Oshkosh Parks Department Impact Report 2021















Mission

The City of Oshkosh seeks to provide a park and recreation system that will meet the needs of our current residents and future generations, preserve and protect the City's open space, water, historical and natural resources, and provide a park and recreation program that is designed to enhance the City's quality of life.



In 2021, we learned how to live during a pandemic and the IMPACT the Oshkosh Parks played to enhance the community's quality of life was significant. As people began to feel safer their first steps connecting with others was often done in the open spaces of parks.

Join us as we review 2021.



Parks Department Administrative Staff

Ray Maurer, Parks Director
Chad Dallman, Assistant Parks Director
Travis Derks, Landscape Operations Manager
Jenny McCollian, Revenue Facilities Manager
Jean Wollerman, Senior Services Manager
Kathy Snell, Special Events Coordinator
Anne Schaefer, Marketing and Fund Development Coordinator
Stacy James, Administrative Assistant

Parks Office

920.236.5080 805 Witzel Avenue Oshkosh, WI 54902 Website - ci.oshkosh.wi.us/Parks/ Facebook -facebook.com/OshkoshParks Instagram - @oshkoshparks

Key Performance **Indicators**

The Oshkosh Parks Department plays a role in the City of Oshkosh's Strategic Plan. We report on Key Performance Indicators (KPI) that help educate the public in regard to our goals, how they align with the Strategic Plan, and the steps that are being undertaken to achieve them. Below you will find the 2021 Parks Department KPI's.



\$393,557 grants and donations received



We received 315 grants and donations totalling \$393,557

16,445 attended department events



We held 53 department events that were attended by approximately 16,445 people

10.284 volunteer hours logged with a value of \$293.531



We can't provide quality events without the assistance of our amazing volunteers

2021 FOOD TRUCK

South Park • Oshkosh • August 20th



A Variety of Tasty Foods from Mexican to American and Asian to Italian

LIVE MUSIC • RAFFLES BEER • SODA • WATER For Purchase

GROCERY STORE RAFFLE

a partnership with Mark and Susie's Piggly Wiggly

Raffle tickets available for purchase at

Food Truck Friday and The Oshkosh Seniors Center Drawing at 7pm









All proceeds will benefit programs and services provided by the Oshkosh

Marketing and Fund Development

- Major Fundraiser for the Oshkosh Seniors Center, Food Truck Friday run by the Friends of the Oshkosh Seniors Center returns for an August date in 2021. The event raises \$25,000
- We've added Instagram to our social media mix
 - @oshkoshparks
 - @pollock_community_waterpark
 - @leach_amphitheater
 - @menominee_park_and_zoo
- Going back to school! The Marketing and Fund Development Coordinator and a board member from the Friends were awarded a partial grant to attend a fundraising school hosted by the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
- Successful grant writing. The Oshkosh Parks Department received a grant of \$216,638 from the DNR Stewardship Fund for a parking lot, connecting trails, and lighting for Lakeshore Park



Brews on the Bay in Menominee Park - Major Success

After a 150-year hiatus, beer gardens are back in Menominee Park. Brews on the Bay is a once-amonth beer garden serving craft brews from local breweries. Each date had food trucks, cold drafts, yard games, and live music.



0

See you there! Yay!



Went tonight and had a great time loved the music •••

Beer Gardens

Sure would be great to spend a summer in Oshkosh for all these great events. •

Parks Department Strategic Priorities and Operations



The Oshkosh Parks Department is getting a new Administration and Operations building. Designs were approved and the project is anticipated to start construction in the summer of 2022.

First constructed in the 1960s, the Administration and Operations Facility at 805 Witzel Avenue isn't big enough to house department staff and vehicle storage.

The building has outlived its useful life and it was not intended to house municipal operations.

The new building will allow space for all parks employees to work at the same building and house all equipment, making operations more efficient.



The Westhaven Circle Park new play equipment with accessible routes and resilient surfacing is completed.



The Westhaven Circle Park reconstruction of the youth ball field is completed.



The trail connecting Lakeshore Park Riverwalk to Oshkosh Avenue, through Rainbow Memorial Park, is completed.



Progress continues at the redevelopment of Lakeshore Park.
Designs were completed for the four-seasons building. Construction will start in spring of 2022.



The South Park reconstruction of tennis courts with new pickleball courts is completed.

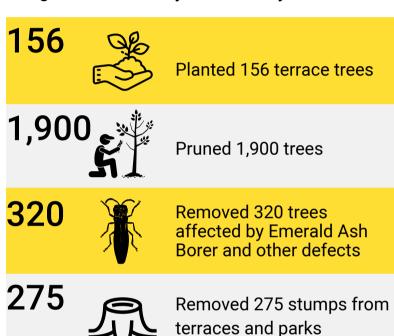


The designs for a new Menominee Park Zoo bear and fox exhibit were being developed.



Landscape Operations Division

The Landscape Operations Division works to keep our community looking beautiful. They are responsible for public landscape areas such as Opera House Square, roundabouts, and William Waters Plaza. In addition to preparing landscape plans, they maintain public areas that include Riverside and Boyd Cemeteries, and they manage the urban forest. Oshkosh has been designated a Tree City USA for 40 years.

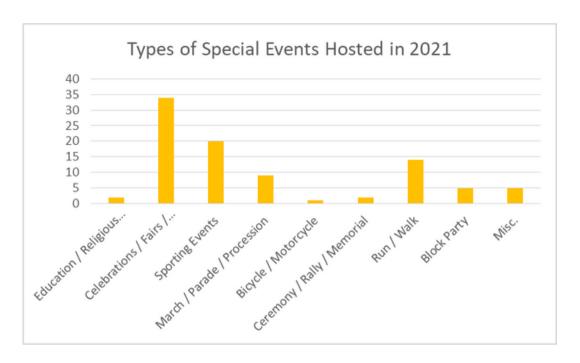


The Landscape Operations
Division often works with the
Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods
on park projects. They recently
worked with the Sawyer Paine
Neighborhood Association to
refresh the Hiker Monument area.



Special Events

Organizers of Special Events in Oshkosh worked diligently to reimagine their events to ensure the safety and wellness of all those in our community. From fishing tournaments to music festivals and beyond, attendees saw some changes in circumstances as they once were. But that didn't deter organizers from planning, nor did it dissuade attendees from participating. Our community once again came together to support these events and have a little fun while doing so! While many organizations were able to return to in-person events, several remained in the planning phases of their recovery in 2022! Overall, the City permitted over 90 events in 2021.





Facility Attendance

in 2021

Nearly 97,000 Visitors









MENOMINEE PARK ZOO OPEN FOR THE SEASON

9 AM TO 7 PM MONDAY-SUNDAY
ADMISSION IS FREE



Over 33,000 Visitors





Revenue Facilities - Menominee Park Zoo, Leach Amphitheater, Menominee Park Children's Amusement Center, Pollock Community Water Park

- Servicing 150,000+ visitors at facilities and special events
- Menominee Park Zoo, \$10,250 in program sponsorships
- Leach Amphitheater, sponsorship dollars were \$19,500 for 6 concerts, 5 movies, Kids from Wisconsin, and Touch-A-Truck
- Brews on the Bay, \$2,500 in new sponsorships
- Children's Amusement Center, \$1,750 in sponsorship dollars
- Pollock Community Water Park, \$2,500 in sponsorship dollars and new "Kids Camp" sessions introduced

Total Sponsorship Dollars - \$36,500

Volunteers help fuel the Oshkosh Parks Department Special Events

- One of the Department's goals was to improve our volunteer systems and processes. The Special Events Coordinator has assumed these responsibilities. It is easier for volunteers to sign up for opportunities through www.signup.com and social media marketing efforts.
- We had 66 volunteers donate approximately 477 hours of service in just five months (June through October).



Things to Bring: Goggles, beach towel, swimsuit* and energ

Winneb

iomm

Register online or contact Oshkosh

Parks Department

920-236-5080



Oshkosh Seniors Center

COVID 19 was a huge disruption for the Center. In 2021 we continued our phased re-opening.

2021 Attendance	2020 Attendance	2019 Attendance
26,973	19,374	52,292



Oshkosh Seniors Center becomes a safe haven for older adults as they venture out.

Highlights in 2021

In 2021 fitness represented 60% of the Center's attendance. Many of our Seniors were anxious to get back what was lost during the sedentary days of the pandemic. One way to accelerate the process was to book personal training sessions. It has been a significant area of growth with revenue at the Center.





We took our programming outside. With the financial assistance of the Ladies Benevolent Society at the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, the Center hosted the DelRays at the Leach Amphitheater. Music is good for the soul!

The Center recognized the importance of providing affordable foot care service to older adults from day one. During the pandemic, these services were nearly impossible to find. It has been an area of continued growth for the Center.

Nail Care Attendance:

2021 - 1,666 2020 - 1,319 2019 - 1,490

Fox Valley
Hearing Aids are Getting Smarter. It's
time to learn about the smart
technology that helps us hear better!

Fox Valley Hearing
Center's Dr. Jody
Jedlicka Presents
New Technology in
Hearing Devices
Monday, Nov 15 @
9:15 am

FREE - Willows Room South Bldg
Must Register - 920.232.5300

Connect through Tech Attendance
1,884 - Number of people in attendance
321- Individuals participated
Those individuals went to
an average of 5.86 sessions



Narrowing the gap in digital literacy of older adults continues to be a challenge. Having access to and understanding how to use technology is a basic need. The Connect through Tech program grew and grew.

New partnerships yield significant results. 117 local history buffs heard all about the Athearn Hotel. We partnered with the Oshkosh Public Library and Learning in Retirement at UW Oshkosh to bring this program to older adults from our community.

