

June 8, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Sally Prunty, Planning Director

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Planning Activity Report

**Facilities Maintenance Plan**

Mark Nepermann, Planning Intern, is working on the Facilities Inventory Plan for the District. We are using a format that we got from the Great Lakes Park Training Institute in Indiana as a model. We hope this consolidation of information about our facilities will make many tasks easier for District staff.

**Sunset Lake Overflow Pipe**

Half of the overflow pipe at River Bend has been installed. To complete the job, we are waiting for the river water level to drop low enough.

**Miscellaneous Planning Tasks**

- We have been working with Mary Ellen Wuellner on the OSLAD grant application for the Sangamon River Forest Preserve.
- The Bike Path Parking Lot drawing was completed in preparation for development of bid specifications.
- An application was submitted to Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) for help with calculating energy savings on the Lake of the Woods Pavilion energy upgrade, in order to apply for a Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) grant for the upgrade.
- Planning staff developed an energy data spreadsheet as part of the grant application process for DCEO and SEDAC.
- Sarah Elm is working with us on coordinating the Citizens Advisory Committee Outreach events.
- Mark Nepermann and I completed one landscape planting at Lake of the Woods Golf Course. We are waiting for drier soil for the #1 tee landscape planting.

June 8, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Bryan Stevens, Construction Manager

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Construction Department Activity Report

- Construction of the new Headquarters area playground sidewalks has been completed.
- Staff started the replacement of damaged sidewalks at Lake of the Woods and Elks Lake Pavilions.
- The Rotary Hill restroom building roof has been replaced.
- Staff started the repairs and painting of the One-Room Schoolhouse siding.

June 2, 2009

## MEMORANDUM

From: Daniel J. Olson, Natural Resources Director

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Natural Resources Activity Report

- Approximately 250 Christmas trees were placed as fish structure in Sunset Lake at River Bend.
- Lincoln's Challenge has finished up for the semester and logged a total of 450 hours over the past month with Natural Resources, and at the Botanical Garden and Golf Course.
- Stewardship training with the East Central Illinois Stewardship Manual has wrapped up for the year. Forty-five individuals took the training. This was a partnership between CCFPD, Urbana Park District, and Grand Prairie Friends. We will be printing additional manuals and field guides. The Volunteer Stewardship Network has asked us to do several follow-up topics with them. They were the main funding source for the manual and trainings. I have completed the grant and submitted a request for reimbursement.
- We have begun the two-year process of writing management plans for each preserve. We have asked six individuals to sit on our technical review committee for the first two plans.
- Much of the last month has been spent planting trees at all preserves.
- We've done write-ups and interviews, and provided information to the News-Gazette, some local newsletters, and the Illinois Natural History Survey River Corps of Discovery Class. In addition, we completed the annual report of activities at Tomlinson Cemetery.
- We have been doing some additional hand seeding of prairie seed on recent restoration areas.
- We are now accepting applications for the 2009 Master Naturalist Class. Registration is available at <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/champaign/mn/index.html>.
- Twenty purple Emerald Ash Borer traps were placed throughout all preserves. This year the US Department of Agriculture relied on entities to choose the location and hang the traps.
- The CCFPD was defeated by the Urbana Park District in the annual Bird-A-Thon this year.
- Arborist Mike Poor was called in to help on a tree removal at the edge of the preserve. A large oak tree was leaning toward private property.
- A cover crop of summer wheat has been planted in the north row crop area at Sangamon River to provide erosion and weed control.
- Equipment maintenance and research for new equipment continues.
- Adam Rex successfully acquired his Commercial Driver's License. We thank Middle Fork staff for loaning equipment, and Andy Little for helping Adam practice for the test.
- Mike Daab worked with Environmental Education to teach kids about exotic and invasive species.
- A few of our stewards are in the process of spraying exotics for us.
- Adam attended the Illinois Prescribed Fire Symposium.
- Garlic Mustard has been the targeted invasive species this month.

June 8, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Larry Beckett, Botanical Garden Supervisor

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Botanical Garden Activity Report

- We have planted more than 3,000 annuals, perennials and shrubs in the Botanical Garden, and created one new annual flower bed and three new perennial beds. We have also created two new prairie plant display beds that will contain more than 1,000 plants. The prairie plant display beds should be completed and planted during June.
- The Botanical Garden had its first wedding for the season on June 6<sup>th</sup>.
- With the help of the Natural Resources Department, we planted 20 new maple trees within the garden. These trees have been staked, mulched and fertilized.
- The WCIA Best of the Class program was filmed in the Botanical Garden on May 16<sup>th</sup> with more than 500 visitors.
- The greenhouse was shut down the last week of May to conserve energy, and all remaining plant material was moved outdoors in a protected area until it can be planted.

June 3, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Cheryl Kennedy, Museum Director

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Early American Museum Activity Report

<b><u>May Comparisons</u></b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Visitation	800	662
Year to date	1,920	1,898
<i>Not included in visitation number</i>		
Schoolchildren to date	1,927	1,725 onsite
	60 outreach	690 outreach
Gift Shop	\$2,780.55	\$2,609.16
Total to date	\$4,409.65	\$5,751.68
Donations at the door	\$394.63	\$307.08
Year to date	\$886.24	\$926.82
<b><u>Volunteer Hours</u></b>	<b>208.75</b>	
Office Support	44.00	
Collections	27.00	
Education	95.75	
Lincoln Exhibit	42.00	

**Education 1035 children, 30 outreach kit**

Schools served: Champaign – Robeson, Stratton, Westview, Judah Christian; Mahomet – Sangamon; Rantoul – Northview; Homer – Heritage. Surrounding area: Danville First Baptist, Fairbury Elementary, Pontiac Elementary, Cornell Grade School, Villa Grove Elementary, Chatsworth Elementary, Potomac Elementary, Normal Calvary Baptist, Honeywell from Hoopston, Iroquois West from Gilman, Meadowbrook from Forrest, and KIPP Ascend from Chicago. Twenty-five classes participated in the one-room schoolhouse program and eighteen in Life on the Grand Prairie. Other programs chosen dealt with the Civil War and immigrants. Some programs were flipped with Environmental Education and Plant Science Education programs.

**Lincoln Exhibits**

Courthouse exhibit construction is scheduled to be completed by June 5<sup>th</sup>. Taylor Studios will begin installation of the audio-visual program on June 8<sup>th</sup> with their finish date now set for July 3<sup>rd</sup>. We now need to begin scheduling groups to gather evaluation data for the final report.

Barb Garvey has a really full schedule with the construction of the Lincoln exhibit at the museum. In addition to construction work being done by Alan Weith, she has secured Ed Kmock and Norm Kempka and friends to take on building projects in specific galleries. She has spent considerable time choosing head types with careful attention to the placement of the eyes, nose and eyebrow features for the Dorfman figure of B.F. Harris. She has secured a graphic artist to develop the stained glass window design for the Goose Pond Church, and has been conferring with historians as to when the stained glass windows actually were in place. She is working with Roger Inman on the development of the audio-visual program; with Avitra on the equipment; and with Illini Plastics on our plexiglass needs – all the while writing the exhibit text, getting committee approval on the content, and designing the labels.

### **Collections**

Barb continues to work with Wesley Curtis with the University of Illinois to identify the appropriate client, terms and conditions to secure the proper paperwork for the Krannert clothing collection. Everything is now on the desk of the Associate Dean of the College of ACES. Barb has been actively pursuing this issue since January of 2007.

With the help of volunteers, Tom Meachum continues to process the James, Haack, and Busey collections. These collections contain a significant number of letters and documents. Both Tom and Charlie Tice attended a workshop hosted by Illinois Heritage Association on artifacts and risk management, with sessions specifically related to water damage.

### **Public Programs**

Barb gave a presentation on The Many Faces of Lincoln exhibit as part of the Senior Moment series in May. There were 35 in attendance at Prairie Winds, 40 at Windsor of Savoy and 52 at Clark-Lindsey Village. Prairie Winds is planning a trip to the museum in June. They also requested information about the Artisan Series so they could come out for the music performances.

### **Website**

We received the files for the African American History Committee website which was previously housed on Prairienet. This information was developed by the original committee and will be revised to represent what is happening with our work with the African American community today. Barb is in the process of uploading these to our website.

### **Other**

- Prairie Stories performance contracts were approved by PDRMA and legal counsel.
- Fire extinguishers were inspected, and replacements were secured.
- Artisan Series flyers were distributed throughout the county.
- New consignment artists for the gift shop were secured.
- Efforts continue to make contact with local artisans.

June 8, 2009

## **MEMORANDUM**

From: Pam Leiter, Coordinator of Environmental Education and Interpretation

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Environmental Education Activity Report

### **School Programs                      646 students**

We served these schools in May: Middletown Early Childhood Center, Calvary Baptist School, Judah Christian School, Countryside Elementary, Northview Elementary, Iroquois West Elementary, Jamaica Elementary, Heritage Elementary, Cornell Elementary, and Cunningham Children's Home.

Stacey Clementz is preparing for the Project WET workshop for teachers to be held on June 10.

### **Homeschool Programs                      6 students**

The Botany Basics homeschool program on May 27 had 6 children in attendance.

### **Public Programs                      252 participants**

- Carie Nixon was the guest presenter for Nature Sketch Journaling on May 9. The program had 11 participants, several of whom were already asking when we'd offer it again!
- The first Take Me Fishing event of the year, held at Middle Fork River Forest Preserve, was a big success. Last year's attendance was "blown out of the water" with 164 people (76 adults, 88 kids).
- The Kids' Garden Club program, Plant the Garden, had 7 participants (5 adults, 2 children)
- Garden Tots was canceled due to low enrollment. One family came out anyway to see the garden, and the newspaper got a picture of Siobhain Pyne working with one of the kids.
- Christy Wallace is back for her second summer as Campground Naturalist. Programs at the campground started on May 23, and a total of 70 people came to programs in May, not counting Take Me Fishing. Programs included: Itchy and Scratchy, Icky and Scary; Wild Spring Winds; Pond Life; and Water Tricks.

### **Scout Programs                      35 scouts**

A group of Daisy Girl Scouts learned all about camping and poison ivy, and a group of Boy Scouts went on a wetland walk.

### **Environmental Education Center    **General Visitation: 175 (116 adults, 59 children)****

Not counting program participants, visitation at the center totaled 175 in May. We received \$7.25 in the donation box this month. Patti Wesley created a display entitled Meet Our Animals, which promotes our new "Adopt"-an-Animal opportunity. A volunteer planting day is set for June 6, when we will install approximately 250 prairie and woodland plants in the beds surrounding the center.

## **Discovery Garden**

This month, Siobhain Pyne, Rebecca Vaughn and their volunteers finished the compost bin, built a pest-resistant fence around the berry beds, and planted a wide variety of plants: strawberries, blackberries, watermelon, corn, pumpkins, tomatoes, beans, scarlet runner beans, flowers, and more.

<b><u>Volunteers</u></b>	<b>97.75 hours</b>
Environmental Education:	42.00
Garden Programs:	55.75

Volunteers helped with Take Me Fishing, school programs, summer t-shirt design, and the Discovery Garden.

## **Summer Camps**

Summer staff training started June 3. Patti put together a new section of summer staff training called Working with Teens to help staff as they work with the Counselors-in-Training.

## **General**

- Charlie Tice and I staffed the CCFPD table at the Community Information & Resource Fair at the Douglass Community Center in Champaign on May 18; 57 people visited our table.
- Savannah Hampson attended a training presented by the Indiana DNR called Interpretation: The Basics and Beyond, and submitted paperwork to become a Certified Interpretive Guide through the National Association for Interpretation.
- Patti & Savannah attended a workshop on Unstructured Nature Play, presented by the Chicago Wilderness Leave No Child Inside Initiative.
- Savannah worked with Sandy Osborne to finish the Library Loan Kit materials for this year's theme, *Read on the Wild Side*.
- Patti updated the Homer Lake kiosks with summer program information.

June 8, 2009

## **MEMORANDUM**

From: Andee Chestnut, Public Information Director

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Public Information Activity Report

### **Freedom Fest**

The Freedom Fest Committee is hard at work meeting all the June deadlines. Posters have been distributed, and details are being finalized with all the vendors and volunteers. As she does every year, Vickie Thompson has contributed a huge amount of time and effort toward making this a success. Although she would be the first to credit everyone else, she truly is the backbone of this event.

### **Website**

- We will soon go live with our somewhat revamped homepage. The design is basically the same, but it will hopefully be more user-friendly, with current information being the first thing visitors will see.
- We have more than 340 people subscribing to our electronic mailing list. These people all have to agree to be on the list, so it's not a number that we've built up ourselves. We probably receive 3-5 requests a week through our website homepage, which is much more than I expected.
- A secure page for volunteers, similar to the staff/board page, is currently in the works. Volunteers including trail stewards and frog call monitors will be able to log in to enter report information that will then go directly to the appropriate staff. We are anxious to get started with this.

### **Promotions**

Sarah Elm has been a great help designing flyers and ads for program promotions. Right now we are focusing on the Second Sunday Artisans series, the featured artists at the museum, and the Take Me Fishing series. Both the golf course and now the campground are marketed independently by the companies that handle their webpages and reservation software. Although we promote all the District offerings in general, it's very helpful to have specific markets targeted by those who specialize in that area.

June 8, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Kim Horbas, Volunteer Coordinator

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Volunteer Activity Report

**Miscellaneous**

Projects tackled by volunteers this past month include painting the information kiosk at the museum; clean-up of Stidham Woods boundaries; and weed management at the golf course.

Volunteer Mark Butler, welder by trade, has coordinated with his employer to donate materials, time and tools, and will be constructing the grate to be placed at River Bend.

I would like to share words just received from one of the newest stewards: "I'm having a blast being a trail steward; it's getting me outdoors and more exercise." Thanks, Alex!

**Volunteer Hours**

Education	98
Museum	205
Stewards	39
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>22</u>
Total	364

June 10, 2009

## MEMORANDUM

From: John Baker, Administration

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Administration Activity Report

The Headquarters administration staff has been very busy this past month with the District audit, assisting all departments with seasonal hiring and orientation, finalizing the campground reservation system, and our other ongoing duties (payroll, paying the bills, etc.)! I'm very pleased with how the department is pulling together and helping one another, especially with two relatively new staff.

- Bray, Drake and Liles LLC finished the field work portion of the audit on May 22. The preliminary audit report will be handed out at this Board Meeting for approval at the July meeting. We had hoped to get it to you in time for approval in June. However, Karl Drake was unable to review the working papers from previous auditor Clifton Gunderson until June 15, which is the reason for the delay in completing the audit.
- With the annual hiring of seasonal employees each spring, Mary Beck has been busy getting the human resources paperwork completed, uniforms supplied and new seasonal employees oriented. She has quite a personable touch with each new employee as they come on board with the District. Mary has also been the District contact for the stimulus youth employment program. One individual in Mahomet has been identified through this program, and will be working with maintaining landscaped beds at the golf course and elsewhere.
- The campground reservation system is complete. Those who will be using the program for taking reservations and accessing financial reports attended a conference call/training. The campground staff will enter reservations that have already been made for the 2009 season. When that is complete and everyone feels comfortable using the system, it will be linked to the District's website and available for the public to make online reservations and payments. Going from a hand-written system to an online program will be a big change for campground reservation procedures. Everyone is very excited for the convenience and efficiency this update will bring.
- The first property tax revenues (\$626,526) arrived right at the end of May. The District total funds balance was just under \$1.2 million at the time, which is the target for District reserves.
- We will be seeking favorable CD rates to invest a portion of these funds. CDs are the current best investment available to us. With the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation extending its \$250,000 deposit guarantee through 2014, the District can obtain better interest rates through larger CD investments while remaining assured that District deposits are guaranteed. In the past, the District's CD investments have always been in separate banks and under the \$100,000 limit to ensure the security of our deposits. We plan to continue this policy.
- We requested local vendors to supply quotes for beverage machines throughout the District. Site superintendents requested a solution to the problem of stocking and maintaining machines in remote locations. Several machines had been pulled from service in the past because of vandalism and the problems with the current vendor ensuring quick replacement with machines in good working order. The request for quotes assumes that the vendor will assume the risk, and will stock and maintain the machines. The District will retain a share of the sales proceeds. We are reviewing the two quotes received and expect to contract with the winning vendor shortly.

- Midwest Communications Group (MCG) approached the District about changing our long distance land line service from Qwest Communications to PowerNet Global. The annual savings are expected to exceed \$1,200. MCG is also reviewing our telephone services and billing to see where the District may secure additional savings. MCG originally worked with the District several years ago to set up the Qwest service.
- The State Treasurer hosted a Public Investor's Financial Symposium in Springfield May 27-28. The conference focused on protecting public investments during times of economic uncertainty. One especially helpful session addressed bank failures and what to expect if an agency has deposits or investments in a bank that fails. This was especially timely as the Strategic Capital Bank of Champaign failed the previous week. The District had no funds invested in this bank.
- We ordered 35 Microsoft Office 2007 Professional licenses through Tech Soup, a non-profit organization that specializes in supplying information technology hardware (donated/recycled) and software to other non-profits at minimal costs. The CCFPD Foundation agreed to sponsor the District for these and other future purchases. Using Tech Soup saved the District more than \$300 per license when compared with the retail cost for the same software.
- Rental facilities continue to be reserved. Paperwork has been sent out to more than 378 renters; this includes both in-house and paid rentals.
- The following Special Use Permits were submitted and approved:
  - Windsor Rd. Christian Church Fishing Derby – June 6 at Lake of the Woods
  - Mahomet Seymour Jr. High School Cross Country Meets – Sept. 17, 19 & Oct. 10 at Lake of the Woods

June 8, 2009

## **MEMORANDUM**

From: Mary Ellen Wuellner, Grants Coordinator

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Grant Activity Report

### **Grants Approved/Denied**

- The Illinois Arts Council grant application was approved. The grant, totaling \$750, will support the Second Sunday Artisan Series and Family Concerts at the museum and botanical garden.
- Unfortunately, the grant application to the Lowe's Foundation for \$20,000 to assist with the purchase and installation of playground equipment at the Middle Fork Campground was denied.
- The grant application to the American Hiking Society's National Trails Fund was also denied. The \$4,500 would have allowed for the purchase of two interpretive signs and six directional markers for a 1.2-mile extension of trail through the Sangamon River preserve. These costs will be included in the OSLAD grant application that is now being prepared (see below).

### **New Grant Applications Submitted**

- An application in the amount of \$1,938 was submitted to The Nature Conservancy and Illinois Nature Preserves Commission for the purchase of tools and equipment for the volunteer trail stewards, herbicide applicators, and frog call monitors. The Volunteer Stewardship Network grant decision is expected in early July.

### **Grant Applications Previously Submitted – Decision Pending**

- A decision is expected in July on an application to the IDNR Wildlife Preservation Fund for Small Projects. The grant of \$1,246 would also assist with the purchase of tools and equipment for the volunteer trail stewards and frog call monitors.

### **Grant Applications in Progress**

- As noted above, an application is currently being prepared for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) program. The grant request is estimated to be in the \$60,000-70,000 range, covering ½ the cost of improvements to the Sangamon River Forest Preserve. Items that will be included in the grant request include a picnic shelter, picnic tables, solar restroom lighting, benches and interpretive signs for along the trails, paved parking, accessible walkways leading to the picnic area and restrooms, a parking lot bioswale, and two additional natural area restoration phases (prairie and savanna), each containing approximately seven acres. The grant application, which is a joint effort among the Planning, Natural Resources and Grants staff, is due later this month.

June 8, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Dave Torrens, Director of Golf

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Lake of the Woods Golf Course Maintenance Staff Report

- Seasonal staffing is now full.
- Spring aerification went well. The putting surfaces are healing nicely.
- Routine maintenance of equipment continues.
- Thanks to the Natural Resources Department for the use of the three-foot tree spade. We planted 24 trees, some in areas of dense ash trees, and others to buffer adjacent roads.
- Staff is edging the sand bunkers. This task is done twice a year.

June 8, 2009

## MEMORANDUM

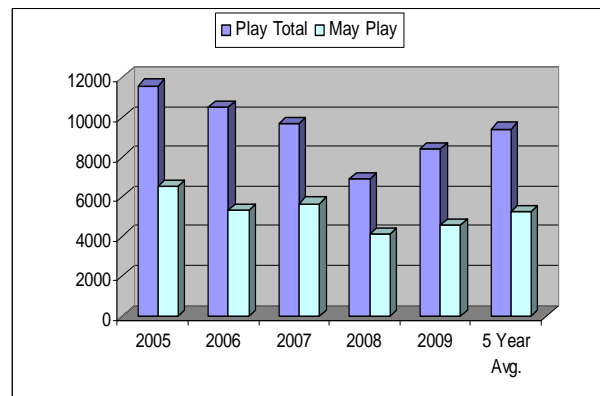
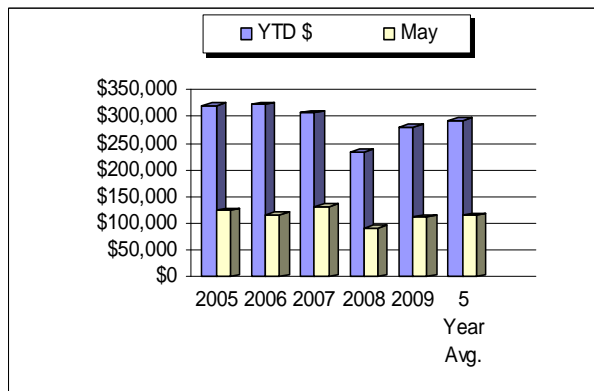
From: Dave Huber, Golf Professional/Manager

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Lake of the Woods Pro Shop Activity Report

### Operations

Revenue for this May exceeded last May by \$19,249. Play for the month of May 2009 was up over 2008 by 494 players. Both revenue and play were close to the five-year average.



### Tournaments and Outings

May 11	CU Grass Hoppers	36 players
May 19	Mahomet Rotary Outing	68 players
June 2	County Highway Department	96 players

### Other Activities

- We are starting the second series of the adult group Get Golf Ready in Five Days lessons. We have a smaller group of five golfers for this round.
- The PGA promotes several events through the Play Golf America website as part of our initiative to "Grow the Game." This May was Free Lesson Month. I posted sign-up sheets and gave 15 free 10-minute lessons.
- The Golf Thursday radio show on WDWS Sports Talk with Steve Kelly went very well. I was able to mention some upcoming CCFPD events as well as remind everyone that all of the course renovations have been completed.
- We purchased two new golf club merchandise floor display units for the pro shop. We have moved some of the sets of irons currently displayed in golf bags into these units, and I think the shop looks more professional and organized.

June 4, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Thomas M. Pike, Site Superintendent

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Lake of the Woods / River Bend / Sangamon River Forest Preserves Activity Report

- Staff is continuing to mow. It is wet, but we are keeping up.
- Crews are just about done spraying weeds for this year. This has got to be the earliest we've ever finished this.
- The 2009 John Deere backhoe is finally here, and we are putting it to good use. Everybody who has used it so far has been very happy with it.
- Staff has been working on the volleyball courts, defining the area between the sand and grass. It has been many years since this was done, and it has worked out well.
- Crews have begun replacing the 36-inch culvert at Buffalo Trace trails with a longer one, and we will add a second one to handle the high amount of water after a lot of rain.
- The new drinking fountains are here, and we will start putting them in shortly.
- Staff opened the rental boats on Memorial Day Weekend, and so far it has gone well.
- Staff completed ongoing janitorial work at rental buildings and public restrooms.
- We continued with routine scheduled maintenance and repairs on various District vehicles and other equipment.

June 8, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Matthew Kuntz, Site Superintendent

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Middle Fork River Forest Preserve Activity Report

- We had an excellent turnout during the Memorial Day Weekend. All campsites were full, and the amount of visitors through the weekend was the most we have seen in years.
- The July 4<sup>th</sup> camping weekend has been fully booked. We are seeing good crowds on the regular weekends as well.
- We have planted all of our trees with the help of the Natural Resources crew. The trees have been installed throughout the preserve.
- Sarah Elm, Andee Chestnut, John Baker and I had a training meeting at Headquarters reviewing the new campground manager computer program. It is very user-friendly, and we hope to get it started very soon.
- All of the solar lights for the new vault toilet buildings have been installed, and we are receiving many compliments. Last season I received a lot of feedback concerning the lack of light in and around the restrooms in the campground, so that has now been resolved.
- I have started to seed the front and back lawns at the residence.
- We have received the new campground signs with maps to show the new numbering system we will be moving to very soon. Special thanks go to Sarah Elm for the design of the new map.
- Herbicide spraying continues around rights-of-way and campsites. The continuous rain a month ago had slowed us from getting that done.

June 8, 2009

## MEMORANDUM

From: Brian Taylor, Site Superintendent

To: Board of Commissioners

Re: Homer Lake Forest Preserve Activity Report

- IDNR Fish Biologist Mike Garhouse conducted a fish survey by elector fishing, and the results confirmed that Homer Lake has an abundance of small crappie and blue gill. He was pleased with the size and quantity of largemouth bass and channel catfish.
- Staff has been busy planting flowers and installing mulch in landscape beds.
- Thanks to the Natural Resources staff for planting six trees for us. The planting was much easier as a result of Brad Houchens making arrangements with Urbana Park District to borrow their large posthole auger that mounts to our BobCat.
- We have been working on trail maintenance as we get reports from the trail stewards about situations where they need assistance. The stewards do a great job of keeping us updated about the condition of the trails, and I'm sure that visitors who hike the trails appreciate the work being done.
- The Girl Scouts painted two guard rails (pictured below) to fulfill a part of their public service responsibility to receive a badge. The girls enjoyed doing a project that they could see and point to when they visit the park. They did a great job and it saved us several hours of work.

