



Friends of Anderson Park

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ON THE TRAILS THIS FALL:

- Indian & Big Blue-stem grasses standing tall in the prairie.
- Puffball mushrooms growing.
- Red oaks dropping their acorns.
- Sumacs displaying bright red colors.
- Bees & Hummingbirds feasting on jewelweed flowers in the wetlands.

Annual Fall Festival September 13th

Celebrate Anderson Park's fifth birthday at the Annual Fall Festival on Saturday, September 13th from 10 AM—12:30 PM.

Enjoy activities for the whole family: hike a trail; take a wagon ride through the park; join a guided walk through a restored prairie with local naturalist, Nancy Haugen; listen to live music; meet "Bruce the Bug Guy" and his live critters from the arthropod zoo, pack a picnic lunch and savor our treat for you: delicious apple crisp & ice cream.



Fall Colors at Anderson Park

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Guided Prairie Walk	10—10:45
Wagon Rides	10—12:00
Bruce the Bug Guy	11—12:00
Apple Crisp & Ice Cream	12-12:30

Music by Ryan Jutz

Wetland Tour Provides Close-up View of Plants



Naturalist Nancy Haugen during the June 21st Wetland Tour at the Park explains the difference between sedges and grasses .

Excited Participants at the May Bird Walk Spot Two Green Herons



Avid and amateur bird-watchers logged 46 species of birds on the May 10th guided Bird Walk. The observation platform offered an ideal view of birds on the lake and in the wetlands.

Oak Savanna Restoration Begins in October

The Isanti County Parks Department was recently awarded a grant by the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (one of four funds created by the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment). The 3-year grant will help restore oak savanna in three county parks. Watch for work to begin in October on the restoration of 14 acres within Anderson Park.

Anderson Park Use is Increasing

According to Barry Wendorf, Isanti County Parks Director, Anderson Park use is up this year. A spring traffic count of vehicles recorded 612 vehicles entering the park in May 2014 and 540 in June. The count does not include the number of people in the vehicles, nor does it include bike, horse or foot traffic. Reservations for the picnic shelter have increased as well with a wider variety of groups holding events. People enjoy the trails for exercise or to walk their dogs; families come to picnic, use the playground, walk the boardwalk to the viewing platform and to Horseshoe Lake or more wooded trails.

How Are People Using the Park?



Become a Friend of Anderson Park

Our mission is to preserve the natural beauty and primitive nature of Anderson Park and to assist Isanti County with its planning, development, and maintenance of facilities.

Please Support Anderson Park!

Donate \$20 or more by November 15th and receive a complimentary 2015 calendar featuring beautiful photos of seasonal scenes and wildlife in Anderson Park.

All donations are tax deductible and 100% of donations will go toward park programs and development.

Make checks payable to: Parks and Trails Council of MN and write "Anderson Park" on the memo line.

Mail to: The Friends of Anderson Park
c/o Diana Horrigan
27740 Vassar St. NE, Stacy, MN 55079



THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT ?

Did you know your smart phone has tools to help you explore the outdoors?

Some tools are already on your phone and others can be added. Use the camera to take pictures of the kids at the playground or of unique plants or birds you see on the trails. Add a personal touch to each picture by using the voice recorder.

A myriad of apps to explore the outdoors exist. Using GPS/map apps you can save exact GPS coordinates to share with others who are looking for new places to explore. An outdoor adventure GPS/map app helps find horseback riding, snowshoeing or cycling trails and when you are on a trail, it will sound an alarm if you veer off course. There is an app with a flashlight and

compass and an app that tracks and maps fishing spots.

For bird-watchers there are apps to help identify birds by sight or sound. One example is www.birdwatchingbliss.com or you can search blogs such as blog.allaboutbirds.org for reviews of best phone apps.

Use your imagination - do some research and find exciting app opportunities via the internet. Whether you are bird watching, geocaching, identifying wildlife, looking for hiking, biking or cross-country skiing trails, or walking the dog—there's an app for that!



Coming Soon—Friends of Anderson Park 2015 Calendar



Virginia Rail with Chick Near the Observation Platform

Local nature photographers Joe Sausen and Steve Kingsbury spend hours photographing amazing scenery and wildlife found in Anderson park. They have selected their best photos for the Friends of Anderson Park's 2015 Calendar. Become a "Friend" of Anderson Park with a donation of \$20 or more and receive a complimentary calendar (see page 4 for more information). All donations are tax deductible and will be used for park programs and development.

Special Thanks To Special Volunteers

- ★ **Tom Anderson and Joe Sausen** for leading the Spring Bird Walk.
- ★ **Nancy Haugen** for guiding the Wetland Tour.
- ★ **Diana Horrigan, Lee Kingsbury, Linnea and Kathy Lentz, and Geri Sausen** for organizing the park's very successful Spring Plant Exchange.
- ★ **Steve Kingsbury** for donating two new bluebird houses.
- ★ **Tami Buetow and Diane Bennett** for their creative newsletter contributions.