. Grant results will influence more ecological decisions on a range of natural resource issues.



- Birdcherry Study
- Invasive Plant Study
- Forest Health Protection
- Invasive Plant Management

Volunteer Opportunities

Along with all the opportunities to clean and fix up the parks listed in our events section, please consider ongoing opportunities you and your active organization may want to take up:

Adopt-A-Park: Volunteers remove trash at least once a month and report safety hazards and concerns to Parks & Recreation. A sign is displayed in the adopted park recognizing the name or group name and the contribution they make to the park.

<u>Adopt-A-Trail</u>: Adopt a segment of trail with the same responsibilities as adopt-a-park -- the program always needs more

community involvement!

Clean & Green: Community volunteer groups make a physical improvement to a park under Parks & Recreation leadership. Painting and pruning for trail safety are the two most popular projects.

Volunteer Coordination

Volunteer Coordinator Wade
Collins 343-4460 or
collinsWA@muni.org
Volunteer Coordinator Nancy
Beardsley 343-4288 beardsleyNJ@muni.org





Anchorage Park Foundation

4715 L Street, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501-1925 info@anchorageparkfoundation.org | (907) 274-1003

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