

Northside Park Renovations Updates : August 2010

After a few setbacks in July from the storms and the regional labor strike, there has been a lot of activity this month. We are anticipating being completed at the beginning of October, however access to some areas of the park will continue to be discouraged to allow the plantings to become established. Currently the paths across the two islands are open for general use.

Northside Park Construction Status

- Issues with the coffer dams around the weir and bridge 1 were resolved by directing water around both features.
- Piles were driven that will support the weir and bridge. This has been done for all structures throughout the park due to the soft soils. The piles are long sections of pipe that are driven down to more solid material between 20 and 30' deep.
- The weir is being formed and will have concrete poured next week.
- The boat launch area surface was installed.
- Grading of the sled hill has been finished and it has been seeded and covered with erosion control blanket.
- There are a few sections of paths that were washed out during the heavy rains. We are looking at solutions to prevent this from occurring in the future.
- The playground has been removed and park district staff is laying out the new sidewalks surrounding the area.
- The park board has approved bids for the new playground surfacing and replacement of the basketball courts. Both of these projects will occur this fall.

Construction Related Concerns

The patience of Northside Park's neighbors has been greatly appreciated during this project. We have been lucky to have a general contractor that is very conscientious and has looked to minimize concerns when they can. With number of people involved with this project, sometimes we don't get the discretion that is hoped for. You are always welcome to contact the park district with concerns. However, if there is a problem after hours you are encouraged to contact the police for immediate assistance. An example of this would be a violation of the noise ordinance that prohibits construction related activity that exceeds 50Db prior to 7am.

Sanitary District Smoke Testing

Though not directly related to this project, please be advised that the Wheaton Sanitary District will be doing testing on the North end of Wheaton next week. It is likely that a harmless smoke will be seen coming from some manholes during these tests.

Questions or Comments?

Please contact Rob Sperl, Director of Planning, at 630.510.4975 or rsperl@wheatonparks.org. Our Executive Director, Michael Benard, is also available at 630.510.4945 or mbenard@wheatonparks.org for any questions or comments.