



2025 Annual Report



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Our Mission

To promote the health and well-being of our community, environment and economy by facilitating recreational opportunities and coordinating the enhancement of our parks, facilities and natural resources now and in the future.

Our Vision

Continue to be the central driving force in strengthening the heritage of a healthy, active community for future generations by continuing on the path of improving and enhancing our parks and facilities; protecting our natural resources; and developing partnerships to deliver recreation programs and services.



Messages

From Parks & Recreation Manager

This past year was an excellent reminder of how our Duluth park system operates: “Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.”

I hope you’ll take a moment to flip to the back of our Annual Report to celebrate the many, organizations that make up our “together.” And honestly, I’m sure there are even more than we show here! These groups, mostly non-profits, many volunteer led, do so much to make Duluth what it is—a destination outdoor city.

Our park system hosts many vibrant non-profits and third-party operators that bring education, stewardship, access, and fun to our parks and trails. From a century of animal care and education at the Lake Superior Zoo (Fairmont Park) to the deep roots of environmental education at Hartley Nature Center (Hartley Park), music and culture at Bayfront Festival Park, and the outstanding views and refreshed links at Enger Park Golf Course, our Duluth park system is stronger and more robust thanks to the countless organizations who share in our mission:

“To promote the health and well-being of our community, environment and economy by facilitating recreational opportunities and coordinating the enhancement of our parks, facilities and natural resources now and into the future.”

Whether you’ve learned to ski with the Chester Bowl Improvement Club, spent a night camping at Indian Point Campground, celebrated a special event at the Park Point Beach House, enjoyed a ball game at historic Wade Stadium, or simply enjoyed time in Duluth’s parks, chances are your experience was shaped by the many community groups that support our parks.

Duluthians have truly leaned into the adage that “together we can do so much.” Thanks to each and every one of our operators, non-profits, and community groups for being part of our “together.” And thank you to our staff and community members for supporting each of these organizations in being valued contributors and supporters of Duluth’s park system.

Together, with all of you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jessica Peterson

About Us

Parks & Recreation Staff

- Jessica Peterson, Manager
- Cliff Knettel, Assistant Manager
- Alicia Watts, Assistant Manager
- Emily Alworth, Social Media Strategist
- Matt Andrews, Trails Coordinator
- Dave Baillargeon, Facility Coordinator
- Katie Bennett, Senior Planner
- Allison Brooks, Project Coordinator
- Bridget Erickson, Admin Clerical Specialist
- Adam Fornear, Recreation Specialist
- Claire Hoffman, Recreation Specialist
- Kate Kubiak, Natural Resources Coordinator
- Megan Lidd, Recreation Specialist
- Peter Ray, Recreation Specialist
- Chris Severson, Permits Coordinator
- Austin Sommerfeld, Recreation Specialist
- Sam Werle, Recreation Specialist

Parks & Recreation Commission

- David Demmer, President, Land Management
- Tim Meyer, District 1
- Kala Pedersen, Vice President, District 2
- Josie LaPorte, Secretary, District 3
- Sarah Beehler, District 4
- Constance Cummins, District 5
- Dave Cizmas, Recreation Professional
- Terrance Lovejoy, At-Large
- Brooke Marinan, Commission on Disabilities Representative
- Beth Olson, At-Large
- Hailey Sigafus, Community Education

Park Maintenance Staff

- Joe Miller, Manager
- Abbie Hopper, Manager
- Bronwyn Bauer, Executive Assistant
- Clark Christenson, Lead Worker
- Billy Davis, Lead Worker
- Greg Hanson, Lead Worker
- Todd Kobus, Lead Worker
- Park Maintenance Workers
 - Matt Bovee
 - John Capra
 - Trevor Christensen
 - Krys Davis-Manchette
 - Darin Frankowiak
 - Todd Halbakken
 - Kevin Jentoft
 - Jenny Monroe
 - Anna Neu
 - Taylor Persson
 - Brandon Schultz
 - Paul Sondag
 - Ben Sosniecki
 - Cory Wagner
 - Chris Walz
 - Chris Zwick

Budget

Capital: \$1,412,534

Operations: \$1,866,706

Maintenance: \$580,445

Youth Agency Support: \$47,683

Grants

In 2025, the City of Duluth was awarded \$3,318,887 for Parks & Recreation projects. Awarded grants support implementation over multiple budget years.

Environmental Protection Agency: Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

- \$560,000 for Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail Segment 7 (Perch Lake Landing to Chambers Grove) trail design and implementation

Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission: Legacy Grant

- \$1,318,978 for Duluth Traverse bike skills area and trailhead improvements at Lester Park

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: ATV Dedicated Account

- \$200,000 for Study of potential ATV routes in western Duluth

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: Community Tree Planting Grant

- \$213,705 for removal and replacement of boulevard trees lost to Emerald Ash Borer

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: Grant-in-Aid Program

- \$12,650 for Cross-Country Ski Trail Grooming
- \$17,349 for Snowmobile Trail Grooming

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: Public Water Access

- \$150,000 for Perch Lake Landing public access improvements and paddle launch for non-motorized watercraft

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

- \$350,000 for Norton Park improvements

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: Community Resiliency Grant

- \$496,205 for Morgan Park roof repairs

Awards

Friend of the Trail Award

Duluth Parks & Recreation was nominated and received the Friend of the Trail Award from the North Country Trail Association (NCTA). This award is given to a public employee, unit of government, or member of an organization whose leadership, accommodations, and active collaboration have substantially benefited the North Country Trail or the NCTA, not working solely in the capacity of an NCTA member. Below is an excerpt from the nomination submitted by Lisa Luokkala of the Superior Hiking Trail Association:

“The City of Duluth Parks & Recreation Division has been instrumental in the success of the Superior Hiking Trail through the City of Duluth. In 2024, the City of Duluth passed a resolution to support the Superior Hiking Trail’s Master Plan, which included two future reroutes through the city that would significantly reduce SHT’s road walks and provide a superior visitor use experience. The Plan was presented and gained the support of both the Parks & Recreation Commission and the Duluth City Council ... As one of two national trails that pass through the City of Duluth, the Parks & Recreation Division takes seriously the importance of maintaining these world-class trail systems for their residents and visitors.

“Duluth has one of the most robust urban park and open space systems in the Midwest. With a population of 86,000 people, Duluth is able to provide incomparable access to the outdoors through their 353 miles of trails and over 9,000 acres of park land. Superior Hiking Trail is fortunate to be a part of this amazing system, representing over 42 miles of trail that serves as a thread weaving through this immense public park system.”



Honor Award of Excellence – Lincoln Park

On April 25, the MN Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects recognized the Lincoln Park Restoration and Reconnection Project in the General Design category with an Honor Award, the highest award of excellence. LHB Inc., the design firm involved on the project, submitted the project for consideration. Awarded projects represent the best of landscape architecture, and we're thrilled that Lincoln Park was selected!

Programming

Programming continues to be a cornerstone of Parks & Recreation's mission to connect people, places, and community throughout the year. In 2025, our programs spanned all seasons and ages, offering everything from large-scale community celebrations and neighborhood pop-up events to skill-building classes, guided hikes, art experiences, and welcoming recreation opportunities for all abilities. Through strong partnerships, dedicated staff, and creative use of our parks, trails, facilities, and water access, we welcomed thousands of participants to explore Duluth in new and meaningful ways. These programs not only encouraged physical activity and lifelong learning but also fostered social connection and environmental stewardship through our community.

This year we offered more than 153 unique program topics, totaling more than 3,900 program hours, which is an average of 10 hours of activities every day, all year long!



Community Events

Cold Front

Parks & Recreation was excited to host the 8th annual Cold Front event for our community on Saturday, February 1, 2025. With minimal snow leading up to the event, we were thrilled when it started snowing halfway through the day! Around 1,000 people joined us to celebrate the best of winter fun through ice skating, hay rides, snow play, and so much more. A new activity at Cold Front this year was Snow Volleyball. Two volleyball courts were set up in the middle of Bayfront Festival Park, and six teams competed in a round-robin tournament while the snow was falling! Park Maintenance once again brought the magic by building the sledding luge and snow play area, and maintaining the ice rink. Partner organizations helped elevate this experience by bringing hot chocolate, fat bikes, cross country skis, and other activities.



Yeti Hunt

The Yeti Hunt was back again in 2025! Clues were shared hourly on Parks and Recreation's social media on February 8, giving hints to location of the Yeti hidden somewhere in our park system. Around 50 people followed the clues to Lincoln Park to find the Yeti!



Sunrise Equinox Hike

On Thursday, March 20 from 7-8 a.m., we welcomed the changing of the seasons with a sunrise equinox hike on the Lakewalk from the lighthouse to Leif Erikson Park. Attendees received seed packets for attending and were encouraged to bring a warm beverage to start their day.



Joke Trail

Our recreation team coordinated our annual "Joke Trail" at Quarry Park the week of April Fools Day. This encouraged community members to shake off the winter blues by taking a hike and reading signs placed along the quarry floor with jokes submitted by local kids, ages 12 and under.

Music in the Park

Our Music in the Park concert series was once again a delight! We kicked off the series at Chester Park for the first half, and the second half of the series was at Lincoln Park. The community has shared with us lots of appreciation for continuing to split the concert series in half and bring music to two different neighborhoods. The nine-week series wrapped up on Tuesday, August 19. More than 4,000 attendees enjoyed a variety of music genres throughout the beautiful summer months.



Pop-Up Splash Pads

This year, our Pop-Up Splash Pads were held at Morgan Park, Grant Park, and Keene Creek Park. Parks & Recreation partnered with the Duluth Fire Department to bring summer fun to different neighborhoods during some of the warmest weeks of the year. We were also joined by one of our Parks Commercial Operators, Kona Ice, who helped make the events even more enjoyable. Across the three events, we served more than 850 people, filling each of these park spaces with smiles, laughter, and summertime fun.



Public Orchard Celebration

Every year, we are thrilled to highlight our public orchard system with Park Maintenance as we celebrate Fall Arbor Day. This annual event features an apple-themed Pop-Up Play in a park space with our fruiting apple trees and helpful tree information shared by our City Forester.



Pumpkin Palooza

This annual partner program with Duluth Parks & Recreation, Duluth Public Library, and Duluth Whole Foods Co-op is a great Saturday morning activity in October for people of all ages. The event kicks off with a storytime from the Duluth Public Library, followed by painting and carving pumpkins with Duluth Parks & Recreation. Harrison Park and Community Center has been a perfect location for this program over the years. We are grateful for the Co-op's annual donation of pumpkins and support at the event. In 2025, more than 130 people joined in on the fun!



Howl-o-ween at Keene

Halloween enthusiasts and dog lovers enjoyed a designated playtime once again in October at Keene Creek Dog Park, where dogs and their humans are encouraged to dress up in costumes and enjoy the company of others, take a photo in our photo booth, and win prizes.



Glow Hike

As a transition into darker days, the annual Glow Hike event reminds us to enjoy the changing season while enjoying a night hike along a glow-stick illuminated path. Starting at Indian Point Campground, attendees are welcome to spend time around a fire before or after hiking a half-mile loop on Waabizheshikana.



Solstice Luminary Hike

We were thrilled to welcome more than 1,300 people and countless dogs to celebrate the season with us at the Solstice Luminary Hike on Sunday, December 21. It was especially rewarding to see the track chair in use and community members of all ages and abilities enjoying the trail together. The evening was clear and beautiful, with more than 400 luminaries lighting a snow-packed path at Enger Park Golf Course. As a special bonus, we caught sight of meteors streaking across the sky and even a faint hint of the northern lights!



Adult & Family Programs

Bayfront Rink and Warming House

It was a short but beautiful season at Bayfront Warming House and Skating Rink in 2025. The Warming House was open daily for about two months this year, offering free skate rental, a fire for roasting marshmallows, and board games inside. Park Maintenance did an incredible job making the ice, and more importantly, maintaining the ice through the season. They also installed small patio lights around the rink, giving it a Northwoods vacation ambience all winter. Overall, 1,400 skaters used Bayfront Rink during Warming House open hours.

Backcountry Skiing

On February 13, Parks and Recreation hosted a backcountry ski at Lester Park Golf Course. Four participants registered, but only one braved the bitter cold that day for a two-hour ski. This was a new program offering in 2025, and it has great potential to get community members out exploring the amazing parks and trails throughout the city.

Jigsaw Puzzle Competition

Our bi-annual Jigsaw Puzzle Competition is in its second year, and it continues to be a fun-filled night at Evergreen Community Center each fall and spring. Participants on 22 teams, with up to four people per team, enjoy friendly competition while quickly piecing together a 500 piece puzzle.



Fishing

Parks & Recreation launched summer fishing programs shortly after the Minnesota Fishing Opener, beginning at the Munger Landing fishing dock. These programs, held at various locations along the St. Louis River, are designed for participants of all ages and experience levels and focus on basic skills such as casting, knot tying, and river fishing techniques.



Learn to Disc Golf

Seven participants met at Quarry Park on May 27 to learn how to play disc golf. The group practiced throwing discs, learned how to read the maps of a disc golf course, and played a couple of holes. The group did not keep score, as the program was designed to be a fun learning opportunity, and all the participants had a good experience. In addition to disc golf, the group learned about Quarry Park, including its multiple uses (disc golf, ice climbing, mountain biking, all season trail hiking) and that it is one of the few spots in the world that has rocks with a similar composition to moon rocks!

Recreational Golf

This is an ongoing partnership program with the Duluth Superior Sailing Association (DSSA), with sessions held in August and September 2025. This program is set up as a two-night program, three hours each night. Most of the class time is spent on an 18' sailboat all over Duluth Harbor. DSSA does an amazing job of establishing a safe and friendly learning environment. By the end of the 3 programs, 16 adults will have been introduced to the wonderful sport of sailing.

Intro to Sailing

This is an ongoing partnership program with the Duluth Superior Sailing Association (DSSA), with sessions held in August and September 2025. This program is set up as a two-night program, three hours each night. Most of the class time is spent on an 18' sailboat all over Duluth Harbor. DSSA does an amazing job of establishing a safe and friendly learning environment. By the end of the 3 programs, 16 adults will have been introduced to the wonderful sport of sailing.

Adventure Book Club

Adventure Book Club returned in 2025! This is a monthly partnership program with the Duluth Public Library during the summer and fall months. Each month is held at a different park location. The session starts with a book discussion hosted by the library, followed by a hike guided by Parks & Recreation staff.



Hikes

Women Hike Duluth

Women Hike Duluth is a year-round, monthly hiking program that welcomes both returning and new participants. The group hikes different trails each month, adapting to seasonal conditions, and typically attracts 30-60 women per hike. Spring hikes use gravel and paved trails, while drier conditions in summer and fall allow for more natural surface trail hikes. A highlight of 2025 was the October hike along the newer gravel section of Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail (Spirit Lake Delta Cap), followed by a social gathering at the Morgan Park Community Centers for attendees.



Full Moon Hike

Parks & Recreation hosted monthly Full Moon Hikes on the evening of each full moon, drawing both new and returning participants throughout the year. Held at various parks and trails across Duluth, these hikes offer unique nighttime experiences outdoors, including moonrise views over the lake and river.

Superior Hiking Trail

On September 7, we wrapped up the final segment of our series hiking every mile of the Superior Hiking Trail within the City of Duluth. Participants met at the end point of the hike, then took the shuttle to the beginning of the segment and hiked back to their cars. Many of the hikers started this series in June and hiked the entire SHT route through Duluth with Parks & Recreation over the

summer. This year, these hikes were led by seasonal staff, many of which are UMD students in the Environmental and Outdoor Education program. Providing these students with opportunities to lead hikes helps them gain hands-on experience in their chosen field.

Science Hikes

Partnering with Duluth Foot Trails Alliance (DUFTA), we offered two successful programs known as Science Hikes. The first one was a great hike in September with a MN DNR project planner who shared his extensive knowledge of the Hartley Pond/Tischer Creek rehabilitation project. Secondly, we had a great hike on the newly-designated Incline Steps Trail in October, allowing participants to view the just-installed interpretive signage along the steps. Pairing it with the ribbon cutting for the steps was a great success. For more information on the ribbon cutting, see page 30.

Youth Programs

Youth on Trails

Though the grant for Youth on Trails ended in 2025, the program now carries on as a core part of Parks & Recreation's summer youth programming. As of July 1, 2025, Youth on Trails has put more than 900 kids on bikes since 2023, offering over 92 sessions of biking across the city. Participants were able to learn basic biking skills, basic bike maintenance, and gained experience riding some of Duluth's trails. This program has won multiple awards and continues to welcome youth to the world of mountain biking who may not otherwise have the opportunity. We are so grateful to our in-house instructors, partner organizations, and the KIDS for making this program into a summer highlight for everyone involved.



Story & Play

Story & Play targets families with kids ages 5 and under, or any age child looking for a storytime, along with crafts and outdoor play. This program regularly sees anywhere from 100-200+ people every week at a different park space. This year, we served over 1,400 people throughout the summer through a partnership with the Duluth Public Library. Story & Play has become a staple program over the last six years, and families look forward to exploring new parks each week of summer.



Indoor Youth Programs

Several recreation programs take place indoors throughout the year. Washington Center Gym is busy during the school year with activities like Toddler Playtime, Homeschool Gym Time, and a variety of archery classes such as Intro to Archery, Open Archery, Archery League, and Youth Archery Club. Music Together provides fun, music, and social connection to families with young children year-round at Portman Community Center. This program continues to grow and expand offerings, a testament to the quality of instruction and community being built by Music Together staff. Other indoor programs include summer, fall, and winter/spring sessions of an introductory youth ballet and jazz dance class led by instructors from 218 Dance Project. Music Together and 218 Dance classes are examples of contracted programs with businesses that partner with the City to provide specialized programs that Parks & Recreation would not be able to offer otherwise.

Friday Fun

Friday Fun had another busy summer of providing full days of activities for youth on nine different Fridays throughout the summer. Activity focuses this year included Mountain Biking, Fishing, and Wizards & Warlocks. These groups enjoyed time together, fun activities, and took field trips to explore new parks and trails around Duluth.

Teen Adventures

Teen Adventures provided opportunities for older youth to try something new, meet friends, and spend time outside together. Activities in 2025 included Tenkara Trout Fishing, Read & Ride bike rides with the Duluth Public Library, and a series of hikes called Out in the Woods in which queer teens and allies spent time outside together with a safe, inclusive community.



55+ Programs

Open Game Time at Evergreen Community Center

This summer, Parks & Recreation launched Open Game Time at Evergreen Community Center, a new weekly program for adults ages 55+ held on Wednesday afternoons. Participants can socialize in a relaxed setting while enjoying games, puzzles, and other activities. Craft Time also returned in the fall, hosted monthly during Open Game Time and providing opportunities for creativity like “Paint a Pumpkin” and “Make a Snowman Ornament.”

Health and Wellness Programs

Parks and Recreation hosted several health and wellness partner programs during the winter months of 2025. “Fall Prevention” was a partnership with Fox Rehabilitation Services, “Advance Care Planning” was a partnership with Aspirus St. Lukes Hospice, and “Fire Safety” was a partnership with the Duluth Fire Department. These programs were free and offered valuable enrichment specifically for older adults. In addition, Hawk Ridge Winter Walkers offered a weekly hiking meetup throughout January, February, and March, encouraging participants to stay active even in the depths of winter.

Great Trails in Your Town

Claire Hoffman, Recreation Specialist, and Matt Andrews, Trails Coordinator, presented “Great Trails in Your Town” to a group at Evergreen Community Center. The presentation highlighted trails across Duluth that are well suited for adults 55+, with a focus on routes that are flatter and wider than singletrack. Several attendees shared that although they have lived in Duluth for many years, they tend to visit the same trails repeatedly. They appreciated learning about new trail options and

were especially excited to hear about the Women Hike Duluth series, which offers women the opportunity to explore new trails in a safe, welcoming, and guided group setting.

Senior Picnic

The annual All City Senior Picnic was held at Morgan Park Community Center in August. Seniors enjoyed lunch together, connected with friends, and had the chance to win prizes generously provided by the Evergreen Senior Board. Local band Len & Lois performed a fantastic set of live music.



Senior Holiday Party

The Annual Senior Holiday Party was hosted at Morgan Park Community Center on December 11. A group of 70 seniors and 10 Parks & Recreation staff gathered to enjoy a dinner, dessert, games, raffle prizes, and an acoustic music set performed by local musician Climes. Officers from the Duluth Police Department and Mayor Reinert also stopped by to say hello and wish our senior community a happy holiday season!

Athletics

Wade Stadium and Wheeler Athletic Complex

The spring and summer seasons were very active at Wade Stadium, the Wade softball fields, and Wheeler Athletic Complex. In spring, the facilities hosted more than 90 games and 70 practices for local high school and collegiate baseball and softball teams, including the Region 7AA and 7AAA baseball playoffs. Summer continued at a busy pace, with seven tournaments hosted at Wheeler Athletic Complex and heavy use of fields and courts by baseball, softball, pickleball, horseshoes, and bocce ball groups.

Pickleball

In October, Parks & Recreation hosted our first Learn to Play Pickleball class at the Washington Center Gym. The program consisted of four sessions and welcomed ten participants, providing instruction on the basic equipment, scoring, and rules of the game. Drop-in Open Pickleball sessions were held weekly in the winter, spring, and fall, with opportunities for beginners and intermediate players to recreate indoors. An outdoor Pickleball League was held in the summer at Wheeler Athletic Complex.

Open Skate

Open Skate is a year-round program held twice weekly at the Essentia Duluth Heritage Center. Throughout 2025, Parks & Recreation hosted six free, themed community skating parties during Open Skate hours. Along with returning holiday themes (Skate for the Heart, Boo Bash, Gobbler Glide, Frosty's Frozen Skate Party), two new summer skating parties were offered (Swiftie Skate and Beach Party). A combined total of 5,038 skaters participated in Open Skate during 2025.



Youth Flag Football

A total of 350 youth participated in Duluth Parks & Recreation's six-week NFL Flag Football program in fall 2025, along with more than 50 volunteer coaches and six referees. Three sessions were offered for boys and girls in kindergarten-eighth grade. The Duluth league was recognized as one of the biggest NFL Flag Football programs in Minnesota by the Minnesota Vikings Flag Football Operations team. It is also the only NFL-sponsored program within 100 miles of Duluth.

Adult Leagues

- Kickball
 - Spring session
 - 40 participants in 2025
- Ultimate Frisbee
 - Spring, summer, fall sessions
 - 240 participants in 2025
- Volleyball
 - Winter, fall sessions
 - 170 participants in 2025
- Softball
 - Summer session
 - 190 participants in 2025



St. Louis River Estuary

Winter Sampler

Winter kicked off with our Winter Sampler program at Morgan Park in January 2025. Each week featured different snow recreation equipment to try out, along with snow play, s'mores by the fire, and a cozy indoor craft. Participants played with kick sleds, explored with snowshoes, and experienced back country cross-country skis all at Morgan Park. It was the perfect way to enjoy the season with family and try new outdoor activities.



Family Movie Nights

Friday nights in March and November, the Morgan Park Community Center transformed into a neighborhood movie theater for free Family Movie Nights, complete with a different family-friendly feature film on the big screen each week and plenty of popcorn. Many families came out each week to see what was showing.

Waabizheshikana Walks

Waabizheshikana Walks were held year-round and were focused on walking sections of Waabizheshikana: The Marten Trail and enjoying all that the St. Louis River has along the way. Four different sections were chosen: Indian Point, Blackmer Park out to Spirit Lake peninsula, Boy Scout Landing to Perch Lake, and ending at Chambers Grove. This program series was a great way to highlight lesser-known trail sections along the river.

Birding 101

A new program offered in 2025 was Birding 101, welcoming community members to explore the rewarding hobby of birdwatching with sessions held in the spring and fall. Participants learned the basics of bird identification while spotting a variety of winged visitors making their seasonal journeys through our parks, and they left with a stronger understanding of bird behavior and the skills to begin identifying local birds on their own.



Paddling Programs on the St. Louis River

Summer was full of adventure on and along the river! We partnered with Camp Amnicon for a scenic day paddling around Clough Island in a voyageur canoe and enjoying lunch on the island. North Shore SUP partnered with us to bring free Community Paddle Nights to Chambers Grove and Munger Landing. These evenings were a hit, with many participants trying stand-up

paddleboarding for the first time and experiencing the river in a new way! In July, our Ecology Paddle explored the rich wildlife near Tallas Island, just off Munger Landing where we spotted ducks, fish, aquatic plants, and even beaver activity.

Painting in the Parks

Parks & Recreation offered several fun and free painting classes along the St. Louis River throughout 2025, thanks to our partnership with Northern Exposure Art. Held at Chambers Grove and Morgan Park, these guided classes brought the community together to paint seasonal scenery, enjoy the outdoors, and get creative. It was the perfect way to celebrate the natural beauty of the river.



Forest Bathing

A new partner program in 2025 was forest bathing, an opportunity for participants to slow down, reconnect with nature, and enjoy a guided, meditative walk with Barbara Miron of Abundant Wellness. Held at Blackmer Park, Chambers Grove, and Indian Point, these sessions offered peaceful moments of reflection in scenic park settings along the St. Louis River.

Duluth River Train

In October, Parks & Recreation reserved 50 tickets for folks to ride the Duluth River train on the historic Lake Superior Mississippi Railroad. This was a scenic ride enjoying fall colors along the river. Riders got to experience the historic coaches along with the open-air safari car while seeing parts of the river otherwise inaccessible. This was a widely popular offering as registration filled up immediately, and it was a great way to experience the river and partner with a local non-profit.

Operations

Park Point Beach House Operations

Since 2021, Parks & Recreation has steadily expanded rentals and operations at the Park Point Beach House, growing from 45 reservations in 2021 to 79 in 2024. In January 2025, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking a third-party operator to manage the facility, in response to increasing demand and limited City staffing capacity for continued growth at this site.

Following the RFP process, Campbell Productions was awarded a three-year contract to operate the Beach House. This agreement is a revenue-sharing model: Campbell Productions will receive 75% of revenues in 2025 and 80% in the following two years. The City's portion of the revenue will be directed into a dedicated Beach House fund to reinvest in the facility's long-term sustainability. While the City will continue to oversee major capital maintenance, Campbell Productions is responsible for event management, reservations, and facility cleaning. The agreement was approved by City Council on May 12.

Indian Point Campground Operations

A request-for-proposals (RFP) was issued by the City on April 17, 2025, for the operation and maintenance of Indian Point Campground, seeking candidates with campground management experience, knowledge of regional camping trends, and the ability to provide a high-quality visitor experience. The previous agreement with Spirit Lake Development expired on December 31, 2025. Spirit Lake Development submitted a proposal in response to the RFP and was selected to continue as the operator. The new agreement is for five years, beginning on January 1, 2026, and includes responsibility for operating the campground during the summer and fall season, as well as performing routine maintenance of campground facilities.

Bayfront Year-in-Review

Through the annual operating agreement, the DECC managed Bayfront Festival Park for the summer event season in 2025. A total of 24 events were held at Bayfront Festival Park from June-September, with an estimated attendance of approximately 88,000 attendees. Events ranged from popular musical events, fundraisers, picnics, races, and even a wedding this year!



Lake Superior Zoo

Total admissions: 100,774

Memberships: 2,506 households; 11,250 people

Participants in zoo camps: 183

Total reach for educational program and outreach initiative: 9,014

Renovated animal habitats: 3

New animal habitats: 1

Enger Golf

Season Passes: Total 1,105

- 7-Day: 99
- 5-Day: 21
- Young Adults: 150
- Junior: 34
- Sr. Couple: 13
- Skyline Pass: 788

Total Round: 36,702

Cart Rentals: 16,456

Hartley Nature Center

2025 Impact:

- Over 200,000 park visitors
- Over 1,600 camp experiences
- 105 children at the Nature Preschool
- 70 school field trips
- Outreach Program reached 550 youth with barriers to nature
- Scholarships provided: \$8,000
- Over 700 volunteer hours



Permits

- Private Events: 307
- Weddings: 83
- Gym Rentals: 355
- Building Rentals: 398
- Special Events: 155
- Commercial Operators: 30
- Alcohol Permits: 101
- Boat Rack Rentals: 6
- After Hours Permits: 6



Ribbon Cuttings

Perch Lake Celebration

On Tuesday, June 10, the City of Duluth celebrated the completion of the Perch Lake habitat restoration project! The Minnesota Land Trust and the DNR undertook extensive restoration work that included dredging Perch Lake, constructing habitat for fish and birds, and the installation of a new box culvert and pedestrian bridge. These actions removed accumulated sediment and increased water flow between the St. Louis River and Perch Lake to improve water quality and habitat connectivity. Now, folks can paddle between these two water bodies safely and enjoy observing the more diverse plants, fish, and birds that will call Perch Lake home! These restoration efforts will be complemented by upcoming public access improvements at Perch Lake Landing that the City of Duluth looks forward to installing in 2026.



Munger Landing Celebration

On Tuesday, August 5, the City of Duluth along with partners at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and Wisconsin DNR celebrated the completion of the Munger Landing Sediment Remediation project with a ribbon cutting at the site on Clyde Avenue. The project began in summer of 2022 and involved dredging approximately 100,000 cubic yards of sediment and soil from the landing, channel, and wetland, then covering the dredged areas with a clean layer of sand. The project also included removal of invasive species, installation of native plants, restoration of underwater areas for fish spawning, replacement of the boat ramp and fishing pier, and creation of a sandy paddle sport launch area north of the fishing pier.



Incline Stairway Trail

A ribbon cutting was held on Thursday, October 2 for the Incline Stairway Trail to celebrate the addition of new interpretive signage in partnership with the Friends of the Incline, the Duluth Preservation Society, and the Duluth Superior Eco Rotary Club! Immediately following the ribbon

cutting, the Duluth Foot Trails Alliance, partnering with Duluth Parks & Recreation, led a community hike along the trail to visit the 4 interpretive sign locations. The signage tells the story of the Incline Railway, which ran from downtown along 7th Avenue West all the way up to West 9th Street; the incline railway was operated from 1891-1939. This trail received official designation in 2023, and fundraising initiatives began to fund the new interpretive signage, which was installed this past August.



Stewardship: Park Projects

Chester Bowl Thom Storm Chalet Reconstruction

Through a collaborative effort between the City and Chester Bowl Improvement Club (CBIC), this project seeks to reconstruct the Chester Bowl Chalet into a modern, accessible, and inclusive community resource. In 2025, Duluth City Council authorized acceptance of \$2,312,000 from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources to support project construction. Additionally, CBIC's Growing Up Chester capital campaign raised over \$1 million from a combination of local businesses, small grants, and everyday community members, making this a truly community-supported project.

Other 2025 project accomplishments included the creation and execution of a development agreement between the City and CBIC, entering an agreement and kicking off the final design phase with LHB, Inc., initiating and making progress on State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) review processes and mitigation requirements, applying for a required shoreland variance, and

working through B3 sustainable building guidelines required on all state-funded projects. Staff with the City, CBIC, and LHB are diligently working towards a 2026 construction project.



Hillside Sport Court Park Plan Implementation

The Hillside Sport Court Park Plan, which outlines preferred improvements at the park, was adopted by Duluth City Council on August 21, 2023. Preferred park improvements include enhancing site connectivity and accessibility, replacing the previously removed community building with a pavilion and picnic area, renewing the sport court, replacing the playground, maintaining open green space, and allotting space for a community garden, among other site enhancements. In August 2025, City Council authorized acceptance of grant funding from Minnesota’s Outdoor Recreation Grant Program, which is partially funding this project. With project funding in place, City staff and SAS + Associates spent the fall/early winter working on final design and bid specifications for the improvement project, and ordered the playground equipment. The Hillside Sport Court Park improvement project is expected to be bid in early 2026, with construction starting in June, immediately after repairs to sections of sanitary mains that run through the park are completed by the Public Works & Utilities team.

Norton Park Improvements

A community meeting in January 2026 brought together over 25 neighbors to discuss future improvements to Norton Park. Key goals include addressing deferred maintenance, reducing long-term upkeep, and creating an inclusive, accessible, and family-friendly neighborhood park. Community priorities include replacing the playground, adding a new picnic pavilion, improving drainage to make the multi-use field more usable, and adding new pathways and amenities while keeping the overall park layout similar. Facility assessments found the existing park building to be

structurally compromised, and it has been removed to make way for park improvements. The City of Duluth secured grant funding for the project and is working with consultants on park designs. Construction is scheduled for 2026.



Park Point Recreation Area Boardwalk Replacement

Parks & Recreation applied for and was awarded funding from Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program to replace a boardwalk within the Park Point Recreation Area to improve beach access and better preserve the surrounding sensitive dune habitat. In May, Park Maintenance staff removed the old boardwalk and installed the steel framing structure for the new boardwalk. Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa staff were on-site to monitor for cultural resources during these ground disturbing activities. Later, our Property and Facilities Management team installed the boardwalk decking and handrails. Beachgrass was planted in the path of the former boardwalk and within existing social trails to encourage visitors to stay on the boardwalk and protect the dune habitat. The boardwalk surface has reused ipe wood that was salvaged from the Lakewalk. This project was an exciting team effort, thanks to the hard work and beautiful craftsmanship of Park Maintenance and Property & Facilities Management staff!



Park Point Recreation Area Plan

In 2025, the City, with consulting services from LHB, Inc., initiated a comprehensive planning process to develop a Park Point Recreation Area (Rec Area) Plan. Key project accomplishments for the year included extensive community engagement, completion of a historical evaluation of the Rec Area, development and refinement of three conceptual plan alternatives, development of a preferred concept plan, and creation of an early draft plan document. Community engagement throughout the year included four focus group meetings, two community surveys, two in-person workshops, and several one-on-one meetings with key stakeholder groups, resulting in feedback from hundreds of community members. This feedback guided development of the preferred concept and plan recommendations, which seek to transform the Rec Area into a more modern, community-oriented, and resilient park space. In 2026, the draft plan will be presented to the community for additional public input before being recommended for adoption by the Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council. Grant support for this project comes from Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program.



Perch Lake Landing

The City completed designs for future Landing improvements in 2024 with grant funding through the Environmental Protection Agency sub-awarded by the DNR from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. These designs feature a parking lot reconstruction and installation of a new adaptive paddle launch. In 2025, Parks & Recreation staff worked with partners at the DNR to develop a cooperative agreement for implementation of these public access improvements, which will be completed in 2026.

Wade Stadium Improvements

In 2025, Athletic Venue Reinvestment Initiative (AVRI) funds supported improvements to Wade Stadium, including brown turf replacement and repairing the building envelope. Building improvements focused on issues related to structural integrity, water filtration, and life safety concerns to extend the lifespan and enjoyment of Wade Stadium. Areas of improvement included roof system repairs, exterior door replacements, repairs to masonry openings, and brick tuckpointing and replacement.



Trails

Cross City Trail

City staff continue to work towards completing the development of the Cross City Trail. With just over 0.5 miles of trail left to connect the existing 6 miles of trail to the Willard Munger State Trail, 2025 featured multiple interdepartmental and community meetings to strategize a path forward. The western terminus of the trail currently connects to the shared use path along Raleigh Street

that Public Works constructed in 2024. The next section of construction will extend the trail from Raleigh Street along Kwik Trip property at 6516 Grand Avenue to the intersection of Grand Avenue and Redruth Street. In 2025, City of Duluth staff negotiated the easement with Kwik Trip and moved through the environmental review process for this next section of trail. Additionally, staff worked with SEH, Inc. to develop preliminary designs for the future development of trail to 67th Avenue West, which will be used for fundraising.

Duluth Traverse Trailhead Improvement Planning

The City of Duluth has begun the design development process for improvements to the Lester Park trailhead. Community engagement included a stakeholder meeting with local trail groups, a public drop-in open house at City Hall in May, and an online survey that received 102 responses. Conceptual layouts were shared, along with a proposed bike skills area at Lester Park presented by COGGS. Feedback from these efforts guided the development of preliminary designs that were used to support a grant application to the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks & Trails Commission. In December, the City of Duluth was notified that it was selected for a grant award of \$1,318,978 to support the project at Lester Park!



Natural Resources

Irving Park – Stormwater Basin

The City of Duluth's Department of Public Works & Utilities constructed a stormwater bio-infiltration basin along the west side of Irving Park to improve water quality in Keene Creek, a designated trout stream impaired by E. coli. The basin filters runoff from more than 17.5 acres using plants, rock, soil, iron-enhanced sand, and biochar to reduce pollution before water enters the creek. The project was funded by the Great Lakes Commission, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the City of Duluth Stormwater Utility. Construction began in summer and was substantially completed by September, with the park remaining open with intermittent disruptions

to the Cross City Trail. Infrastructure improvements below South 57th Avenue West were also completed. Final planting with native, pollinator-friendly species will occur in spring of 2026, and ongoing maintenance will support plant establishment and manage invasive species.



Knotweed Treatment

Japanese knotweed is a highly invasive plant that grows rapidly, often taking over disturbed areas and streambanks. It tolerates a wide range of conditions and has an extensive root system, which makes it hard to remove and control. It often takes several years of repeated treatment to address an infestation. In September, the City hired contractors to treat 41 knotweed sites. This is our fourth year in a row treating these sites and it is working well. Each year, a few new infestations are identified and added to the treatment list.

Hartley Pond & Tischer Creek Restoration

In the summer of 2024, the Hartley Pond & Tischer Creek Feasibility Study was completed. The recommended alternative from the Study would install a flow restrictive culvert, with or without a potential 3-acre pond remaining. With the recommendation identified, City staff collaborated with the DNR in 2025 to develop a draft project agreement to describe expectations and responsibilities for the design process. Also in 2025, project partners secured funding for the design project through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Lester-Amity-Hawk Ridge Natural Area Nomination

A nomination package has been assembled for the Lester-Amity-Hawk Ridge Designated Natural Area. While past Designated Natural Area Nominations have been brought forward by the City, this one was brought forward by partner organizations: Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory, South St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, and the Minnesota Land Trust. By ordinance, the Planning Commission has the authority to approve or reject the nomination. If

approved, the group will have one year to develop a management plan for the area. The proposed boundary contains over 1,100 acres of property.

City staff met with the group bringing forth the nomination for the Lester-Amity-Hawk Ridge Designated Natural Area to discuss the development of the Management Plan for this area. By City ordinance, a Management Plan must be completed within one year of the provisional approval of the natural area.

Forest Restoration in Downer Park

The City recently acquired a small area of the Amity Creek forest north of Park Hill Cemetery and hired a consultant to prepare a Native Plant Community Report. This report describes the plant communities found in the area and provides suggestions for managing the site to restore the forest community and protect Amity Creek. Thanks to funding from a Conservation Partners Legacy Grant, contractors restored this area of forest.

The restoration included: cutting approximately 100 ash trees that died due to Emerald Ash Borer, using winter burn piles to burn the dead Ash trees, removing buckthorn, and planting native tree species including Yellow Birch, River Birch, and Swamp White Oak. The Natural Resources Management Program will use this site to gauge the success of species that could best emulate the ecosystem services we will be losing with the removal of Ash stands.

Prescribed Grazing

Goats grazed Russel Square for a week to assist in the removal of invasive species, mostly buckthorn. The prescribed grazing offered a fun collaboration opportunity between Recreation Specialists and Natural Resources staff – at the end of June we hosted a special Pop-Up Play! The goats performed their important work of eating invasive plants and being adorable while participants snapped pictures, played, and learned about the process.



Prescribed Fire Program

In April, Park Maintenance and the Duluth Fire Department (DFD) partnered to conduct prescribed burns along the Lakewalk near Canal Park and the roadside near the Arlington Athletic Complex. Prescribed burns, also referred to as controlled burns, involve the controlled use of fire to reduce undesirable and invasive plants while encouraging the re-growth and vitality of native perennials and grasses.

An interdepartmental meeting was held in December regarding the development of a more formal prescribed fire program within the City. Collaborating departments and divisions include DFD, Park Maintenance, and Property and Facilities Management. Staff are working towards a program wherein DFD conducts prescribed fires on City lands that would benefit from prescribed fire for management, such as pollinator meadows or forested areas with high fuel loads. At the same time, DFD staff get trained in wildland fire techniques.

Independent Research in Duluth Parks

Each year, the City of Duluth receives a handful of requests to conduct research within Duluth's park system. The variety of local ecosystems across the parks provides ample opportunities for research teams to identify needed sites and collect data to support their research. In 2025, a total of eleven research projects were authorized across Duluth reflecting partnerships with seven different organizations! This is a lesser known, but exciting part of work that our Duluth park system has been able to support. 2025 independent research projects included:

Field Mustard – The collection of field mustard by researchers from Fordham University in Bronx, NY will help to study how plant populations respond to heat stress across the country.

Herbarium Plant Collections – Volunteers with the Arrowhead Native Plant Explorers collected various common species that are then contributed to the University of Minnesota Duluth herbarium teaching collection to help protect historical plant specimens.

Emerald Ash Borer – Staff from the U.S. Department of Agriculture have long-term research projects collecting data on the life cycle of the invasive emerald ash borer and ash tree response.

Soils & Pollutants – The U.S. Geological Survey and MN Pollution Control Agency aim to determine background concentrations of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) across the state and collected samples in Duluth to support this study.



Lichen & Air Quality – Lichen specimens that were transplanted in 2024 were collected for laboratory analysis by researchers with the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. Because lichen pull nutrients from the air, they are more sensitive to air pollutants, and the team is exploring their use as an indicator species of air quality.

Lichen Transplants (Photo credit: Alex Kormann)

Honeysuckle Genetics – A research team from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities collected samples from invasive and native honeysuckle species for a statewide genetic survey and analysis of plant suitability for hosting invasive fruit flies that cause significant damage to berry crops.

Bedrock & Soils – Researchers with the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD) collected sand, gravel, and bedrock samples for various laboratory measurements, including dating to determine how long rock has been exposed versus buried, and testing rock strength. These results help inform erosion modeling.

Tree Growth Patterns – Equipment installed at a few sites will help researchers with UMD determine seasonal tree growth patterns for comparison between coastal and inland forests.

Black Bears – Researchers with the UMD Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) collected data on black bears to support evaluation of habitat use, activity, and diet of black bears in Duluth with the goal of filling knowledge gaps to reduce human-carnivore conflicts.

Bird Migration – The UMD NRRI Avian Ecology Lab is exploring how environmental change effects wildlife, biodiversity, and ecosystem function through data collected at ten sites along the St. Louis River including insect sampling, small mammal scat collection, bird survey, and radio receiving stations. Researcher Steve Kolbe joined the October Birding 101 program to share information on their research with participants!





Flying Squirrels – Researchers with the UMD NRRI collected data on flying squirrels in a few parks to evaluate species range, behaviors, and nesting activity.

Flying Squirrel Population Monitoring (Photo credit: Charly Kearns)

Park Maintenance

- Replaced Park Point Boardwalk near the Beach House
- Added amenities at Birchwood Park, including a picnic table, bench, and grill
- Completed Park Point Dune fence installation and planted beach grass between the Lift Bridge and 12th St Beach
- Installed new brick pathway at the Rose Garden, replacing worn out turf and providing better guidance through the garden spaces to visitors
- Replaced playground surfacing at Duluth Heights Park with wood fiber
- Planted many new trees in the Gary New Duluth neighborhood, both replacements for removed ash trees and new placement locations on boulevards, improving the urban forest in that area of the City of Duluth
- Worked to establish white pine, paper birch, and red oak in the understory of the non-native Scot's pine in the wooded areas of Hawk Ridge and Park Point



Forestry

- Trees Planted: 766
- Trees Pruned: 1,244
- Trees removed: 331

Volunteers

Volunteer Recognition – Joe Perfetti

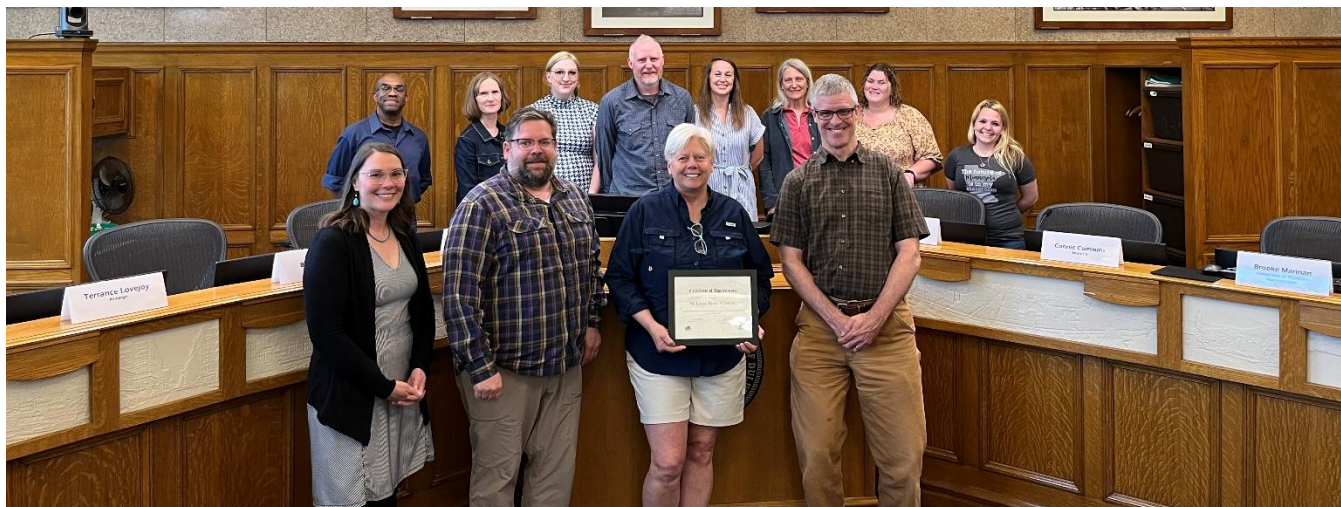
Joe Perfetti was recognized with the individual Volunteer Recognition Award at the May Parks & Recreation Commission meeting for his many years of dedicated service to the senior community and to Harrison Community Club. He is a vital part of the senior community, serving a hot meal and programming every week. Joe is dedicated to the stewardship of Harrison Park and his care and service is appreciated by so many. Thank you, Joe!



Volunteer Recognition – St. Louis River Alliance

The St. Louis River Alliance was named Nonprofit Partner of the Year! This recognition honors their outstanding partnership in connecting our community to the St. Louis River Estuary National Water Trail. From creative programming to stewardship and outreach, their work has helped shine a spotlight on this incredible local resource.

We're grateful for their collaboration and continued efforts to make the river more accessible, visible, and meaningful. Thank you, St. Louis River Alliance, for being such a dedicated partner!



Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Lifetime Achievement Award

Donna Swenson was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). Donna volunteers at Evergreen Senior Center through Parks & Recreation. She leads an exercise program twice a week and serves on the Evergreen Senior Board. Donna has been volunteering at Evergreen for 15 years!

Senior Volunteer Recognition – Bud Krause and Jan Moore

During the Evergreen Holiday Party in December, two volunteers were celebrated and honored as they are “retiring” from leading Evergreen Bingo. Bud Krause and Jan Moore have been running Bingo every Thursday for 20 years. We are so grateful for their contributions to senior programs through Parks & Recreation!

Park Maintenance Volunteer Recognition – Theresa Moen

Special thanks to Theresa Moen, who showed up almost daily all summer at the Rose Garden and helped to reset multiple garden spaces.

Volunteer Highlight: Snowstompers

In 2025, we had 17 volunteers sign up to pack fresh snow at seven different trail sections throughout the city. While it was a very poor year for snowfall, our hearty volunteers were able to get out and make those sections of trail usable for folks that don’t have snowshoes and enhanced the fat biking conditions.



Volunteer Highlight: Friends of the Lakewalk

On Tuesday, April 22, the Friends of the Lakewalk coordinated litter cleanup along a 2-mile stretch of the Lakewalk. Despite the damp and windy day, it was a successful partnership with Friends of the Lakewalk, Duluth East High School Key Club students, Essentia Health, and community neighbors. Over 35 volunteers cleaned up 40th Ave E to 26th Ave E. Kudos to the community, as this was the cleanest we've seen this section of the Lakewalk and only one full-sized garbage bag of litter was collected! Volunteers from Allette also cleaned the Lakewalk and tracks from 40th Ave E to Lester River on Saturday, April 19.



Photo credit: Friends of the Lakewalk

Volunteer Highlight: Clean Yer Creek

On Saturday, May 3, around 500 volunteers signed up to collect litter along Keene, Merritt, Miller, Chester, and Amity/Lester Creeks! The 17th anniversary of the event again featured strong partnerships with businesses and organizations across Duluth. Over the years, this event has cumulatively collected nearly 30 tons of garbage and debris found along creeks! Park Maintenance staff supported the event by shuttling large materials collected during the event. Photos below show the crews gathered for Merritt (left) and Miller (right) Creeks!



Volunteer Highlight: Native Plant Relocation

A volunteer plant-salvage effort in collaboration with the Duluth Monarch Buddies in June successfully relocated native wild bergamot and coneflower to Hartley Nature Center! The native plants were removed from Irving Park ahead of construction for the new stormwater management area installed last fall.



Volunteer Highlight: Sailboat Painting Project

Painting of the sailboat structure at Gateway Plaza was completed in the spring of 2025, thanks to Park Maintenance and the hard work of volunteers from National Bank of Commerce. Originally built in 1978, this concrete sail sculpture marks the gateway to downtown Duluth. The refreshed blues and bright white bring new life to this classic landmark.



Volunteer Highlight: UMD Students

A large group of students from UMD volunteered at multiple locations, completing some really great work at Enger Park, the Rose Garden, and Leif Erikson Park this summer.



Community Partners

1854 Treaty Authority
 218 Dance Project
 AARP
 Age Well Arrowhead
 Alliance for the Great Lakes
 Arrowhead Bowhunters Alliance
 Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency
 Arrowhead Fastpitch League
 Arrowhead Regional Development Commissions
 Arrowhead Transit
 Arrowhead Youth Soccer Association (AYSA)
 Bentleyville Tour of Lights
 Boys and Girls Club of the Northland
 Camp Amnicon
 Central Hillside Community Club
 Chester Bowl Improvement Club
 Clean Yer Creek (Loll Designs and Involta)
 College of St. Scholastica
 Community Action Duluth
 Corporation for National and Community Service
 Cyclists of Gitchee Gumee Shores (COGGS)
 Dan Proctor – Chester Park Trails
 Destination Duluth
 Downtown Duluth
 Drift Toppers Snowmobile Club
 Duluth Aging Support
 Duluth Amateur Hockey Association (DAHA)
 Duluth Amateur Youth Basketball Association (DAYBA)
 Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce
 Duluth Area Horse Trail Alliance (DAHTA)
 Duluth Area Outdoor Alliance (DAOA)
 Duluth Area Pickleball Association (DAPA)
 Duluth Attractions Council
 Duluth Bikes
 Duluth Boat Club
 Duluth Children’s Museum
 Duluth Climbers Coalition (DCC)
 Duluth Community Garden Program
 Duluth Community Schools Collaborative
 Duluth Cross-Country Ski Club (DXC)
 Duluth Dog Parks
 Duluth Economic Development Authority (DEDA)
 Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center (DECC)
 Duluth Fastpitch
 Duluth Figure Skating Club
 Duluth Foot Trails Alliance (DuFTA)
 Duluth Garden Flower Society
 Duluth Huskies
 Duluth Invaders
 Duluth Little League
 Duluth Local Initiatives Support Corporation
 Duluth Monarch Buddies
 Duluth Preservation Alliance
 Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC)
 Duluth Superior Sailing Association
 Duluth Ultimate Community
 Duluth Urban Watershed Advisory Committee
 Ecolibrium 3
 Essentia Duluth Heritage Sports Center
 Essentia Health
 Family Freedom Center
 Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
 Friends of Duluth Public Golf
 Friends of the Lakewalk
 Friends of Western Duluth Parks and Trails
 Full Circle Yoga
 Gary New Duluth Community Club
 GND Development Alliance
 Grandma’s Marathon
 Harbor City International School
 Harrison Community Club
 Hartley Nature Center
 Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory
 Head of the Lakes ATV Riders
 Hermantown Night Riders Snowmobile Club
 Hike Duluth
 Indian Point Campground

Indigo Golf Partners
 Irving Community Club
 ISD 709 Duluth Public Schools
 Izaak Walton League
 Lake Park Baseball
 Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad (LSMR)
 Lake Superior College
 Lake Superior Disc Golf Community
 Lake Superior National Estuarine Research Reserve
 Lake Superior Rose Society
 Lake Superior YMCA
 Lake Superior Zoo
 Lakeside-Lester Park Community Club
 Lincoln Park Business Group
 Lincoln Park Children and Families Collaborative
 Longview Tennis Club/Duluth Friends of Tennis
 Minnesota Department of Agriculture
 Minnesota Department of Health
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
 Minnesota Department of Transportation
 Minnesota Geocaching Association
 Minnesota Land Trust
 Minnesota Point 50 (MP50)
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 Minnesota Power
 Minnesota Sea Grant
 Morgan Park-Smithville Community Club
 National Bank of Commerce
 National Association for Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
 National Park Service
 North Pointe Resource Center
 North Shore SUP
 North St. Louis Soil & Water Conservation District
 Northeast Minnesota ATV Joint Powers Board
 Northeastern Minnesota Bird Alliance
 Northern Expressions Arts Collective
 Northern Minnesota Track Club
 Northland Adaptive Recreation
 Northland Paddlers Alliance
 Norton Park Community Club

Park Point Community Club
 Piedmont Heights Community Club
 Portman Recreation Association
 Regional Stormwater Protection Team (RSPT)
 Resource Renew
 Riverside Community Club
 RSVP Senior Corps
 South St. Louis Soil & Water Conservation District
 Spirit Mountain Recreation Authority
 St. Croix Hospice
 St. Louis River Alliance
 St. Louis County
 Stella Maris Academy
 Superior Hiking Trail Association (SHTA)
 Temple Israel
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 U.S. Steel
 University of Minnesota Duluth
 University of Minnesota Extension
 Valley Youth Center
 Visit Duluth
 West Duluth Business Club
 Western Little League
 Wheels on Trails
 Youth in Action – St. Louis County
 Youthworks
 Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community