



Wilmette Park District
Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 6, 2021
6:30 p.m. – Village Hall Training Room

AGENDA

- I. Meeting Called to Order:

<u>Members of Committee:</u>	<u>Staff:</u>
Commissioner Patrick Duffy, Chair	Superintendent Emily Guynn
Commissioner Alli Frazier	Superintendent Kristi Solberg
Commissioner Kara Kosloskus	
- II. Communications and Correspondence
- III. Committee Scope and Responsibilities
 - A. Committee Goals and Objectives
- IV. Managers' Reports
- V. Unfinished Business
 - A. Community Playfield Bathrooms Possible Locations and Costs
 - B. Keay Nature Center Designs
- VI. Public Comment on Item V
- VII. New Business
 - A. Disc Golf
 - B. Garden Plots
- VIII. Public Comment on Item VII
- IX. Next Meeting – TBD
- X. Adjournment

If you are a person with a disability and need special accommodations to participate in or attend a Wilmette Park District meeting, please notify the Director's Office at 847-256-6100.

Wilmette Park District **Policy for Public Comment**

The Board of Park Commissioners, in its regular or special meetings, is a deliberative body assembled to make decisions on new and pending matters affecting the District. Park Board and Committee meetings are meetings held in public, not a public meeting. The Board invites both oral and written communications from its residents.

To facilitate the conduct of Board/Committee meetings, the following procedures will be followed:

1. A section of each regular meeting is set aside for public comment and will be noted on the agenda as "Recognition of Visitors."
2. During the "Recognition of Visitors" agenda item, audience members should raise their hands and be recognized by the President/Chairperson prior to speaking.
3. When recognized by the President/Chairperson, each audience member should identify themselves and limit speaking to no more than three (3) minutes, unless additional time is granted by the President/Chairperson.
4. Questions are to be directed to the entire Board/Committee.
5. Park Board members may, by addressing the President/Chairperson, interrupt a presenter to obtain clarification and/or further information.
6. A Board/Committee meeting is not a forum for complaints against individual employees. Such matters are handled by directly contacting the Executive Director. Complaints against the Executive Director should be handled by directly contacting the President of the Board of Park Commissioners.
7. During presentation and discussion of agenda items, the President/Chairperson will not recognize speakers in the audience unless the Board/Committee desires additional information from an audience member.
8. When addressing the Board/Committee, all persons permitted to speak shall confine their remarks to the matter at hand and avoid personal remarks, the impugning of motives, and merely contentious statements. If any person indulges in such remarks or otherwise engages in conduct injurious to the civil discourse of the Board/Committee and the meeting, the President/Chairperson may immediately terminate the opportunity to speak. This decision is at the discretion of the President/Chairperson or upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the park board commissioners present.
9. Any person, except a member of the Board, who engages in disorderly conduct during a meeting, may be ejected from the meeting upon motion passed by a majority of the Board present.

From: [Steve Wilson](#)
To: [Catherine Serbin](#)
Subject: FW: [external]
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 11:14:43 AM

Parks and rec packet.

Steve Wilson
Executive Director
Wilmette Park District
www.wilmettepark.org
847-256-9617

From: Isaac Gaetz <isaac.gaetz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021 11:05 AM
To: Mike Murdock <mmurdock@wilpark.org>; Patrick Duffy <pduffy@wilpark.org>; Todd Shissler <tshissler@wilpark.org>; Kara Kosloskus <kkosloskus@wilpark.org>; Julia Goebel <jgoebel@wilpark.org>; Cecilia Clarke <cclarke@wilpark.org>; Allison Frazier <afrazier@wilpark.org>; Steve Wilson <swilson@wilpark.org>
Subject: [external]

Dear Park Board Members and Staff,

I'm very excited to report that an online petition, which was started just last friday (June 11), collected well over 100 supporting signatures for Disc Golf from Wilmette residents in less than 24 hours! Many long-time residents also provided fond memories of disc golf at Gillson and the Community Playfields in the past.

The petition is still ongoing and can be viewed online here.

[Petition · Wilmette Park District Board: Bring Disc Golf to Wilmette · Change.org](#)

I am very excited that there is such clear and widespread support for bringing disc golf to Wilmette!

Disc golf remains a very inexpensive, popular, fun, and accessible sport that is enjoyed by a very wide spectrum of our current Wilmette residents. There are many parks and options that can be explored to bring a disc golf course to Wilmette. I know we can find a solution together!

I appreciate that the park district board has many important concerns, including capital construction projects, the Lakefront Master Plan, and other recreational changes. Some of these concerns include parks which are suitable for hosting disc golf. As such, I believe changes to these parks should include consideration of disc golf prior to finalization of plans.

At this time, I respectfully request that the board add disc golf to an appropriate

meeting agenda at the next available opportunity and further, request that staff work with myself and other members of the disc golfing community of Wilmette to develop appropriate proposal(s) for the board's review. I believe a clear path forward should be outlined for disc golf.

I look forward to your response and working with you all.

Thank you very much for your time,

--

Isaac Gaetz

From: [Steve Wilson](#)
To: [Catherine Serbin](#)
Subject: FW: [external] Indoor Pool in Wilmette
Date: Monday, July 5, 2021 1:10:00 PM

Steve Wilson
Executive Director
Wilmette Park District
847-256-9617
swilson@wilpark.org

----- Original message -----

From: Allison Frazier <afrazier@wilpark.org>
Date: 7/5/21 12:32 PM (GMT-06:00)
To: Steve Wilson <swilson@wilpark.org>
Subject: FW: [external] Indoor Pool in Wilmette

Hi Steve,
Please include in our packet for Centennial Committee.

Thanks,
Alli

Alli Frazier
Park Board Commissioner 2021-2025
Wilmette Park District
afrazier@wilpark.org
<http://www.wilmettepark.org/>

From: Jeff Toth [tothlikemoth@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 04, 2021 3:43 PM
To: Allison Frazier
Subject: [external] Indoor Pool in Wilmette

Hi, Alli!

One of the first places Jacqui and I scoped out while considering different 'burbs to settle in was Centennial Rec Center. Water slides!? What!? Two ice rinks AND indoor tennis?? It was one of those things that--on first glance--made us think Wilmette was probably a little above our means as a starting out point. (Even baby Anna was so excited that she blew out a diaper in the side parking lot by the studio rink. . .but that's neither here nor there. . .and it's gross. Sorry.) As soon as I knew that Wilmette would be where we put down roots after all, I was really excited, not just to have Centennial in our little local tax bubble but all the other parks and programs as well. What a perfect place to raise a kid, right next to a world-class city, in a place that--in a lot of ways--reminded me of my own little hometown. The streets were quiet and safe for Anna and her friends to draw on the sidewalks and ride bikes, there was plenty of

green space to run free, and there was a rec complex a lot like the one I grew up with.

There, of course, was one small exception. No indoor pool! Even though I grew up in a much smaller town an hour and a half away from the closest big city, with a much, much (did I mention much?) lower tax obligation per household, the Meadville Area Recreation Center (MARC) covered their main pool with a huge, bubbled dome every fall so that swim teams, diving teams, and daily recreational swimmers were able to continue on uninterrupted all year round. It was the best!

I think something akin to this would be a fantastic option for Wilmette. Clearly we have the demand for year-round swimming, even year-round classes for kids and adults. Having year-round swimming would also mean opportunities for new programs that could potentially pay for the necessary improvements to the existing facilities and generate further revenue for the Park District that would otherwise go to programs and facilities in nearby communities. Flying Fish at the Evanston YWCA comes to mind as do all the New Trier-based youth swimming programs that outsource to Northbrook and Glenview over the winter.

I'm not naive enough to think that any municipality is eager to jump in and sign off on a new aquatics facility at the drop of a hat, but if the MARC can provide any sense of a precedent, we may already have the facilities we need to make it happen without asking the community to shell out for all new digs. I suppose, in a perfect world, It would be great to dome the entire outdoor center, but maybe it would be possible to cordon off the lap and diving pools with a connecting corridor to the locker rooms? At the MARC, our main pool was surrounded by a brick perimeter wall with large, sliding doors that would open entirely in the summer (sort of like restaurants here sometimes open up to the sidewalk, but on a much larger scale). The border wall was topped with a large, metal track that allowed for the dome cloth to slide over the facility whenever the seasons changed. The dome was then filled with air that maintained a constant pressure (possibly done by magic. . .I don't know. . .I was a kid). There was more than enough space inside for swim meets, diving competitions, etc., and it was temperature controlled in the low 70s all winter long.

If this is something you feel is worth considering for the Park District's future, please let me know if there's anything I can do to help aid in the process. I imagine a lot of this comes down to winning over the hearts and minds of other village officials and then the public. If I can help work toward those ends in any way, please call on me. I feel very strongly about making this happen for our community!

Have a great week, and thank you for encouraging me to make my opinion heard in this matter. I'm sure we'll be seeing you and yours soon out and about, going to and from camps and everything else!

All the best!
Jeff Toth

tothlikemoth@gmail.com
773-729-7021

From: [Julia Goebel](#)
To: [Catherine Serbin](#)
Subject: FW: [external] Support for Dog Park
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 2:00:07 PM

Hi Catherine,
Here is the email for inclusion in the next Parks & Rec Packet.

Julia Goebel
Park Board Commissioner 2019-2023
Wilmette Park District
jgoebel@wilpark.org
<http://www.wilmettepark.org/>

From: Tina Herpe [tdherpe@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 12, 2021 10:14 AM
To: Allison Frazier; Julia Goebel; Mike Murdock; Todd Shissler; Cecilia Clarke; Patrick Duffy; Kara Kosloskus
Subject: [external] Support for Dog Park

Dear Wilmette Park District Commissioners,

I want to express my support for a fenced in dog park in Wilmette that includes shade, drinking water, and a bench or two. It would be great if this park could be divided into two sections, one for small dogs and one for larger dogs as some dog parks do.

I understand there are discussions about using West Park, which would be great as long as parking is easily accessible. As a dog owner, I would be happy to purchase annual tags to help support the maintenance of such a park.

Our Park District has many wonderful facilities. Adding a completely enclosed dog park would be a meaningful addition to our community.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Tina Herpe
1742 Central Ave, Wilmette

From: [Julia Goebel](#)
To: [Catherine Serbin](#)
Subject: Fwd: [external] Howard Park
Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 3:09:13 PM

Catherine,

I did not see this email from last week in the Parks & Recreation packet. Please add.

Julia Goebel

Park Board Commissioner 2019-2023
Wilmette Park District
jgoebel@wilpark.org
<http://www.wilmettepark.org/>

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eleanor <eleanor.lipinski@gmail.com>
Date: June 29, 2021 at 10:13:07 AM CDT
To: Steve Wilson <swilson@wilpark.org>, Cecilia Clarke <cclarke@wilpark.org>, Mike Murdock <mmurdock@wilpark.org>, Julia Goebel <jgoebel@wilpark.org>
Cc: jea9f@yahoo.com, christinebalzano@yahoo.com, Gail Bernero <gbernero@gmail.com>, katja.steen@gmail.com, shellenback@sbcglobal.net, Dave Lipinski <rabbitfufu@gmail.com>
Subject: [external] Howard Park

Dear Steve and Park Board members,

I am writing to you about the Howard dog park issue. I was one of the original residents well over a year ago to reach out about trying to find a reasonable solution for dog owners that have consistently gone to Howard Park to let their dogs run and play off leash. Now that I've had some time to reflect, it has become clear to me how poorly this situation was managed by Park District.

Somehow this got so out of hand that the residents believed that the dog owners proposed the particular plan that was presented by the Park District and that we were all trying to sneak something by them. So let's talk about the plan. I was stunned when I saw the extent of the project - including tearing out the existing parking lot, disrupting the landscape, putting in additional street parking all to the result of a dog park relegated to a known flood zone. All things that I think most dog owners would say were unnecessary and unwanted. I requested more than once to evaluate simply having hours for dog owners that did not conflict with events at the park and would contribute to additional community members being able to legally take advantage of something they had been doing for years with no problems except the busy body residents calling the police. I can understand why the residents were also taken aback - to present this plan to the public particularly without any budget costs approved for the plan was irresponsible. At a subsequent meeting after the plan was presented, the cost of around \$500,000 was revealed and the fact there was no budget for the project seemed

ridiculous. If I was cynic, I might almost believe the Park District proposed a project so out of context to the original request to purposefully outrage the residents. Then you could easily say, "Well, we tried" because you could not or did not want to come up with a feasible solution.

The residents seem to think this was a "done deal" that had been back room negotiated between dog-owners and the Park District. They even thought it was worthy of creating and displaying signs in their yards. They now feel like they won and we lost and many refuse to take the signs down. The reality is that the Park District was NEVER going to spend \$500,000 on a project that upon closer examination was really an example of government overreach and the result is that the entire Village has lost - not just the dog owners.

I found myself defending a plan that I didn't even really support because the whole situation escalated so quickly. We only wanted a fence and legal hours.

It is sad to me that Howard Park was being used for so long in such a positive community building manner and that is no longer the situation. It is now another source of mean-spirited divisiveness in our community.

Eleanor Lipinski

From: [Julia Goebel](#)
To: [Catherine Serbin](#)
Cc: [Steve Wilson](#); [Mike Murdock](#); matthew.wakenight@gmail.com; jw2011tlif@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: [external] Wilmette Community Gardens
Date: Sunday, June 13, 2021 11:13:43 AM

Catherine/Steve -

This resident email was received on Thursday last week.

Please include in one of the Monday meeting packets of Board correspondence, or Facilities correspondence, which it seems this could be a part of, due to its location at Centennial.

Thank you.

Julia Goebel

Park Board Commissioner 2019-2023
Wilmette Park District
jgoebel@wilpark.org
<http://www.wilmettepark.org/>

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeanne Wakenight <jw2011tlif@gmail.com>
Date: June 10, 2021 at 11:11:10 AM CDT
To: Mike Murdock <mmurdock@wilpark.org>, Julia Goebel <jgoebel@wilpark.org>, Cecilia Clarke <cclarke@wilpark.org>, Patrick Duffy <pduffy@wilpark.org>, Allison Frazier <afrazier@wilpark.org>, Kara Kosloskus <kkosloskus@wilpark.org>, Todd Shissler <tshissler@wilpark.org>, Kristi Solberg <ksolberg@wilpark.org>, Steve Wilson <swilson@wilpark.org>, Tiffany Zanon <tzanon@wilpark.org>, "Matthew Wakenight (matthew.wakenight@gmail.com)" <matthew.wakenight@gmail.com>, Jeanne Wakenight <jw2011tlif@gmail.com>
Subject: [external] Wilmette Community Gardens

As a Wilmette Resident for 20 years, I would like to share a story with you. My husband (Matthew Wakenight) and I (Jeanne Wakenight) have been active contributors in all aspects (beach, pool, tennis, golf etc.) of the Wilmette Park District.

Eight years ago Matt called to put our name on the waiting list for a garden plot at Centennial Community Garden. At that time we were told that we were 24th on the list and that there wasn't a lot of turnover (so "be patient"). We waited a few years, then I phoned Tiffany Zanon and asked the status of the waiting list. I was told we were 7th on the list. Tiffany and I had a phone conversation in 2019 regarding the current policies of renting the plots. At that time we knew people were "cheating the system" to have a plot, and there were plots being signed for but unused. I was assured that with new staff in place there would be some policy changes in the future.

This is what I have learned:

1. There continues to be a waiting list including non-residents (which doesn't seem fair to Wilmette residents).
2. There are plots that have been payed for but **untouched** for two or more years
3. There are some **households that have multiple plots**.
4. There are many plots being used by non residents of Wilmette.
5. There are people who use Wilmette friends to sign up for a plot, and they live in Morton Grove and other communities.
6. There are **non-residents** who have **multiple** plots.
7. There are no policies in place to verify the identification of people signing up for a plot.
8. There has been minimal monitoring of the plots.
9. There has been a great deal of theft at the plots.

In the spirit of "Community" I believe we have an opportunity for improvement. Here are my suggestions:

1. Plots that have been unattended for a year will automatically be given up for those on the waiting list.
2. In this period of high demand, the waiting list should give priority to Wilmette Residents.
3. Households should be limited to one plot until there is no longer a waiting list.
4. There should be proof of residency required (ie: mail with persons name and address).

My hope is, you will address these issues and current inequities as soon as possible. Feel free to call or email me with any questions.

Jeanne Wakenight
1440 Sheridan Road
Unit 506
Wilmette, IL 60091
847-687-0599
jw2011tlif@gmail.com

Matthew Wakenight
1440 Sheridan Road
Unit 506
Wilmette, IL 60091
312-282-1002
matthew.wakenight@gmail.com



Memorandum

Date: July 6, 2021

To: Steve Wilson, Executive Director

From: Kristi Solberg, Superintendent of Parks and Planning

cc: Emily Guynn, Superintendent of Recreation

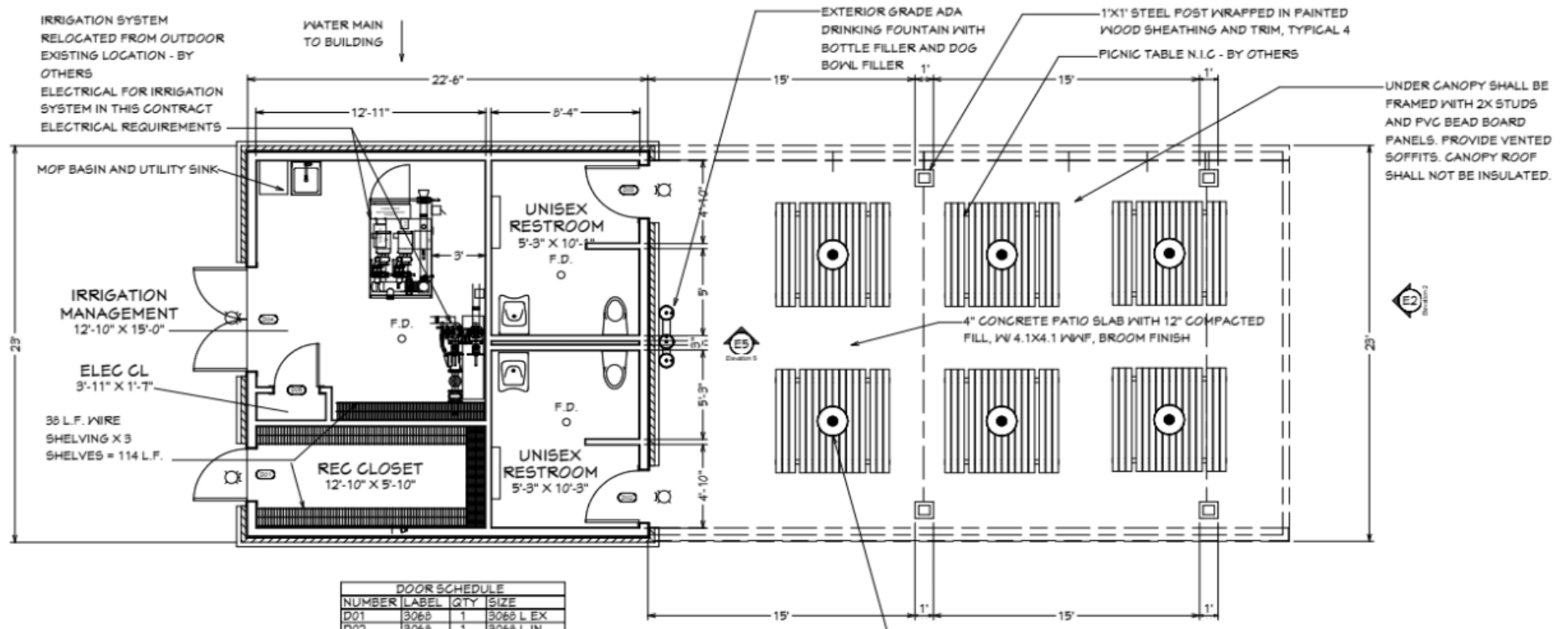
Re: Community Playfields Bathroom Discussion

As a follow up from the June 7th Committee meeting below is the requested information to help the ongoing discussion on the bathrooms in Community Playfields.

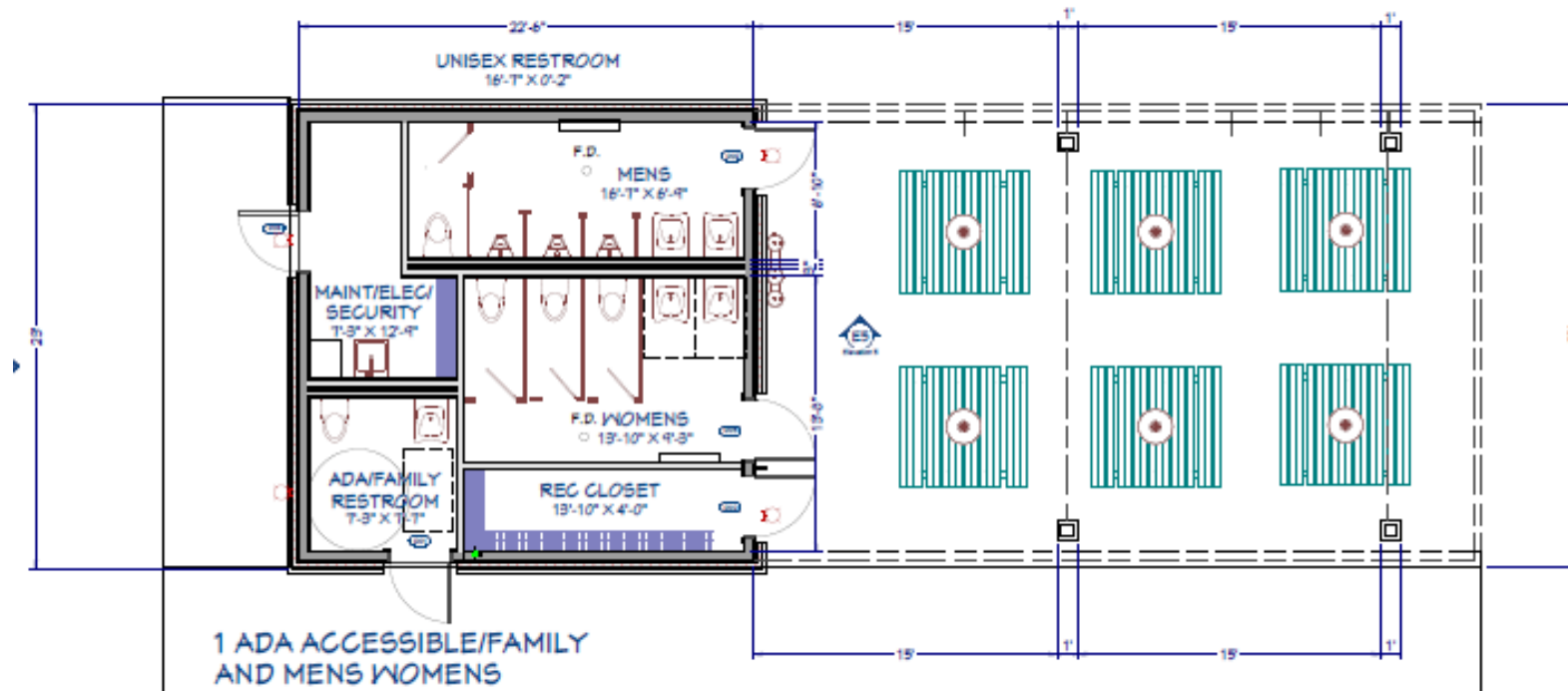
If you have any questions, please let me know.

Bathroom renderings

Concept presented on June 7th to P&R Committee



Updated concept from feedback of the Committee members





Memorandum

Date: April 16, 2021

To: Members of the Parks & Recreation Committee
Commissioner Mike Murdock, Chair
Commissioner Cecilia Clarke
Commissioner Amy Wolfe

From: Steve Wilson

cc: Sheila Foy
Emily Guynn
Kristi Solberg

Re: Keay Nature Center

At the request of Commissioner Murdock, and following discussions with the Ouilmette Foundation regarding the funds raised for Keay Nature Center in the past, I have included the prior plans, but the initial plan and the final plan approved by a prior committee, along with their related costs. I will walk the committee through both plans as well as the costs and the history of the discussion between the two plans so everyone has the entire history. I will then answer any questions the Committee may have.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

SEPTEMBER 15 CONCEPT PLAN



Scope Item	Quantity	Units	Cost	Budget	Cost	Budget
Demolition						
Planting (trees and shrubs to be removed), Paving, Bridge, Etc.	115,000	SF	\$ 0.10	11,500	\$ 0.50	57,500
Demolition Total	115,000	SF		11,500		57,500
HARDSCAPE						
Parking	4,800	SF	\$ 8.00	38,400	\$ 25.00	120,000
Low: asphalt paving and concrete curb						
High: permeable pavers and concrete curb						
Plaza/Sidewalk areas	1,200	SF	\$ 10.00	12,000	\$ 13.00	15,600
Achitectural finish concrete						
Primary Trails	16,000	SF	\$ 4.50	72,000	\$ 7.50	120,000
Stabilized decomposed granite (dg)						
Secondary Trails	4,000	SF	\$ 4.50	18,000	\$ 7.50	30,000
Stabilized decomposed granite (dg)						
Site Seatwalls	100	LF	\$ 250.00	25,000	\$ 400.00	40,000
Low: Architectural cast in place concrete, approximately 18" tall						
High: Locally sourced boulders, approximately 2'x2'x5'						
Shade Structure	300	SF	\$ 30.00	9,000	\$ 60.00	18,000
Low: Rustic Wood, High: Custom Metal/IPE						
Pedestrian Bridge	50	LF	\$ 300.00	15,000	\$ 500.00	25,000
Low: Rustic Oak, High: IPE decking						
Pedestrian Boardwalk	85	LF	\$ 250.00	21,250	\$ 400.00	34,000
Low: Rustic Oak, High: IPE decking						
Entry Fence	75	LF	\$ 30.00	2,250	\$ 100.00	7,500
Low: Chain-link Fence and Child-Proof Locks at Entries						
High: Custom Metal Fence and Child-Proof Locks at Entries						
Hardscape Total:	26,610			212,900		410,100
PLANTING						
Lawn areas	17,600	SF	\$ 0.75	13,200	\$ 2.00	35,200
Low: sod in main areas, periphery hydroseed, irrigation included						
High: sod in all areas, irrigation included						
No-Mow Lawn Areas (fescue)	10,000	SF	\$ 0.35	3,500	\$ 1.50	15,000
Low: hydroseed						
High: sod in all areas						
Planting Areas at Site Periphery	50,600	SF	\$ 4.50	227,700	\$ 8.00	404,800
Low: Primarily Deciduous Shrubs and mix of perenials						
High: Premium Shrubs and perennials						
Intensive Planting Areas	20,000	SF	\$ 10.00	200,000	\$ 16.00	320,000
Low: Primarily Deciduous Shrubs and mix of perenials						
High: Premium Shrubs and perennials						
Native Planting Areas	35,000	SF	\$ 2.50	87,500	\$ 4.00	140,000
Low: seed native grasses and perennials						
High: seed and plug native grasses and perennials						
Wetland Planting	30,000	SF	\$ 4.00	120,000	\$ 8.00	240,000
Low: low intensity seed and plugs						
High: closely planted plugs and shrubs						
Trees (4" caliper)	25	EA	\$ 1,200.00	30,000	\$ 1,600.00	40,000
Low: Readily available tree - soil and tree storage included						
High: Mix of readily available trees and permium trees - soil and tree storage included						
Trees (2" caliper)	35	EA	\$ 600.00	21,000	\$ 900.00	31,500
Low: Readily available tree - soil and tree storage included						
High: Mix of readily available trees and permium trees - soil and tree storage included						
Planting Total:	163,260			702,900		1,226,500
SOILS AND GRADING						
Pond Mass Grading	1,500	CU YD	\$ 7.00	10,500	\$ 9.00	13,500
Deeper Pond and Balanced Fill in mounds around site						
Wetland Mass Grading	1,200	CU YD	\$ 7.00	8,400	\$ 9.00	10,800
Excavate Wetland and Balance Fill in mounds around site						
Soil at Site Periphery and Intensive Planting Areas	5,000	SF	\$ 1.00	5,000	\$ 1.50	7,500
6" of topsoil						
Drainage	1,250	LF	\$ 12.00	15,000	\$ 15.00	18,750
Soil Total:	8,950					
Pond Mass Grading						
Pond Liner	4,000	SF	\$ 2.00	8,000	\$ 3.50	14,000
Plastic pond liner and edging around perimeter (reinforced polyethylene, EPDM or butyl liner)						
Pond Total	4,000			8,000		14,000
SITE FURNISHINGS						
Bench	15	EA	\$ 2,500.00	37,500	\$ 3,000.00	45,000
Trash/Recycling Receptacle	2	EA	\$ 1,200.00	2,400	\$ 2,000.00	4,000
Salaveaged Log Bench	8	EA	\$ 2,500.00	20,000	\$ 3,500.00	28,000

Boulders	50	EA	\$ 1,000.00	50,000	\$ 2,000.00	100,000
Bird Habitat/Houses	1	LS	\$ 1,000.00	1,000	\$ 5,000.00	5,000
Entry Monument/Sign	1	LS	\$ 3,000.00	3,000	\$ 6,000.00	6,000
Wayfinding Signage	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	5,000	\$ 15,000.00	15,000
Educational Signage	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	5,000	\$ 15,000.00	15,000
Maintenace Shed Replacement	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	5,000	\$ 15,000.00	15,000
Portable Restroom Relocation	1	EA	\$ 750.00	750	\$ 1,500.00	1,500
Site Furnishings Total:				129,650		234,500
SUBTOTAL				1,064,950		1,942,600
5% Construction Management				53,248		97,130
18% Contingency				191,691		349,668
GRAND TOTAL:				1,309,889		2,389,398

Total Site Area: 205865 SF Cost/sf \$ 6.36 \$ 11.61

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS - BASE PLAN

- TREES - EXISTING TO REMAIN
- TREES - PROPOSED (3" CALIPER, TYP)
- TREES - TO BE REMOVED (REMOVE ALL DEAD OR EXTREMELY POOR QUALITY TREES, SALVAGE APPLICABLE TRUNKS / STUMPS FOR BENCH REUSE / EDUCATION)
- PROPOSED TRAIL - STABILIZED DG ELEVATED FROM FLOOD LEVEL
- ENHANCED PLANTING AT ENTRYWAY - HYDRANGEAS, JUNIPERS, GRASSES, ETC.
- RESTORED SAVANNAH - GRASS + PERENNIAL MIX
- ENTRY SIGN - SCALE VISIBLE FROM STREET
- PROPOSED BENCH
- ENTRY FENCE + GATE REPLACEMENT
- EXISTING DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- RELOCATED TRASH AND RECYCLING
- REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF WOOD PAVING - REPLACE WITH PLANTING
- NEIGHBORHOOD ACCESS POINTS (GATE IMPROVEMENTS + PAVING ACCESS)
- EXISTING POND - TO REMAIN IN PLACE AS IS



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS - ENHANCED PLAN



Wilmette Park District
Key Nature Learning Center Proposed Project Costs
Combined and Phased Based and Enhanced Plans

Phase	Plan	Scope Item	Quantity	Units	Low Estimate		High Estimate		Comments
					Cost	Budget	Cost	Budget	
		DEMOLITION							
1	Base	Tree Removal, Wood Wall, Planting Fence, Entry Fence, Wood Paving	9,150	SF	\$0.50	\$4,575	\$1.50	\$13,725	Can be reduced by not doing entry fence
1	Enhanced	Existing Trail DG Removal	12,800	SF	\$0.10	\$1,280	\$0.50	\$6,400	
		Demolition Total:				\$5,855		\$20,125	
		HARDSCAPE							
2	Base	Entry Plaza	2,650	SF	\$10.00	\$26,500	\$12.00	\$31,800	
		Architectural finish concrete							
2	Base	Trails	6,000	SF	\$4.50	\$27,000	\$7.00	\$42,000	Can be reduced by reducing add'l trails
		Stabilized decomposed granite (dg)							
1	Base	Entry Fence + Gates	75	LF	\$30.00	\$2,250	\$60.00	\$4,500	Can be reduced or eliminated
		Low: Chain-link Fence and Child-Proof Locks at Entries							
		High: Metal Fence and Child-Proof Locks at Entries							
1	Enhanced	Trails	12,800	SF	\$4.50	\$57,600	\$7.00	\$89,600	Primary trail
		Stabilized decomposed granite (dg)							
		Hardscape Total:				\$113,350		\$167,900	
		PLANTING							
2	Base	Intensive Planting Areas	4,420	SF	\$8.00	\$35,360	\$12.00	\$53,040	Recommend lower cost approach
		Low: Primarily Deciduous Shrubs and mix of perennials							
		High: Premium Shrubs and perennials							
1	Base	Native Planting Areas	15,000	SF	\$3.00	\$45,000	\$5.00	\$75,000	Recommend lower cost approach
		Low: seed native grasses and perennials							
		High: seed and plug native grasses and perennials							
MP	Base	Trees (4" caliper)	13	EA	\$900.00	\$11,700	\$1,300.00	\$16,900	Plant over time by Memorial Program
		Low: Readily available tree - soil and tree storage included							
		High: Mix of readily available trees and premium trees - soil and tree storage included							
MP	Base	Trees (2" caliper)	7	EA	\$500.00	\$3,500	\$800.00	\$5,600	Plant over time by Memorial Program
		Low: Readily available tree - soil and tree storage included							
		High: Mix of readily available trees and premium trees - soil and tree storage included							
3	Enhanced	Intensive Planting Areas	1,200	SF	\$8.00	\$9,600	\$12.00	\$14,400	Recommend lower cost approach
		Low: Primarily Deciduous Shrubs and mix of perennials							
		High: Premium Shrubs and perennials							
3	Enhanced	Native Planting Areas	10,805	SF	\$3.00	\$32,415	\$5.00	\$54,025	Recommend lower cost approach
		Low: seed native grasses and perennials							
		High: seed and plug native grasses and perennials							
MP	Enhanced	Trees (4" caliper)	13	EA	\$900.00	\$11,700	\$1,300.00	\$16,900	Plant over time by Memorial Program
		Low: Readily available tree - soil and tree storage included							
		High: Mix of readily available trees and premium trees - soil and tree storage included							
MP	Enhanced	Trees (2" caliper)	8	EA	\$500.00	\$4,000	\$800.00	\$6,400	Plant over time by Memorial Program
		Low: Readily available tree - soil and tree storage included							
		High: Mix of readily available trees and premium trees - soil and tree storage included							
		Planting Total:				\$153,275		\$242,265	
		SITE FURNISHINGS							
MP	Base	Bench	10	EA	\$2,500.00	\$25,000	\$3,000.00	\$30,000	Added over time by Memorial Program
1	Base	Trash / Recycling Receptacle	2	EA	\$1,200.00	\$2,400	\$1,800.00	\$3,600	
MP	Base	Salvaged Log Bench	7	EA	\$2,500.00	\$17,500	\$3,500.00	\$24,500	Added over time by Memorial Program
MP	Base	Bird Habitat / Houses	1	LS	\$1,000.00	\$1,000	\$5,000.00	\$5,000	Added over time by Memorial Program
3	Base	Entry Monument Sign	1	LS	\$3,000.00	\$3,000	\$6,000.00	\$6,000	When work is complete
		Site Furnishings Total:				\$48,900		\$69,100	
		SUBTOTAL:				\$321,380		\$499,390	
		5% Construction Management				\$16,069		\$24,970	
		18% Contingency				\$57,848		\$89,890	
		GRAND TOTAL:				\$395,297		\$614,250	

Phase 1						\$113,105		\$192,825
Phase 2						\$88,860		\$126,840
Phase 3						\$45,015		\$74,425
MP						\$74,400		\$105,300
Total						\$321,380		\$499,390

From: [Isaac Gaetz](#)
To: [Mike Murdock](#); [Amy Wolfe](#); [Cecilia Clarke](#); [Steve Wilson](#); [Gordon Anderson](#); [Todd Shissler](#); [Julia Goebel](#); [Bryan Abbott](#)
Subject: [external] Updated Disc Golf
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 9:34:59 PM
Attachments: [Wilmette Disc Golf Course Proposal 3-9-20201.pdf](#)

Good evening Park District Board and Mr. Wilson,

I understand the Parks and Recreation committee will be discussing Disc Golf, among other items next week.

Here is an updated proposal for disc golf in Wilmette which builds on an earlier version I presented to the board and addresses requests for additional information which you have collectively provided. Specifically:

1. The proposal reviews the existing parks in Wilmette and identifies three locations (Gillson, Centennial. and the Community Playfield) which I believe are most viable for courses.
2. A review of course design criteria, from the Professional Disc Golf Association, is provided as back up information.
3. Feedback from parks staff in neighboring communities with disc golf courses is provided.
4. A conceptual diagram illustrating how individual holes can be laid out with throws directed into the park, to avoid conflicts with adjacent sidewalks, cars, etc.
5. Alternative tee pad construction details using astro turf over compacted fill, in lieu of concrete tee pads, is provided.

I appreciate all your time and willingness to consider Disc Golf for Wilmette. I'll plan to attend the meeting next week and am willing to help take you through my findings, if that is useful.

I'm not a professional, just an avid player, but have done a fair amount of research as a result of this exercise. As a practicing civil/structural engineer, I do have much experience in design and construction.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you would like to have a quick call to discuss.

Or, if you'd like to meet to try throwing some discs (socially distanced of course), just let me know!

Thank you and have a great rest of the week!

--

Isaac Gaetz

Wilmette 9-hole Disc Golf Course

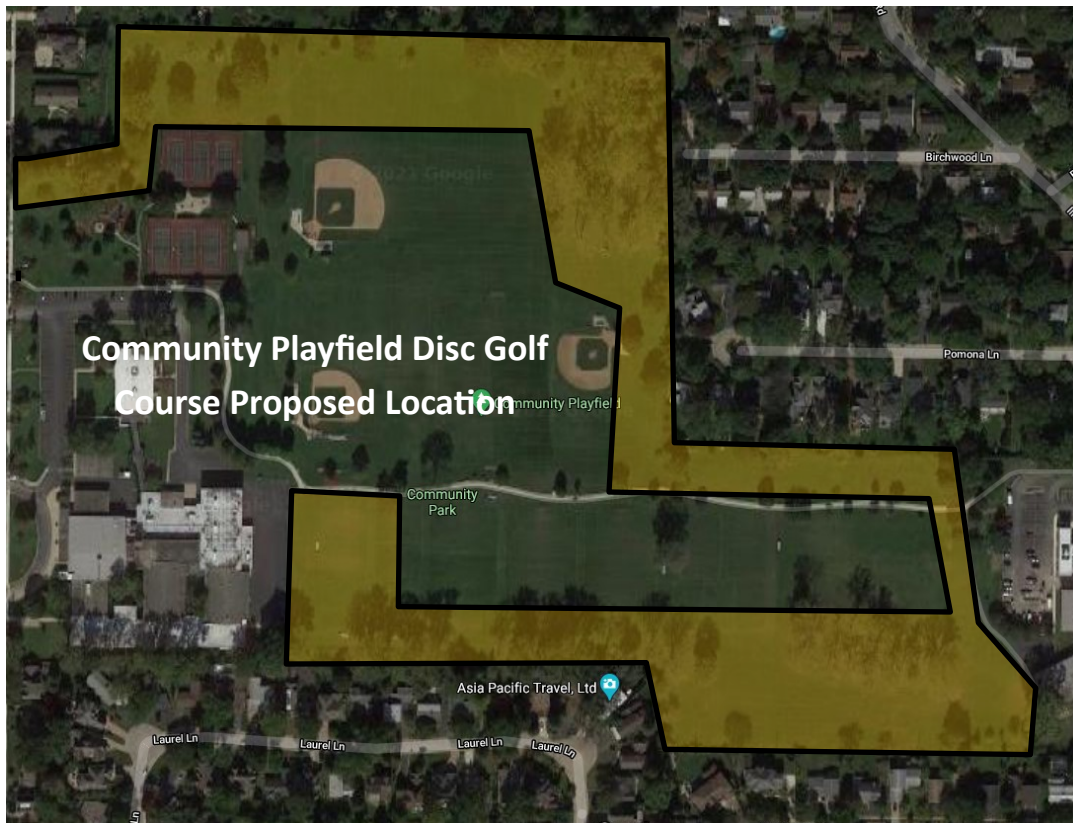
Proposal 3-9-2021

Disc Golf is a popular sport that is enjoyed by people of all ages. A fun 9 or 13-hole course could be worked into one or more of Wilmette's existing parks with minimal impact on existing park activities. Similar courses have successfully be placed in public parks throughout the country.

Location: Various parks, Wilmette, Illinois

Estimated Cost of Construction: \$12,000-\$15,000

Estimated maintenance Costs: Minimal



Why Disc Golf?

Disc golf is an inexpensive and challenging sport which encourages community members of all ages and abilities to visit and utilize public parks while enjoying exercise and the outdoors.

Professional disc golf competitions have been featured on ESPN.



How much would a disc golf course cost?

Disc golf courses are regularly installed in public parks for less than \$20,000.

Installing a course requires four simple components: a course design, concrete tee pads, metal baskets, and course signage.

Estimated Fee Breakdown:

Professional Course Layout Design Estimate	\$3,000*
Disc Golf Baskets (9 holes + 1 practice basket)	\$5,000
Concrete or Astro Tee-pads	\$5,000
Course Signage	\$2,000
Total	\$12,000-\$15,000

* After speaking with a course design professional, I've learned that design services are rarely employed for smaller 9 hole park courses like the ones in this proposal. As such, we can likely forgo this expense and design the course with existing staff and community member efforts.



Astro Turf Tee Pad



Concrete Tee Pad

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Will a Disc Golf course interfere with other park activities?

- A. No, the course can be placed to encourage usage of less utilized areas of the park. In addition, baskets can be easily removed during special events, such as 4th of July celebrations.

Q. Will a Disc Golf course interfere with park maintenance activities?

- A. No, the course footprint on the existing landscape will be very minimal and should not impede the usage of regular grass cutting equipment, etc. On going maintenance of the course beyond normal care of the park is anticipated to be minimal. Baskets are commonly removed and stored during the winter months.

Q. Will discs be dangerous to other users of the park?

- A. Discs do not fly as far as golf balls and are not as dangerous. There are many popular disc golf courses throughout Chicagoland and the country. Disc golfers routinely share public park spaces with other park goers, such as joggers and dog walkers. The canal shores golf course in Wilmette shares a similar friendly relationship with residents who enjoy walking portions of the course.

Q. Where can I visit a disc golf course?

- A. Watts Park in Glencoe, Illinois is a nearby course which is also situated in a public, shared park space.

Q. How can I learn more about the game of Disc Golf?

- A. The Professional Disc Golf Association is an excellent source of information: <https://www.pdga.com/>

Q. Where would the course be placed?

- A. Potential locations for a course were considered throughout Wilmette. Options were limited to sites where sufficient space was available for a minimum of a 9 hole course. A breakdown comparison of course locations considered options is also provided. Several rough proposed layouts are provided for illustrative purposes only. Final layout would require input and guidance from the park district, disc golfers, and other interested parties.

Course Design Study

Q. How many holes does a typical disc golf course have?

- A. In greater Chicagoland, approximately 75% percent of courses have 9 holes, 20% percent have 18 holes. And 5% have atypical numbers, such as less than 9 holes, or between 10 and 18 holes. See the provided Map of Existing Courses in Greater Chicagoland for courses in the area.

Q. What is the typical length of an individual disc golf hole?

- A. The United States Disc Golf Association (USDGA) recommends the average par 3 hole be between 200 and 400 feet, and no less than 100 feet. Holes longer than 400 feet will typically be given a par rating of 4 or 5. Par rating is also influenced by the available trees and terrain.

Q. How much land is required for a typical disc course?

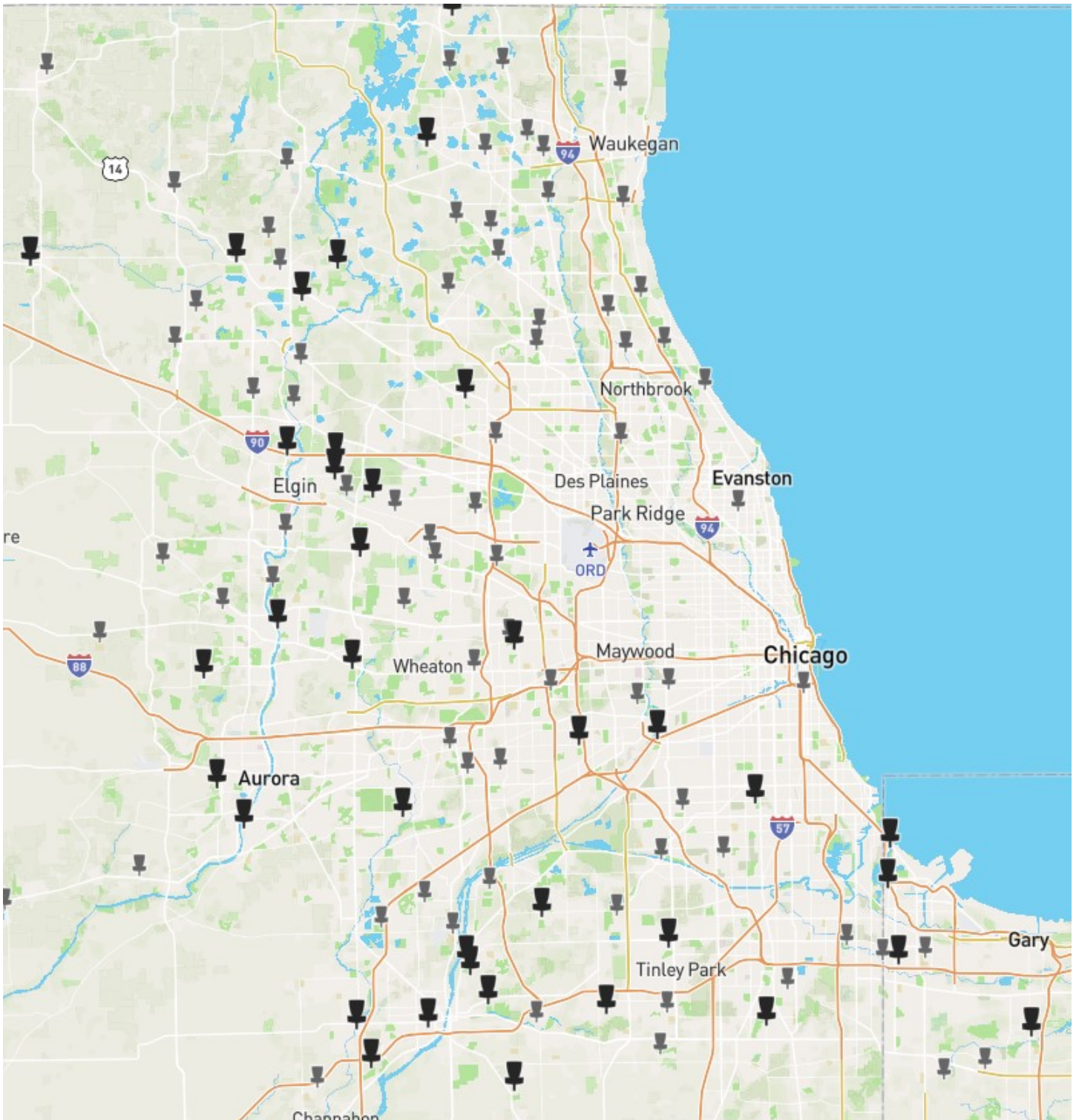
- A. The required area for a course depends on the intended skill level of players as well as the terrain and foliage. In general, areas with heavier tree coverage can accommodate more, and shorter holes, while still providing a fun and varied play style. See the provided course acreage guide from the USDGA.

Wilmette should target a red/white tee (beginner/intermediate) difficulty level course. Per the USDGA Six to Seven acres of land are recommended for a nine hole course with average tree coverage. Existing facilities within a park, such as ball fields and tennis courses, where disc golf would not occur, should be deducted when estimating the available land in a park for a course.

Additional baskets, alternate basket locations, and alternate tee locations can be added to the course to allow for multiple difficulty levels on the same course.

Holes should be configured to avoid conflicts with adjacent properties. See the Sawtooth graphic as one approach. Throws originate primarily from the perimeter of the park, and are directed to the interior.

Existing Courses in Greater Chicagoland



18+ hole course



9 hole course

Source: <https://udisc.com/courses>

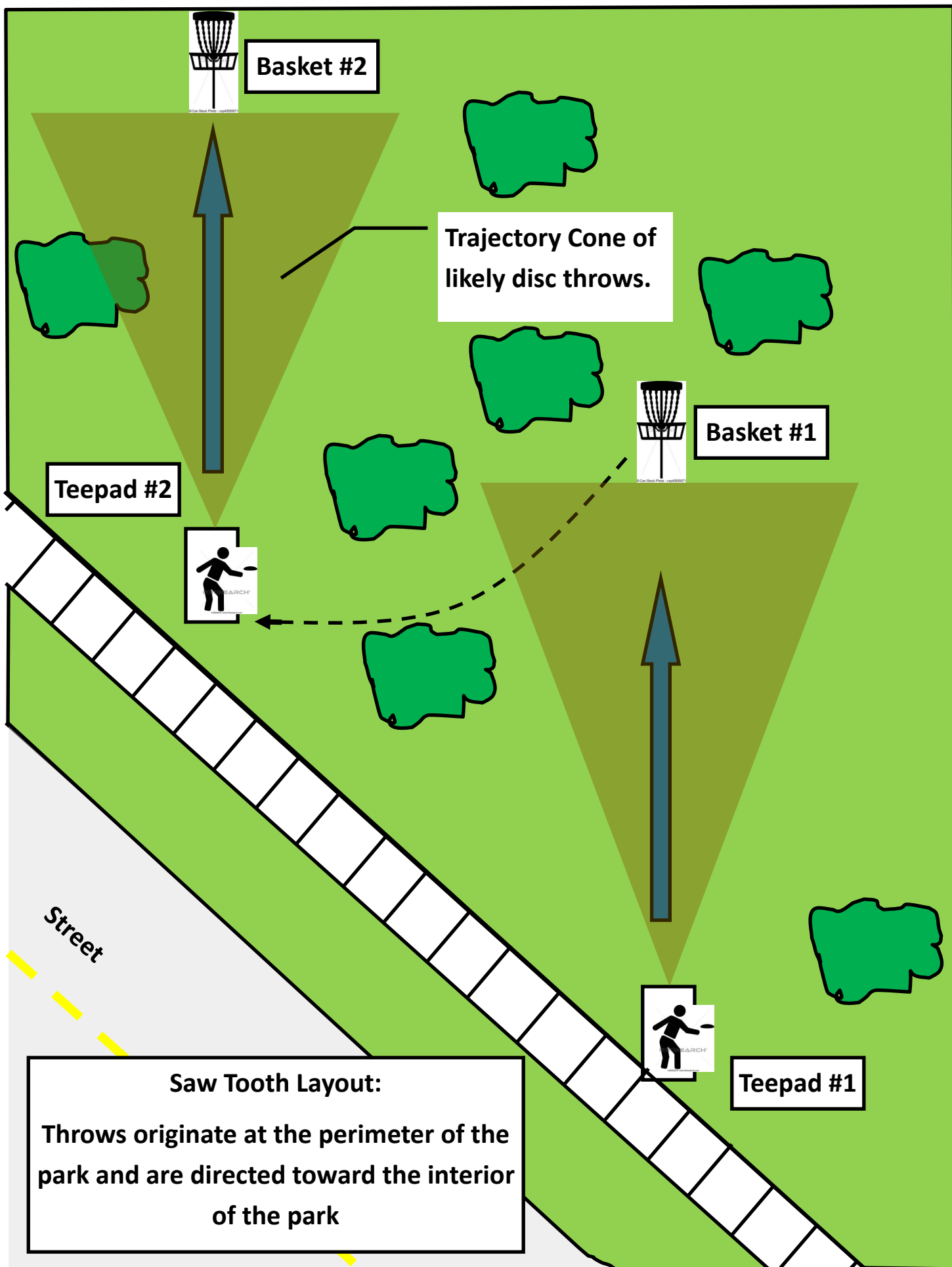
Disc Golf Course Acreage Guide

Player Skill Level	Foliage Density	Minimum (P56)* 16-Par 3, 2-Par 4		Average (P61) 12-P3, 5-P4, 1-P5		Championship (P67) 8-P3, 7-P4, 3-P5		Acre Factor
		Feet	Acres	Feet	Acres	Feet	Acres	
Gold Tees 1000 Rating	Scattered	6900	26	8450	32	10350	39	165
	Average	6400	18	7750	22	9350	27	125
	Corridor	5900	14	7150	16	8650	20	100
Blue Tees 950 Rating	Scattered	5500	21	6900	26	8600	33	165
	Average	5000	14	6250	18	7750	22	125
	Corridor	4500	10	5650	13	7050	16	100
White Tees 900 Rating	Scattered	4150	16	5475	21	7025	27	165
	Average	3650	10	4875	14	6325	18	125
	Corridor	3550	8	4575	11	5825	13	100
Red Tees <850 Rating	Scattered	3200	12	4450	17	5950	23	165
	Average	3100	9	4100	12	5300	15	125
	Corridor	2600	6	3525	8	4675	11	100

* (P56) = estimated course par for that player level

For an average red or white tee course, with average tree coverage, between 12 and 14 acres, minimum, is recommended for an 18 hole course. For a 9 hole course, between 6 and 7 acres, minimum is recommended.

Source: https://www.pdga.com/files/AcreageChart_0.pdf



Neighboring Park Study

Staff from the Park Districts of Glenview, Glencoe, and Highland Park were consulted for information on their existing disc golf Courses.

Glenview

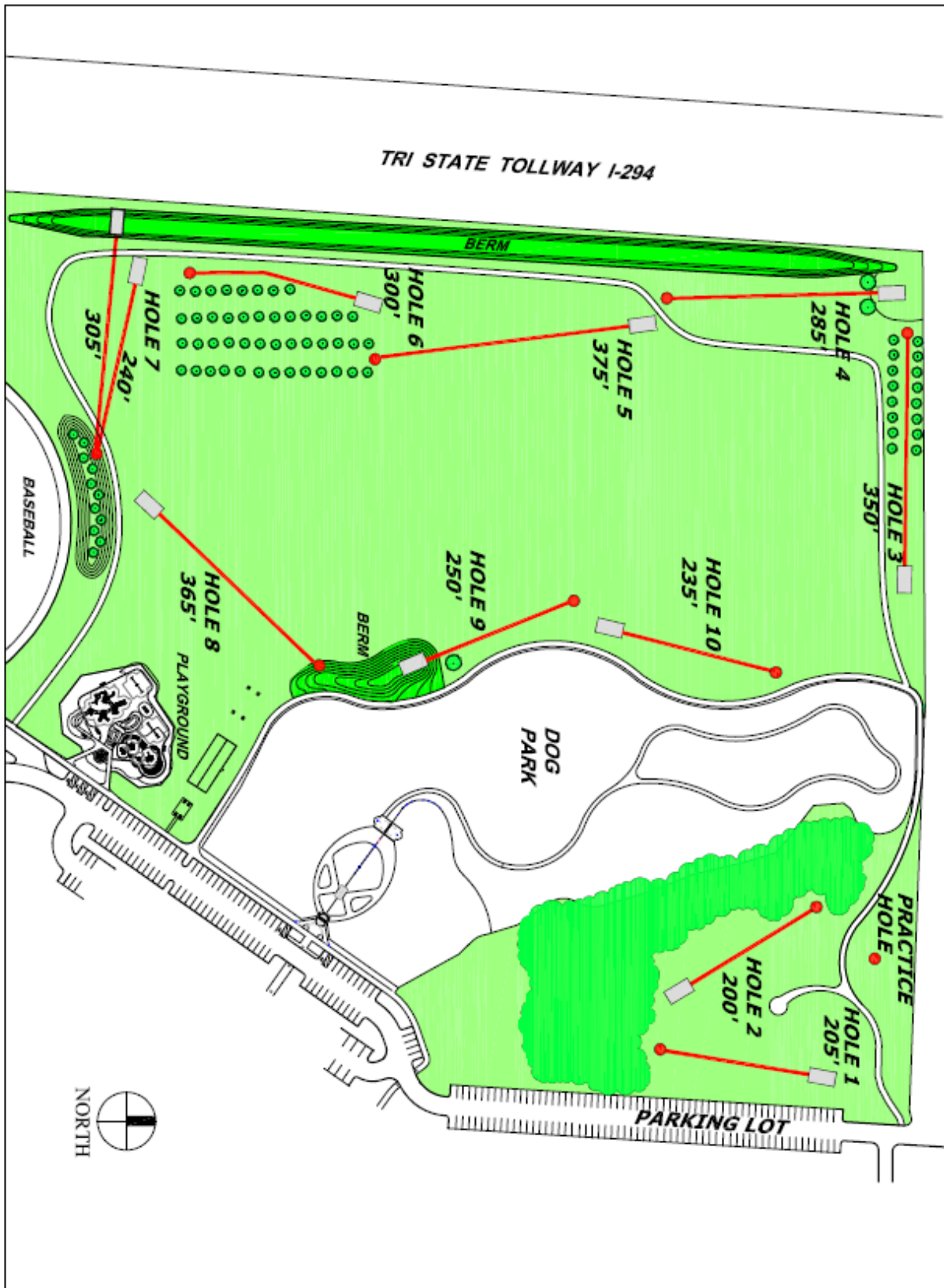
Ten hole disc course at the Community Park West. Mr. Ken Wexler, Park Planner with the Glenview Park District reported that the course was very popular and during peak times, it was common for the course to be full, with individual players or groups of players on all 10 holes of the course, simultaneously. Further, Mr. Wexler reported that some players continued to use the course all year round.

Highland Park

Two nine hole disc golf courses and Fink and Cunniff parks. Mr. Michael Evans, Landscape Architect with the Park District of Highland Park, reported that they do not keep formal usage statistics for the courses. However, both courses have consistent play and have seen an increase in usage during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Glencoe

Nine hole disc golf course at Watt's park. Chris Leiner, Director of Parks & Maintenance, reported that the frisbee Golf Course at Watts Park is well used, They typically see many different age groups using the course throughout the spring-summer-fall. They also use it for summer camps, and have a registered tournament once a year. They have generally gotten positive feedback from the community on the course. The only negative feedback we get is when the course is flooded or closed due to a special event in the park.



COMMUNITY PARK WEST DISC GOLF COURSE
GLENVIEW PARK DISTRICT

Community Park West Disc Golf Course

Source: Ken Wexler, Glenview Park District Park Planner



Hole Details		Hole Tips
⊕ Hole #	★	
⊕ 1	★	255 ft (4)
⊕ 2	★	260 ft (4)
⊕ 3	★	220 ft (3)
⊕ 4	★	240 ft (3)
⊕ 5	★	250 ft (4)
⊕ 6	★	250 ft (4)
⊕ 7	★	235 ft (3)
⊕ 8	★	225 ft (3)
⊕ 9	★ x 2	240 ft (3)
Totals (Dist./Par):		2175 ft / 31

Watts Park, Glencoe

Source: Glencoe
Park District

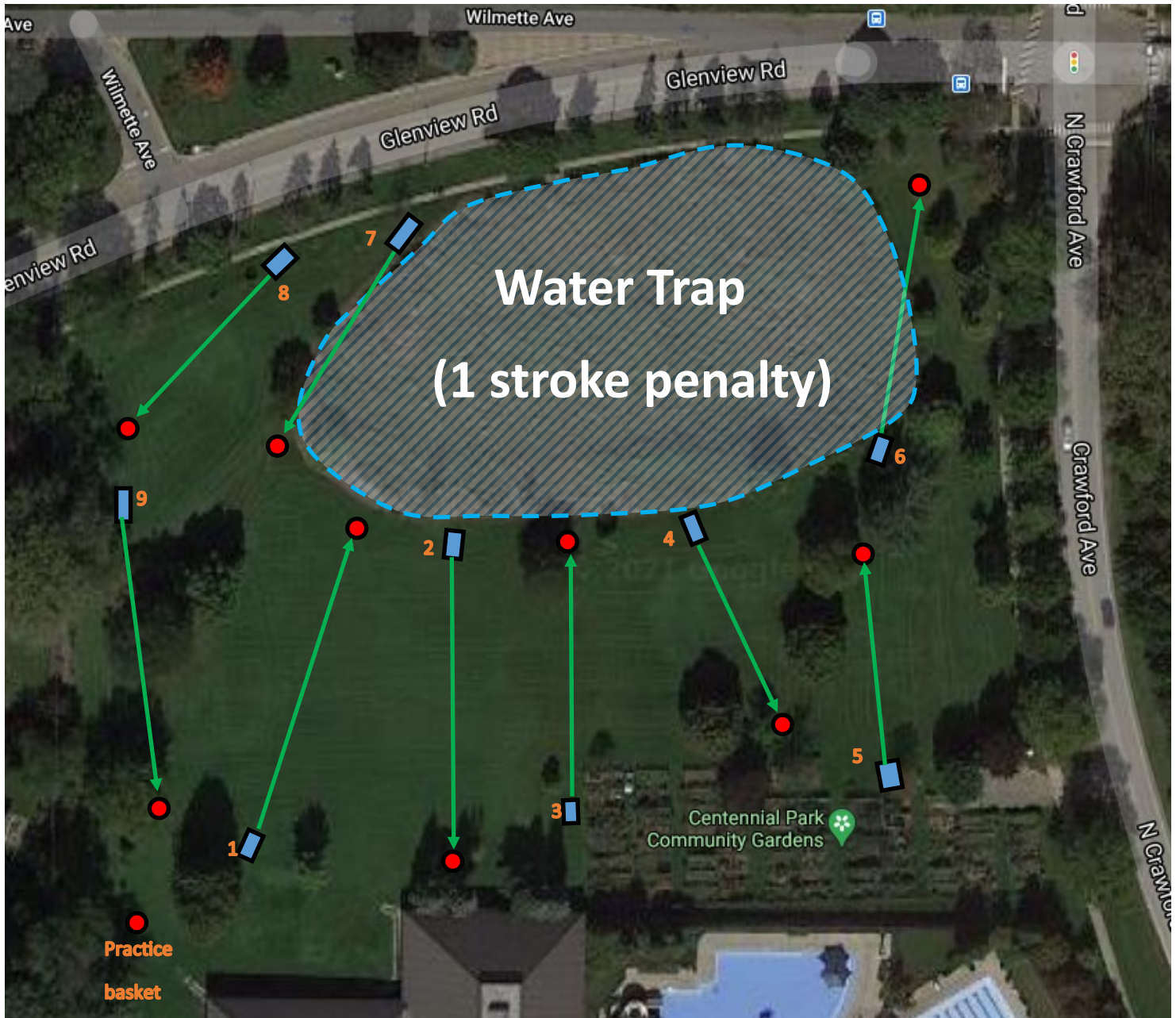
Potential Course Locations in Wilmette

Park	Number of Proposed Holes	Positive features	Potential Concerns	Additional Comments
Gilson	9	Large area of land with many mature trees, beautiful site lines of the Bahai Temple. This area is currently not utilized for specific programming nor is new programming currently identified in current proposed master plans for Gilson	Gilson is a popular park and disc golfers will need to share space with other activities. Course will need to be designed to avoid conflicts with parked cars on adjacent roadways.	From a disc golfing perspective, this is likely the most favorable option.
Centennial	9	This area is currently not utilized for programming. Easy access via the large parking lot at Centennial.	This is a smaller space, with fewer mature trees. Course will need to be designed careful to avoid adjacent, higher traffic volume roads to the north and east.	The disc golf course potential here could be improved by planting additional trees.
Community Playfield	13	Large park area with mature trees could support a larger course than the other proposed locations.	Community Playfield is very popular for organized youth sports which could render portions of the course unusable on some days and times. Park is adjacent to schools. Minimal parking.	This location has high potential, but conflicts with the existing uses is a concern.
Howard	Not Currently Recommended		Park is too small and is almost completely occupied with sports fields. Minimal tree cover. A course would be difficult to fit and could come into conflict with existing uses.	
Thornwood	Not Currently Recommended	Park includes nice mature trees.	Park is on the smaller side. A course may be difficult to fit and could come into conflict with existing uses.	
Mallinckrodt	Not Currently Recommended	Park has the space for a course, and includes some interesting land and vegetation features. Easy parking access to course.	Unclear if existing agreements would allow this usage. Potential conflict with existing residents.	Community outreach to residents could help determine if a course would be acceptable and viable here.

Wilmette 9-hole Disc Golf Course Proposed Gilson Layout



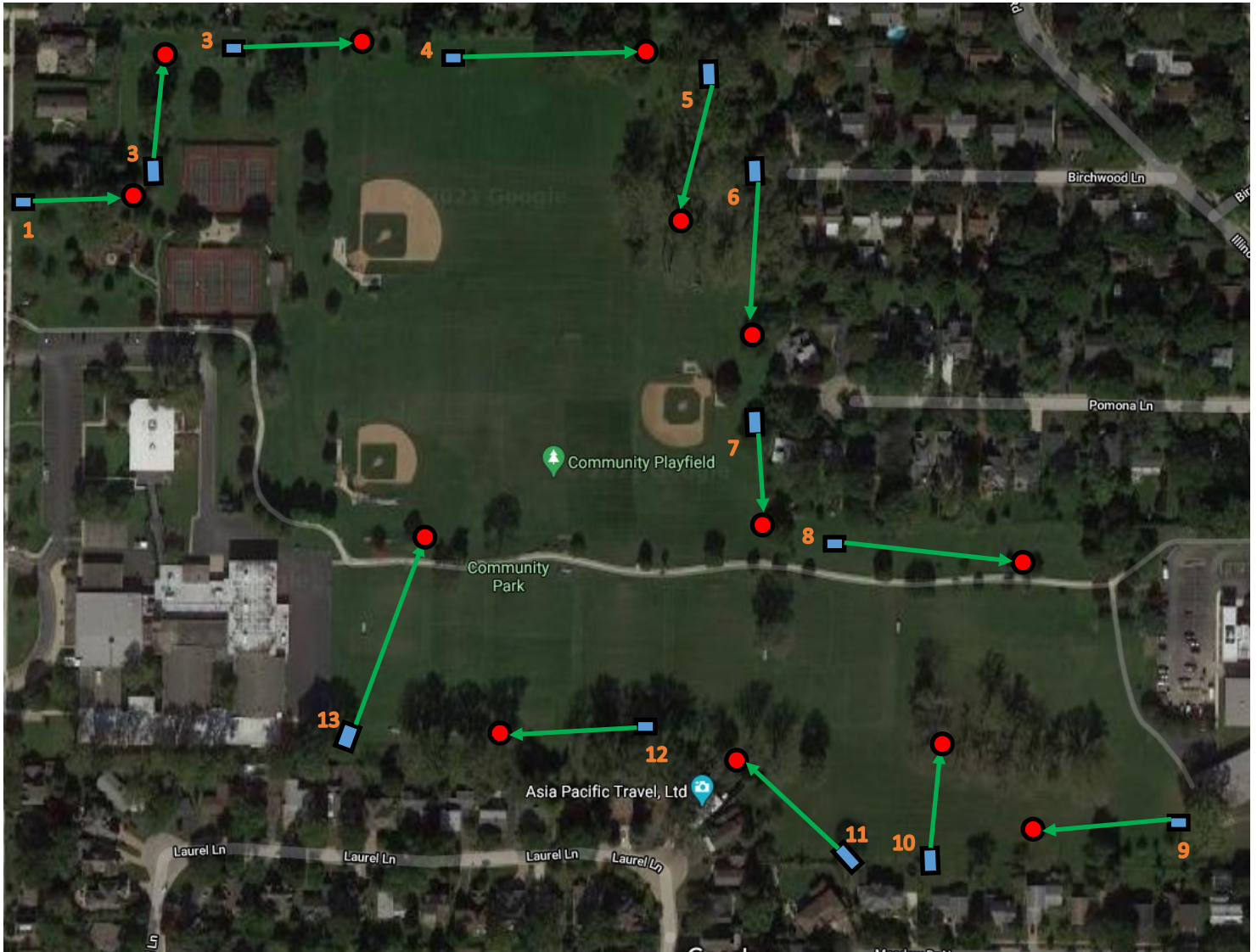
Wilmette 9-hole Disc Golf Course Proposed Centennial Layout



The existing wetland prairie here would be utilized as a water trap feature (out of bounds). Disc golfers would retrieve errant discs that go in, but would incur a one stroke penalty to discourage throws into this area.

Wilmette 13-hole Disc Golf Course Proposed

Community Playfield Layout





LAUNCH PAD

ARTIFICIAL TURF SYSTEM

LAUNCH PAD INSTALLATION -

Launch Pad Artificial Turf System (included)

TOOLS & PARTS NEEDED

Framing for tee box (wooden frame)

AM PAD	PRO PAD
1.5M X 2.5M	2M X 4M

1400 x 2400 mm area

1900 x 3900 mm area

* Build tee area 100 mm smaller than Launch Pad surface

- Stainless screws for building out frame and attaching Launch Pad to timbers

- 8 pcs 150 mm for frame

- 40 pcs 30 mm for Launch Pad anchoring

- Chemically treated timber

- Screwdriver

- Recommended digging tools (tractor, spade and square shovel, loppers, rakes, hand stamper and gas powered clay compactor)

- Gravel / Crushed Rock

- Sand for filling

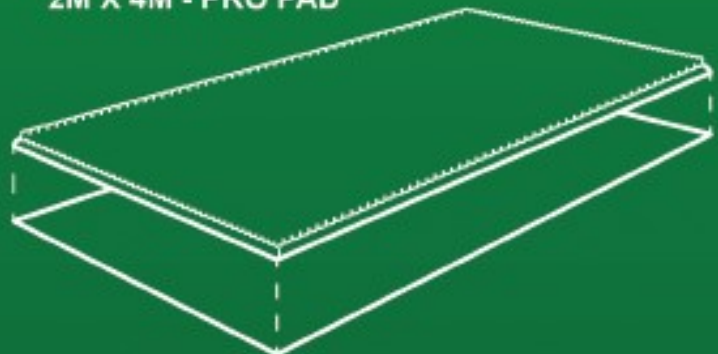
- Filling amounts

- 1.5M x 2.5M Launch Pad about 75 kg (165 lbs)

- 2M x 4M Launch Pad about 160 kg (352 lbs)



LAUNCH PAD
1.5M X 2.5M - AM PAD
2M X 4M - PRO PAD





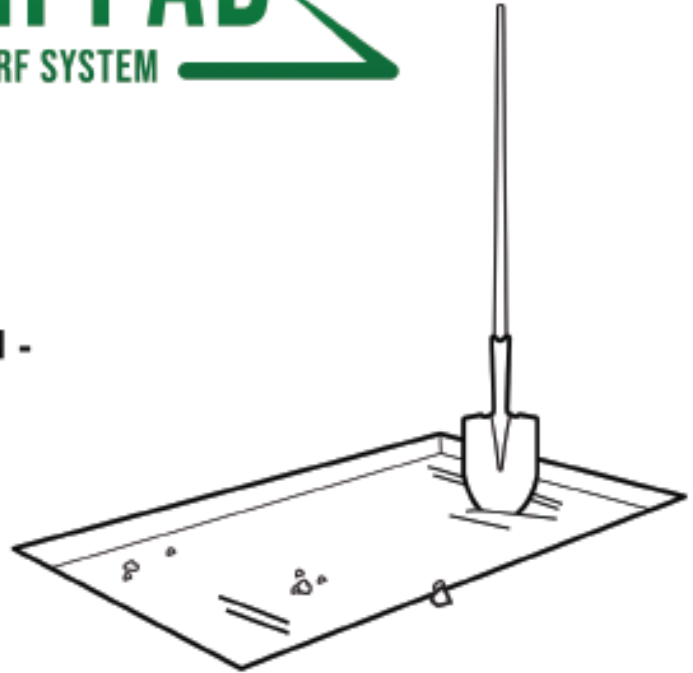
LAUNCH PAD

ARTIFICIAL TURF SYSTEM

LAUNCH PAD INSTALLATION -

1

- Remove soil to a depth even with your wood frame and a bit larger than the tee pad so that you can backfill.

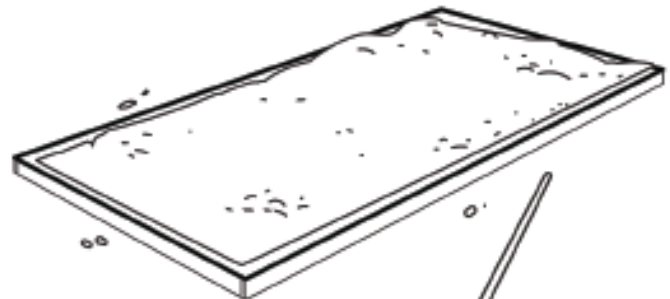


2

- Build a wooden frame with the outer dimensions 100 mm shorter than the Launch Pad dimensions.
(1.5 x 2.5 M - 1400 x 2400 mm)
(2 x 4 M - 1900 x 3900 mm)

3

- Add frame into the hole and adjust to the desired level. Fill the frame with gravel/rock materials and pack tightly. We recommend using a soil compacting tool. Leave 2-3 cm more gravel in the center of pad to combat sinking.

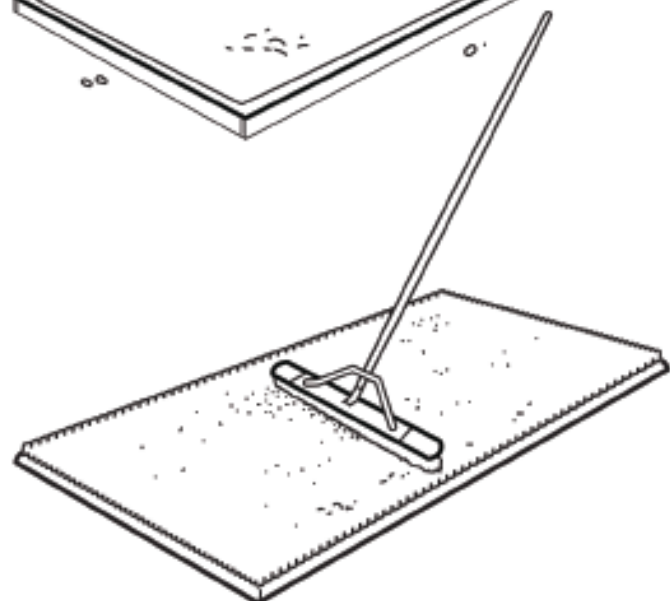


4

- Attach Launch Pad Artificial Turf System to the sides of the wooden frame via stainless screws. The Launch Pad should extend 5 cm over each side of the frame.

5

- Pour sand evenly across the Launch Pad Artificial Turf System and begin to brush it in. The sand helps to create a friction barrier and will increase the life of the turf and pad.



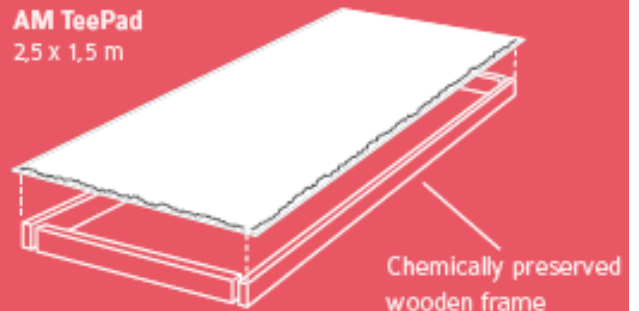
TeePad



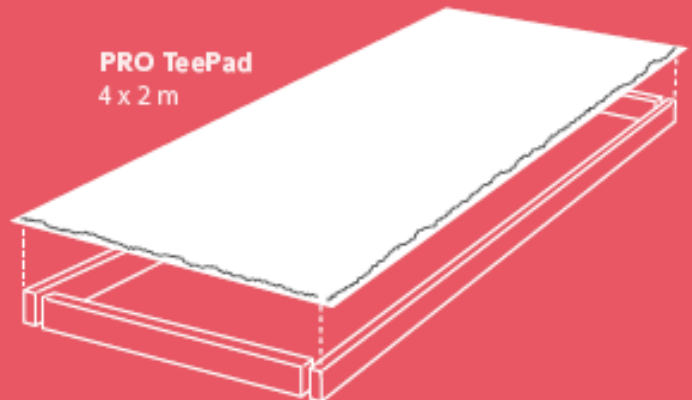
TeePad Installation - Parts and Tools Needed

- TeePad turf mat
(included in regular delivery)
 - Frame made of chemically preserved wood of size 50x100 mm
(not included in regular delivery)
 - Stainless screws for making the frame and attaching
the turf mat (not included in regular delivery)
Recommendation: 8 pcs 150 mm screws and 40 pcs 30 mm
screws
 - Digging tools (digger recommended)
 - Screwdriver
 - Gravel / crushed stone (Ø 4-8 mm) for the base
 - Sand (Ø 0,3-0,8 mm) for filling the turf mat
- Filling amounts:
15-20 kg per square meter
AM TeePad needs about 75 kg of sand and PRO TeePad
about 160 kg.

AM TeePad
2,5 x 1,5 m



PRO TeePad
4 x 2 m



Detailed installation
instructions on the back side.

TeePad



Installation Phases

1. Remove soil in 20-50 cm depth on an area a bit larger than the TeePad so that you can fit the wooden frame on the ground level. Not always you need to dig that deep if you're able to fit the frame on a solid ground otherwise.
2. Build a wooden frame with outer dimensions 100 mm shorter than the turf mat dimensions. (PRO TeePad 1900 x 3900 mm, AM TeePad 1400 x 2400 mm)
3. Fit the frame steadily on a level plane aligned towards throwing direction. Fill the frame with gravel and pack it tightly. Leave 2-3 cm more gravel in the center of the frame to take the effect of sinking into account. Use either machinery or body weight for packing.
4. Attach the turf mat in the sides of the frame with screws. The mat extends 5 cm over each side of the frame.
5. Pack gravel around the TeePad so that the surrounding ground is on the same level as the TeePad.
6. Fill the turf mat surface with sand and brush the sand in. The sand makes the TeePad safe for players by decreasing friction and it also makes the turf mat last longer.





Memorandum

Date: March 15, 2021

To: Steve Wilson, Executive Director

From: Kristi Solberg, Superintendent of Parks and Planning

cc: Emily Guynn, Superintendent of Recreation

Re: Garden Plot information

Below is information regarding the Garden plots at Centennial and West Park and the results from the survey sent out in January.

Centennial Park

- Number of plots-69
- Number of people on the waitlist-72
- Number of contracts currently renewed for 2021-63 with 2 more renewals expected.(65 total contracts expected)

West Park

- Number of plots-85
- Number of people of the waitlist-28
- Number of contracts renewed for 2021-72 with 8 more renewals expected. (80 total contracts expected)



Constant Contact Survey Results

Survey Name: Wilmette Park District Community Gardens Survey

Response Status: Partial & Completed

Filter: None

1/27/2021 9:01 AM CST

Do you currently have a garden plot, or are you on the waiting list?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Currently have a garden plot	<div><div></div></div>		49	80.3 %
Currently on the waiting list	<div><div></div></div>		12	19.6 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			61	100%

If you currently have a garden plot, how long have you had it?

48 Response(s)

1 Year-8
 2 Years-4
 3 Years-4
 4 Years-7
 5 Years-5
 6 Years-3
 7 Years-4
 8 Years-1
 9 Years-2
 10 Years-6
 15 Years-1
 20 Years-1
 25 Years-1
 40 Years-1

If you are currently on the waiting list for a plot, how long have you been on the list?

19 Response(s)

1 Month-2
3 Months-1
6 Months-1
1 Year-5
2 Years-2
5 Years-1
N/A-7

If the Wilmette Park District identified additional locations for garden plots, would you consider another location?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	<div><div></div></div>		27	44.2 %
No	<div><div></div></div>		31	50.8 %
No Response(s)	<div><div></div></div>		3	4.9 %
Totals			61	100%




Which location (s) are you currently gardening, or seeking to garden?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Centennial	<div><div></div></div>		33	54.0 %
West Park	<div><div></div></div>		19	31.1 %
Both	<div><div></div></div>		8	13.1 %
No Response(s)			1	1.6 %
Totals			61	100%

Would you be interested in a larger garden plot?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	<div><div></div></div>		35	57.3 %
No	<div><div></div></div>		23	37.7 %
No Response(s)	<div><div></div></div>		3	4.9 %
Totals			61	100%

Would you be interested in a smaller garden plot?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes			7	11.4 %
No			49	80.3 %
No Response(s)			5	8.1 %
Totals			61	100%

How can we improve our Garden Plot Program?

46 Response(s)

Please share any additional thoughts with us.

25 Response(s)



Community Gardens Survey 1_26_21 Final Written Responses

3. How can we improve our Garden Plot Program? (46 responses)

1. We need more dates for water. I think Park District shut off water in October. Some of gardeners want to use water until end of November.
2. Maybe have height restrictions. People are starting to have high vines and they are blocking sunlight for other gardens. Also the vines are coming over to other gardens.
3. Make it more secure
4. I love the community garden and the people I've met while gardening there. The only thing I didn't like was that there could be better communication. We inquired about moving to a sunnier plot last spring but never heard back about it and a few "good" plots appeared to go unused.
5. There are plots not being used or well maintained.
6. Many gardeners have multiple plots. Seems unfair to anyone on a waiting list. I probably don't need two plots but I would like mine to be 25% bigger.

I have been next to untended plots several times. I wish you would force the gardeners to at least control weeds or relinquish. Could you give the owner of an untended plot a fair warning, then reclaim the plot and give to someone on the waiting list who would actually garden?

Perhaps people could be more actively discouraged from piling supplies and fencing materials so high that

adjacent plots are shaded.

Perhaps the Village could offer a spring tilling service for an appropriate fee (\$40 - 50??) or provide a list of vendors who would till.

Provide an online bulletin board for gardeners to exchange tips, communicate, perhaps even share seeds or excess seedlings.

7. Enforce maintenance of each plot. It is not fair to other plot holders if neighbors neglect their own. Park employees should monitor this.
8. OVERSIGHT! to make sure garden plot owners follow the rules. particularly as far as actually planting Our plot has been over-run with noxious weeds (celandine) from the plot to the south of us where no one planted for at least two years, and the plot to the north is raised at least 3-4" higher than ours, neither of which would be allowed if there were supervision from the Park District to make sure these things are not allowed by prohibiting these people from getting any garden plots. Also, we had consistent, massive weed problems in our garden because of the state of the gardens on either side.

It's disheartening to try to establish a good, healthy garden while being assaulted by so-called gardeners who do not follow the rules or even show up to garden. This has been regularly disregarded with no consequences by the Park District.

9. Initial tilling of the ground is always a lot of work. We always end up renting a tiller from Home Depot for a few hours. I would love if there was an option to have the plot tilled by the Park District at the beginning of the season. We'd be happy to pay an extra fee for that service.
10. Better monitoring of who is using the plots. Highest priority to Wilmette Residents! NonResidents should not be allowed to have more than one plot when there is a waiting list. Plots that have not been planted

for more than one year should be offered back into the pool for others to use. Trim the trees in the area to provide more sun to areas that are now in the shade much of the day. Professionally built uniform fences and gates providing better opportunities to use locks.

11. Please take plots away from anyone who has not cleared and started planting by July 1st and immediately open them to people on the wait list. Also. This seems fair and allows wait list people to still plant for the year.

12. Allocate unused plots to another interested gardener. This allocation could be just for one season and revert to the original gardener who may have wanted to plant but could not due to health or other reasons.

13. How long may a garden plot recipient keep the plot if unused? We note several plots in both community gardens that have been unused for at least two years.

Offer a class/talk or two about best maintenance or suggestions for a community garden plot? Perhaps veteran garden plot owners could give tips?? A story or two in the paper or community TV about the community garden plots- history & development in Wilmette?

How long will we be on the waiting list???
Thanks for the survey. How and when will we see the results?

14. We really enjoy our garden plot and appreciate the work the work that goes into making this possible for the community.

15. Fence the entire area to keep out all animals-- small mesh --.(like Wagner Farm)

More parking

Enforce garden maintenance -- weed control.

Provide compost, not just wood chips.

16. No ideas at this time. Feel that program is well run and thought out.
17. Have more location options in the community
18. If we could have an irrigation system for watering our gardens that would be extremely useful. If not irrigation, just having a spigot in each plot would improve the watering process. We would pay extra for such an improvement and I'm sure others would too. Locked gates into the community gardens would be helpful to reduce theft. We love having a plot and look forward to another year of home grown veggies. Perhaps some gardening workshops for community gardeners would be a nice addition.
19. There are number of plots that are left completely unattended and these should be distributed among folks who are on the waiting list
20. Some garden plots are eyesores and are not tended. I volunteered to tend one last season just to make it look better. They had rhubarb and raspberries and strangers were raiding it. Others also dumped their wood and other debris into it. Maybe take initial photos of these plots and after 30 days into the season, take photos again and if not tended, the plot goes to the next person on the waiting list
21. Many plots remain empty year after year. A few people have amassed 4 or 5 together or spread out which is very unfair. Some plant at the beginning of the season then never return.
22. Make sure the garden hoses do not leak and are in good condition. Also ensure the shutoff valves are in good working order. Some shutoffs leaked wastefully all summer long.
23. Require gardeners to clean up and plant before June 1st or have their plot given to someone on the waiting list. Do not, repeat do not put a dog park at Centennial! Wilmette needs open spaces for all

citizens not just dog owners. The two existing designated dog parks at West Park and Gillson are plenty. Dogs can be walked anywhere or be released in their yard. They do not need their own exclusive public space. Non dog owners and their children need the open space more.

24. there is commonly theft of produce grown by gardeners by either nearby residents or other gardeners. the park district's response has been inadequate and basically non existent. we need more signs and video cameras that can be consulted when the 10 best tomatoes or the one great pumpkin we grew is missing.

I also suspect that some gardeners use the gardens for commercial purposes - that is to supply restaurants - and I think it should be made clear that the purpose is for families to grow produce they will consume and not for profit. again the park district approach is basically non existent.

25. Add more garden plots, perhaps at Howard park near the parking lot
26. The Park District needs to inspect mid-summer to identify neglected plots, then ask renters to maintain their plots to avoid having them reassigned. The annual letter states this will be done but there is no follow through. Currently other gardeners must call and complain that a plot adjacent to them is overrun with weeds in order for any action to be taken. I am a long-time community gardener and have seen 2 types of neglect. #1 A normally attentive gardener with a maintained plot is having a personal life challenge that takes precedence over the garden. (Remember this is a community experience and gardeners become friends over time.) This is a temporary issue and should not be threatened with reassigning the plot. #2 Consistent neglect every year with the same plot. Either it's never touched the whole season or it's cleared in the spring and then abandoned. New gardeners do not realize how much effort is needed to maintain a plot and don't allot enough time to take care of it.

27. More parking spaces

28. In West Park, suggest this is a great community building institution for Wilmette. Would like to see more ways to formally/informally share resources (extra seed. Kids' labor, produce, etc.). Think that larger plots would make some sense.

The gardens are almost continually monitored by gardeners from May to October. Consider placing new gardens in places where the community might have an interest in nearly continual community monitoring.

29. The plots need to be monitored better for upkeep. It is not uncommon for owners to ignore or not use a plot for several seasons. It then becomes overgrown with weeds and invasive plants which effects not only surrounding plots but the entire community. Also, new hoses should be installed more regularly with reels. The hose for my plot has had the same leak for years. A hose reel helps to keep the community area neater and hoses easier to use. When staff mows the common area they toss the hoses to the side which land in front of my plot gate. Thank you for taking these suggestions into consideration.

30. Offer more plots

31. Develop another area of Plots for people on waiting list

32. Don't continue to rent plots to people who never plant in them while there are waiting lists. I had to wait 3 years.

Enforce the standard of not expanding plots beyond the 10 by 20. Certain rows at Centennial are difficult to walk down because people have planted beyond the original plot and the walkway is narrow.

33. Every year, the Park District says gardens that are not tended will be given to someone else. While that might happen occasionally there are always a number of

untended gardens that remain. Perhaps PD needs to monitor garden activity more regularly. Anyway, please follow through with your intent to make sure all gardens are being used.

34. Get rid of people that don't tend their gardens. Not only will reduce weeds but more people in the gardens will help limit the petty theft that happens on a regular basis
35. Don't allow people to have more than one plot, or double plots, as long as there are people on the waitlist
And please don't, as I saw mentioned in a recent park district email, raise the price of the plots in an effort to accommodate people on the waitlist. That sort of elitism is very much against the spirit of a community garden

Thank you

36. Hi,
I think there a large amount of plots that are not properly cared for by their owners, and this probably could help with the waiting list.
Also, the trees on the parkway at Centennial need trimming because it is directly affecting the sunlight on the plots adjacent to the parkway (if it is not fixed I will be forced to move).
Also, theft is such a problem at Centennial that my pavers, plants and produce have all been stolen over the years. We need to get the camera working!
37. More visibility into the wait list and how it all works would be nice. This is the first email I have gotten on the garden plot program.
38. To Be my first season in this community made me very happy. I was satisfied with everything. The only recommendation would be if some people not using their garden ,would be nice if someone else could use it.
39. Transparency on the wait list, e.g. having it posted online.

* A community directory for current gardeners (maybe that exists once you're "in" - I don't know yet!).

* Mention it more often to bring awareness of it's benefit to the community, such as in email newsletters from the WPD, maybe photos once in a while of the bounty growing in the garden.

40. Be stricter about those who have plots but are clearly not using them. Start a program where current owners of plots can "lease" their plot to others if they don't plan on using it that season.

41. When a garden plot becomes vacant, ask the people with adjacent plots if they would like to expand their garden into the newly available space (with a limit on the number of plots one person can have).

42. There are always quite a few garden plots that are not gardened at all during the entire summer. I don't how you figure that out, but it's sad to see the space wasted, and those plots generate weeds that spread into the adjacent plots, which is very annoying.

I think it's a great idea to expand the community gardening space. Are there any other unused lots in Wilmette? Or parks or school grounds that would benefit from gardens? Gardens can improve a range of public environments. In addition, gardens are easier to manage when they're close to home, so it's wise to distribute a number of plots throughout the village. BTW: I don't advocate taking anyone's plot, but I do wonder how some people managed to get double plots. However, if the village simply adds more plots, everyone should be happy.

43. Unworked plots should not be allowed to be overgrown with weeds.

44. 1. Resize all current plots so that they are equal sizes. Ours is significantly smaller than the standard as well as plots surrounding ours.

2. Better oversight for unused plots. I have complained and know of others who have called repeatedly and the same plots remain unused and overgrown with weeds year after year.

3. Consider community composting at the gardens.

45. I am satisfied with current program.

46. I have not had direct experience yet (since I'm on the waiting list for now), but it sounds like more plots would be welcome by the community (certainly by me :)).

4. Additional Thoughts (25 responses)

1. Nice program for the community

2. More lots that other people can join

3. I really like the garden program and most of the people. Makes for a very nice community. Thank you for facilitating the program. Tom Gates

4. Thank you for the ability to have and enjoy a garden and learn/share with our neighbor plot holders.

5. New hoses are needed and adequate water pressure should be established.
Oversight needs to be done to establish that every gardener is following the rules to make sure that gardening a Park District plot is enjoyable and worthwhile. At the very least our resident gardeners deserve that.
Thanks.

6. We're looking forward to getting back to gardening this spring.

7. Please put a limit on the amount of time that you can have a plot. Perhaps five years so that there is movement on wait list. I am open to other locations too.

8. We enjoy the gardening plot and the garden community. Other gardeners have been helpful with suggestions and even sharing plants. We are grateful to the park district for providing this opportunity to have a garden plot. J
9. There are several/quite a few plots in which people have expanded their plots into the walkways between plots this should not be allowed in addition, some folks have planted parts of their garden plots so high that half of my plot is shaded to the extent that I cannot grow anything on it
10. I really like my space. It took me a long time On the waiting list to get it. As far as the dog run goes, many many people bring their dogs to the space between the gardens and the wildflower area. It's kind of a dog run anyway., Just not fenced
11. There are many unused plots year after year and the city is not strict enough nor gives people hard deadlines to create knit or not.
12. A minority of people still use the gardens as a pantry they do not pay for. They enter the gardens with bags and go shopping. However there is no good way to police the problem. Some people have taken to locking their gardens with padlocks and fencing.
13. See above.
14. Easy access to water is important. Also, parking within a reasonable distance.
15. We appreciate this program very much! It provides a lot of fun during the Summer.
16. I read the Dec 14 Board Brief and applaud your efforts to expand the gardens. I am a food professional, veteran community gardener and grateful Wilmette has a garden program. The community garden is essential to my health and well-being. I believe 2009 was the last time the Centennial space was expanded from 55 to 69 plots. Both adding new locations and requesting neglected plot renters to maintain are good strategies

to shorten the waiting list. Please be aware that veteran gardeners have invested not only time but considerable expense in enriching the soil, fencing out animals, creating raised beds and planting perennials with the understanding that plots do not expire. For new garden locations, remember that soil must be tested for food safety as lead, arsenic, etc. remain in the soil. I live at the Centennial garden for 3/4 of the year and am willing to communicate further ideas and suggestions with the Board if that would be helpful. Elizabeth Matlin
ematlin@mindspring.com

17. In West Park, note that street cleaning machines are frequently "cleaned" using who knows what kinds of toxic substances near the gardens. Understand also that the cleaning process involves spewing of dust like material into the sky upwind from the gardens. These processes are also very loud.
18. I am very appreciative of the Village's interest in improving it's community garden program.
19. Thank U for running the survey
20. Please do not install a dog park at centennial it is truly a special location with the natural wildflower area adjacent to it The dog park would require a larger parking lot as well and I think it's generally a bad location give the proximity to the garden.
21. We are hoping to get one!
22. If Would be available, any garden plot next to my current ,we would like to rent it.
23. Thanks for asking :)
24. Keep in mind that gardeners typically take over a very poorly managed plot, so it takes years to develop the gardening space to be usable.
For example, my plot was filled with tree saplings and out-of-control mint. Both were challenging to remove and took several years to completely eradicate. Then the soil needed to be amended to create a better mix of organic, sandy,

enriched soil.

In addition, Centennial has terrible rabbit and vole issues, and each gardener must manage their own pest control for their plot. The only fence that works is a 3/8" or 1/4" grid wire fencing, 3' high, buried at least a foot into the ground, around the plot.

It took a few years before other gardeners clued me into what would be needed. I wasted many dollars and hours on ineffectual solutions.

Those are additional reasons that I do not advocate taking plots or severely limiting the timespan for plot use.

25. This program is good. This makes the elders life more interesting. We are proud to show friends that we have vegetables grown by ourselves.