

Features of the Playscape

1. Main Entrance

Boulders welcome visitors to the playscape. The path then rises and curves up the hill, giving a feeling of adventure as it disappears over the top. Where does it lead?



2. Compass Sculpture

At the top of the hill, a compass sculpture orients you to the land, pointing out north, south, east and west. From here, you can see the whole playscape.



3. Stream of Discovery

A natural-looking stream begins near the compass and tumbles down toward the lake. There are numerous boulders of all sizes and shapes in the sand and gravel of the streambed. At several points, individuals in wheelchairs can easily access the water.



4. Hillside Slide

A slide that follows the contours of the hill provides a unique experience. To get back to the top, kids take a natural route. Who knows what treasures from nature they will find along the way?



5. Creative Play Corner

A “loose parts” area provides opportunities for creative play. Perhaps kids will make up games like “Squirrel Tag,” or build a “tree cookie” sculpture, or jump from boulder to boulder. The possibilities are endless! Nearby, they can pretend to be bluebirds living in a birdhouse.



6. Grandfather Tree

In this area, a large, aged tree with huge branching arms lays on its side, providing a place to climb. Like a grandfather, old trees can tell many stories. What will you learn about the life of a tree as you climb its branches?



7. Spider Web

A spider web climber provides another opportunity for loads of fun, as kids imagine they are spiders living in a web.



8. Tallgrass Maze

A tallgrass maze made out of prairie grasses will challenge your sense of direction! Can you find the correct path? Surprises lay around every turn! Within the maze, tunnels made from willow branches invite you to crawl through.



Homer Lake Natural Playscape

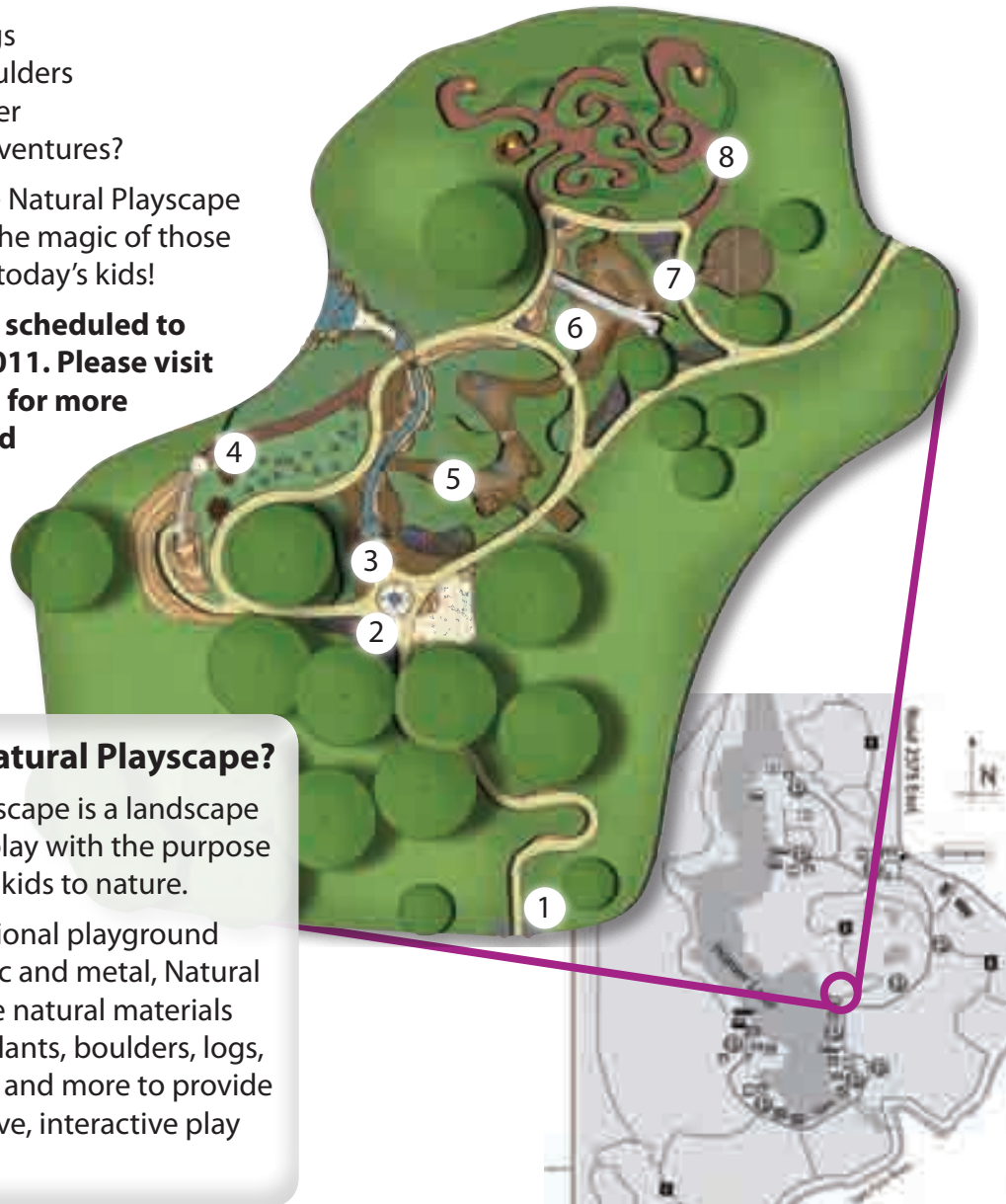
How did you play as a kid?

Did you . . .

- Climb on logs
- Jump on boulders
- Dam up water
- Dream of adventures?

The Homer Lake Natural Playscape will bring back the magic of those experiences for today's kids!

Construction is scheduled to begin spring 2011. Please visit www.ccfpd.org for more information and updates.



What is a Natural Playscape?

A Natural Playscape is a landscape designed for play with the purpose of connecting kids to nature.

Unlike a traditional playground made of plastic and metal, Natural Playscapes use natural materials like streams, plants, boulders, logs, earth mounds and more to provide a highly creative, interactive play experience.

Invest in the Future

Your support is needed to help a new generation build lifelong memories of playing in nature.

Donations can be made online at www.ccfpd.org. All donations of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a permanent sign at the playscape.

Grants or donations have been received so far from:

- The Marajen Stevick Foundation
- Izaak Walton League
- Kohl's Department Stores
- The North Face—Explore Fund
- Private Donations

Thank you!

For more information about this project, please visit www.ccfpd.org. Or contact Jerry Pagac, Executive Director (jpagac@ccfpd.org) or Pam Leiter, Asst Dir of the Museum & Education Dept (pleiter@ccfpd.org).

Homer Lake Forest Preserve

Homer Lake Forest Preserve is located approximately 15 miles southeast of Champaign-Urbana.

2573 S. Homer Lake Rd | Homer, IL 61849
(217) 896-2455 | fax: (217) 896-2361
www.ccfpd.org

Coming Soon!

Homer Lake Natural Playscape

*Nature Play:
Magic Included at
No Extra Cost!*

