



Council Report
City of Pataskala Parks Department
Lenier Crawford, Parks Manager

➤ **New Items**

• **Freedom Park**

- Donated plants and shrubs plan
 - The plants and shrubs donated to the City by Strader's Garden Center will be planted throughout the parks system within the next two weeks. Most of those plants will be placed at Freedom Park.
 - We have received the following in donations
 - Hostas :47
 - Hemlock (Shrub): 12
 - Aronia: 12
 - Large Aronia: 27
 - Viburnum: 15
 - Large Vibranum: 21
 - Ginko: 1
 - Switchgrass: 15
 - Snowbell: 5
 - Mock Oranges: 5
 - Einsten: 3
 - Total 163 items donated.
 - The Parks Department is finalizing a planting report to begin planting in early to mid-September.
 - The plants are currently being tended to twice per day.

• **Karr Park**

- Peace Pole Landscaping: The Parks department will be creating a half circle mulch bed around the Peace Pole. Inside of the mulch bed we will be planting switch grass.

- **Volunteer Park**
 - Fence Repairs
 - The Parks Department Auger attachment is not sturdy enough for this job. We will be borrowing the one from the Public Service Department to do this work. This repair will be complete prior to August 31st.

- **Liberty Park**
 - Routine Maintenance

- **Citizens Park**
 - Routine Maintenance

- **Foundation Park**
 - The Foundation Park Parking Lot Project:
 - The administration will be applying for an ODNR Land and Water Conservation Grant. The application deadline is November 15th, 2024. We will be bringing a resolution to apply at the 2nd meeting in September.

- **Municipal Park**
 - Columbus Pool Detection will be returning September 10th to complete all necessary work for the replacement of the skimmer and to crack inject the baby pool.
 - Post repair, both pools will be repainted prior to winterization.
 - The pool will be emptied immediately following the close of the season the week of September 2nd.
 - All pool related tasks for winterization and clean up will take place on September 7th with current pool staff.
 - Pool winterization will be scheduled for late October.

- **Recreation Program**
 - Soccer
 - First week 8/25/24 ran great. We are just shy of 600 registrations for the 2024 Fall season.
 - Fee Schedule Changes Ordinance

- The administration is currently evaluating the recreational program fee structure for possible changes to propose to council

➤ **Ongoing Items**

• **Foundation Park**

- Ball Diamond Maintenance
 - We anticipate adding drainage pipe on diamond 2 and 3 along the first and third base lines later this year, following the baseball/softball season.

• **Municipal Park**

- Volleyball Court
 - The volleyball court system has been purchased. Once received we will plan to install this structure within the next month.
- Hemlock Control
 - The parks department has been performing checks for Hemlock. We have found, cut, and sprayed this plant in several areas within the park. We will continue to monitor the hemlock along the pathway to minimize exposure and risk to visitors to the park.

• **Karr Park**

- Compost area
 - This composting area was rarely used, if ever. We will plant low maintenance, native plants in the area once the compost area is removed.
 - This area has been filled in in preparation for planting.
- Peace Pole project
 - This project is to install a “Peace Pole” at Karr Park. The Peace Pole will be donated to the city by The Granville Friends organization.
 - Peace Pole Landscaping: The Parks department will be creating a half circle mulch bed around the Peace Pole. Inside of the mulch bed we will be planting switch grass.
- Shelter house analysis
 - We had the shelter house structurally inspected at no cost by The Garland Company.

- They provided a thorough analysis of the exterior of the shelter house with suggested repairs.
- Those repairs have been completed for this location.

- **Citizens Park**

- The parks department has surveyed this property and started laying out the areas where a split-rail fence will be installed.
 - The Faith Ann entrance that connects the woods to the Northwest Corner of the park will be included with this small project.

- **Volunteer Park**

- Fence Repairs
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- **Freedom Park**

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- **Liberty Park**
 - Routine Maintenance

- **Park Manager Updates**
 - Municipal Pool
 - Columbus Pool Detection was hired and came to the facility on May 22nd.
 - As shown in their report, several repairs were needed to prevent water loss. The pool facility was closed to the public and the swim team on June 13th for the final repairs to be made.
 - One line coming from a skimmer in the pool will need to be excavated and repaired. This will take place after this pool season, but before the pool season begins in 2025.
 - Columbus Pool Detection will be returning September 10th to complete all necessary work for the replacement of the skimmer and to crack inject the wading pool.
 - Post repairs, both pools will be repainted prior to winterization.
 - The pool will be emptied immediately following the close of the season the week of September 2nd.
 - All pool related tasks for winterization and clean-up will take place on September 7th with current pool staff.
 - Pool winterization will be scheduled for late October.
 - Youth Soccer
 - First week 8/25/24 ran great. We are just shy of 600 registrations for the 2024 Fall season.
 - Fee Schedule Changes
 - The administration is currently evaluating the recreational program fee structure for possible changes to propose to council
 - Strader's Garden Center
 - Strader's Garden Center has 163 perennial plants and shrubs that they wish to donate to the Pataskala Parks System. The plants have a value of \$6,270.74.

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- The plants are currently being tended to twice per day.
- Employee certifications
 - The parks manager will be obtaining a renewal of license to operate the pool facility this season. The parks manager anticipates obtaining the AFO certification or the CPO certification This fall/winter
 - The parks manager will be renewing his Certified Parks and Recreation Professional Certification. This is a two-year certificate period.

Respectfully submitted,

Lenier Crawford
 Parks Manager
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