

2017 Environmental Accomplishments

Focused Goal from Policy 2: Wise Use and Protection of Natural Resources

- Piloted a Pesticide Free Park (Glen Oak)
- Native, drought tolerant plants were utilized in several park plantings
- Floating vegetative restorer islands were added to Lake Ellyn to help filter pollutants and provide habitat
- Former no-mow area was planted and seeded with native vegetation (Ackerman Park)
- Sunset Park swimming pool utilized a new filter system that conserved ~200,000 gallons of water during routine backwashing maintenance

Focused Goal from Policy 3: Wise Use of Energy Resources

- Retrofitted outdoor lighting with LED/ energy efficient bulbs (light poles at Lake Ellyn Park, new platform tennis courts and sconces at Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center)
- Retrofitted indoor lighting with LED/energy efficient bulbs (Ackerman basketball courts and turf field)
- A total of five rooftop heating/air conditioning units were replaced with more energy efficient models at Spring Avenue and Main Street Recreation Centers
- Setback thermostats are being incorporated to auto-adjust for day/night temperature needs
- Heaters and a furnace replaced with more efficient models in buildings and office space at Frank Johnson Center

Focused Goal from Policy 4: Reduction and Handling of Waste

- Ditch the Disposable campaign aimed at reducing disposable water bottle use. Emails sent to coaches to pass along information to players. Signage created and posted at facilities.
- Partnered again with Elgin Recycling to offer the Holiday Lights Recycling Program with 630 pounds collected during the 2016-2017 season

Focused Goal from Policy 5: Open Space Planning and Preservation

- Added 1,300 native plants to the Lake Ellyn woodland restoration
- Added 400 native plants to retention area of Ackerman Park
- Over 120 native species of seeds were collected and spread into natural areas currently being restored
- Participated in the DuPage River Sweep project, trash collected along a mile of shoreline
- Over 500 volunteers helped with restoration efforts

Focused Goal from Policy 6: Environmental Education and Interpretation

- Partnered with Village of Glen Ellyn and The Conservation Foundation to provide community initiatives, including a Sustainable Landscaping Workshop, Sustainable Yard Tour, a Native Plant and Rain Barrel Sale
- Utilized Earth Day and Arbor Day for community awareness on local environmental efforts
- Worked with School District 41 as part of their Problem Based Learning program
- Worked with Eagle and Gold Award scout candidates on projects related to native bees and proper disposal of fishing line at our lakes
- 40 nature/environmental programs and 15 sessions of nature camp were offered

www.gepark.org