

Anderson Park

Irving & John Anderson County Park – 27201 Furman St NE, Stacy

The Eagle Has Landed!

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Volume 2
Lori Angeli, Editor

Forty years ago, our national symbol was in danger of extinction. Habitat destruction and degradation, illegal shooting, and the contamination of its food source largely through the use of pesticides such as DDT decimated the eagle population. Habitat protection afforded by the Endangered Species Act, the federal government's banning of DDT, and preservation actions taken by the American public have helped bald eagles make a remarkable comeback.

The recovery of the bald eagle has become a conservation success story that all Minnesotans can be proud of. On August 9, 2007, bald eagles were removed from the federal list of threatened and endangered species and therefore are no longer protected under the Endangered Species Act. However, bald eagles remain protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). As a result, the population in MN has now exceeded its recovery goal of 300 occupied nest territories and is growing by about 30 nesting pairs per year! The nest pictured below has been home to up to three eaglets at once and is located on the property of Richard and Betty Peltier, nearby neighbors of the park, and Friends of the Park members.

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Off to a Great Start

It was a cold morning, by 9:30 sounds of chain saws, the roar of the fires and the shouts and laughter of people drowned out the usual bird sounds heard in the park. An oak wilt clean-up operation and the first call-to-action by the "Friends of Anderson Park" was underway. Neighbors, families, and college students – 40 people from ages 2 to 72 answered the call.

Later that night, I reflected on the work accomplished. It felt good. We had our first project under our belts. Anderson Park has one of the largest, most diverse collections of plants and wildlife in Isanti County. It's amazing what you can see or hear in the park on any given day. Interested in birds? 134 species

have been observed. Are you, like me, a lover of woods? Stroll through oak woodlands. Does a lake view quiet your mind and relieve your stress? The park includes frontage on two lakes. It is a special place—worthy of the aching muscles we all felt back at home that night.

We are so lucky to be a part of the creation and restoration of this new county park. Won't you come join us?

Lee Kingsbury, Chair
Friends of Anderson Park



Spring Work Day Scheduled

The Friends of Anderson Park is partnering with Isanti County for another work day on Saturday, April 18th, from 9 - noon (rain date April 25th).

We'll be readying the park for Spring and Summer activities and hope you or your group will join us if you can. We'll get some exercise and have fun too!

To sign up contact Lee Kingsbury at 651-462-2015

**"Come help us...
clean up the trails,
build a picnic table,
gather and pile brush,
put up wood duck boxes and/or
bluebird houses, and
place stickers on existing signs."**

Long term plans for the park include the addition of:

- Four miles of hiking trails
- A picnic shelter
- Picnic tables
- Barbecue grills
- Playground equipment
- Memorial benches
- Prairie and oak savanna restoration
- Canoe access
- Two observation decks
- Three boardwalks

Please Join Now!

The work of "Friends of Anderson Park" is supported primarily through memberships and individual contributions. An annual individual membership is \$25 and family or business memberships are \$50.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter, advance notice about natural history and birding hikes, invitations to special events and opportunities to get involved in park building projects.

Members also gain the peace of mind in knowing that they are part of the effort to protect and restore the land and the

wildlife living within this very special park.

We are affiliated with the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota so contributions to the "Friends of Anderson Park" are tax-deductible.

To become a member, please print the [membership form](#) which can be found on our web-site at <http://andersonparkfriends-isanti.org>

and include a check made out to:
Parks and Trails Council of

Minnesota. In the memo line write "Anderson Park", and mail to the "Friends of Anderson Park" Treasurer, Diana Horrigan at 27440 Vassar St. NE, Stacy, MN. 55079.

Spring Bird Walk with Joe Sausen, May 9th

Join long-time birder and Audubon member Joe Sausen, and the Friends of Anderson Park for a Spring bird walk at the park at 8 a.m. on May 9th. We'll be looking for some of the over 130 species of birds who live in or migrate through the park lands. Just a few of the species that might be sighted are migrating warblers, different kinds of ducks (such as loons, wood ducks, teal, buffleheads, mergansers), geese and gulls, herons, hawks and eagles, woodpeckers, bluebirds and nuthatches. If interested, please sign up on our website at andersonctypark@frontiernet.net or call Lee Kingsbury at 651-462-2015. Please note if the group gets too large we will schedule a second walk at 10:00 a.m.

Don't forget your binoculars and camera, long pants and tick spray are also a good idea.

Free to members, a donation is appreciated from non-members.



Spring Wildflower Guided Hike, May 16

Mark the date! Saturday, May 16: 9-10 a.m. Join us for a Wildflower Guided Hike through the prairie and woodlands of Anderson Park. Marlene Yenish, landscape designer, avid gardener, lover of nature and Friend of Anderson Park will lead us through the park. What's up will be the main hiking question as we explore the wonders of nature beginning to show its face after a long winter. Wild flowers, plants, trees, animals and historical ruins are all discovery possibilities. The walk is free to members and for non-members a donation is requested. Bring camera, notebook, binoculars and/or water. Wear appropriate clothing to explore the trails of the park. Sign up at andersonctypark@frontiernet.net or call Lee Kingsbury at 651-462-2015.



Life in the Country A Kids Perspective

By Lydia Olund (14)

I love living in the country! The privilege of living near a county park is an added bonus. Seeing wildlife and hearing Sandhill cranes or Pheasants almost everyday is one of my favorite parts about it. It is a blessing to be able to smell the fresh, crisp air, or watch birds playing right outside my window. Before moving to the country, living in the city was easy because I didn't know what I was missing. I could see the moon and a few stars from the city, but they weren't as bright and enjoyable as in the country. If I had the chance to back, I wouldn't take it.

Being involved with "Friends of Anderson Park," has become an awesome experience. I get to do something I love (being outside) while helping the community. A couple weeks ago we were burning brush in the park. My family enjoyed it because we got to do something fun while contributing to something that many people will enjoy for years to come. It was a really fun day! I hope kids and adults love living in the country and will take pleasure in the park as much as my family and I will.



Irving & John Anderson
County Park

27201 Furman St NE, Stacy

E-mail: andersonparkfriends@
frontiernet.net



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

We're on the Web!

Become a member of Friends of Anderson Park now!

All donations are tax deductible and 100% of the donations will go toward the development of Anderson Park

- Individual Friend - \$25 /year
- Family Friend - \$50/year
- Community Friend - \$50/year
- Add an additional \$10 and be a member of MN Parks & Trails

Make check payable to: Parks and Trails Council of MN (write "Anderson Park" in the memo line)

Mail to: Friends of Anderson Park
c/o Diana Horrigan
27440 Vassar St. NE
Stacy, MN 55079

The park is located in the southeast corner of Isanti County in Minnesota. It lies on both sides of County Road 18, a quarter mile north of County Road 9 and two miles south of County Road 5

Have you Seen Me????

Easily identified by its red head and white wing patches, the Red-headed Woodpecker is one of only a few birds adept at catching flying insects.

Adult males and females are indistinguishable and are easily identified by their red heads, necks, throats, and upper breasts. Juvenile plumage most differs from adults on the head, neck, and upper breast with varying degrees of brown or red and white wing patch. Their bills are white or gray.

According to the National Audubon Society, their calls are described as churr, tchur, and churr. Alarm calls from the nest are described as KRIT-tar-rah or QUARR-QUARR-QUARR.

The Red-headed Woodpecker occupies a wide range of habitats, but most are characterized by open areas for feeding, snags for roosting, and a secure food supply. Some of the habitats used are: open deciduous and

riparian woodlands, orchards, parks, agricultural lands, savanna-like grasslands, beaver ponds, forest edges, burned forests, and flooded forests. The woodpecker's diet consists of seeds, nuts, sap, corn, fruit, insects, bird eggs, nestlings, adult birds, and mice. It forages on the ground, captures insects in flight, glean food from vegetation, or chisels trees for wood-boring insects and sap. It will also store food for winter (grasshoppers, nuts, corn, and fruit) in natural crevices of trees and posts, in tree cavities, under bark, and under railroad ties and shingles and is the only known woodpecker to cover stored food with bark or wood.

The Red-headed Woodpecker was targeted by sportsmen because of its brilliant red plumage, as an agricultural pest, and for damage to telephone poles. The Red-headed Woodpecker is listed as a vulnerable species in Canada and is listed on multiple state threatened

species lists in the United States and listed as a priority species in Partners in Flight's Bird Conservation Plan for the Upper Great Lakes Plain <http://www.partnersinflight.org>.

