

  
FRIENDS OF BANDON PARKS & RECREATION  
CONNECT WITH NATURE



**FOBPR Newsletter –Volume 2/Issue 10- October 2023**

  
FRIENDS OF BANDON PARKS & RECREATION  
CONNECT WITH NATURE



**Meet the Board and Officers of FOBPR!**

From left to right:

Christine Hall, Pres

Anthony Trilli, Sec  
Laura Brownfield, VP  
Steve Friedland, Treas

Newsletter & website written by Christine H, designed/produced by Laura B

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### Sports equipment at the library!



### Message from Christine Hall:

October is the month that includes National Play Outside Day! And what better way to celebrate this day with the use of sports equipment available for use in Bandon City Park. The library now has available: bocce ball, disc golf, horseshoes, basketball, baseball, soccer, badminton, croquet, football, frisbee, and more! Stop by and make your selection, then have a ball! Just return the equipment for others to use.

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### Cranfest Open Cycling Event on Sept 10

Christine Hall, President of Friends of Bandon Parks and Recreation joins cyclists on cranberry bog backroads. (Christine third from the left)

Sara Sinko graciously organized a group of early morning risers to share a ride. No wind, no rain, just a perfect morning to ride 15 miles as a pack. Thank you Sara.



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## The Best Dog Parks in the US

Many people use our City Park's dog park. The dogs run and chase balls and each other. But in my Internet research, I wanted to find out what are the features of the Best dog parks. And here is what I learned.

Sponsored by donations from Beneful Dog Food, some parks boast the highest rankings for best dog parks in America. Newtown Dream Dog Park - Johns Creek, Georgia is one of them. It includes a fire hydrant shaped sprinkler, a bone-shaped bridge, agility hoops and tunnels and sanitary pet-safe turf.

Another Beneful recipient is Buchanan Park in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Fun, high-tech features include splash pads and a tennis ball tree that launches balls for large dogs. It also has turf grass for cleanliness and plenty of structures for dogs to play on.

Equipment at dog parks include: obstacle course equipment, dog-walk agility course, fire hydrant, double hoop jump, and barrels.

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## Importance of Native Trees and Shrubs in Our Parks

Our Annual Tree Planting Event at City Park is Saturday, November 18th. And it's important to know why the trees we are planting were selected.

What are native trees? A native tree is one that has not been introduced by humans and occurs naturally. Native trees are perfect for providing food and shelter for our wildlife, producing oxygen for both animals and humans.

Through citizen drop-off donations at Samantha Stanger's Acclimation Station and purchases, about 50 trees will be planted this Fall to replace dozens of trees downed after major storms. Annual planting ensures we have a park that exists with trees that will last in City Park's unique soil and climate conditions. Strong winds, salt air and compacted soil make for challenging conditions if you are a tree. Our wildlife depend

upon our trees and trees make our city more climate resilient. The end result is an urban forest that will survive for generations.



*Douglas Fir*



*Western Hemlock*



*Vine Maple*





## Playgrounds are for Seniors Too

Playgrounds aren't just for kids. Senior playgrounds offer both fitness and socializing for older adults and anyone with mobility issues.

There is an emerging trend of playgrounds for seniors and it is transforming the way communities think about adult well-being and public space. Senior playgrounds are situated in the heart of the community where adults and youth already gather, like City Park and the Library. Outdoor physical fitness belongs to everyone.



Photo: Public Radio International

Low-impact exercise equipment like elliptical machines and activities meant to improve balance and hand-eye dexterity can be found in outdoor equipment. Senior playgrounds are not new—China installed them two decades ago, and it has gone international to include countries like England, Japan, Finland, Germany, Canada and Spain. Barcelona alone, there are more than 300 senior playgrounds. Adult playgrounds also serve a social function, bringing people together in shared space. These also become social hubs where people meet face-to-face use equipment that is multi-user.

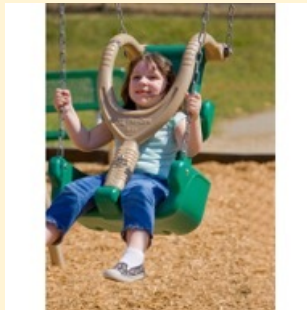
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## What are Inclusive Playgrounds?

At an inclusive playground, children and adults of all abilities can interact with each other and do what everyone wants to do: PLAY!

That means if you are in a wheelchair, are visually impaired, use a walker, or another disability, you are able to not only use the playground equipment, you are also able to navigate the terrain to get to the equipment easily.



*Supported swing*

A well-designed playground features the opportunity for children to develop physically, socially and emotionally. Accessibility is a word used frequently for buildings, beaches, buses, and playgrounds are no different. When I was in college, a wheelchair student would select classes based on whether they could physically navigate the older buildings on campus without the use of ramps and elevators that we have now.



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How many pickleball courts do we have in City Park?

A: 2

B: 3

C: 4

D: 6

The answer is 4 beautiful new courts thanks to over 36 generous donors, including a matching grant from the city of Bandon. who raised funds to resurface the courts in City Park adjacent the playground. The old courts were extremely slick with any amount of moisture and very rough if one took a tumble. The new surface has much better grip to avoid slipping and looks fantastic!

Thanks to the City of Bandon for adding a retaining wall and French drain to east ends of the courts to make playable a court previously covered in water and mud.

The new courts have drawn attention from residents and visitors alike who are greeted by the local Bandon Pickleball group to join in on the recreation! Most play times in September had all four courts in play. If you are interested in learning/playing pickleball reach out to [Bandonpickleball@gmail.com](mailto:Bandonpickleball@gmail.com)



The City of Bandon has provided 6 signs around the courts asking for compliance to not have wheeled sports on the court which could damage the surface. Skates, bikes and skateboards are encouraged to go to the opposite side of the park to the skate area. Plans are in the works to make improvements to the skatepark. Let's see if we can get some energy around making a great skate park too!

## Recreation meeting from Steve Friedland

09/14/23 Parks & Recreation Commission 11 am–12:30 pm

Present: Anthony Trilli, Bob Eck, Laura Brownfield, Zach Robertson, Steve Friedland, Dana Nichols, Christine Hall, Bethe Patrick, Bear Slothower

Christine Hall, President of Friends of Bandon Parks and Recreation, discussed a potential skateboarding event May, 2024. It will be an open event with demonstrations and prizes. Zach indicated that this event would be popular with young people.

Bethe Patrick, the new Director of the Greater Bandon Association, provided an overview of GBA and mentioned that GBA is one of only six fully accredited organizations by Oregon Mainstreet. GBA is noted for its extensive involvement in the community, particularly for its Friday evening Wine Walks and partnering with non-profits who don't have its 501 c3 status.

Discussions focused on protecting both the pickleball courts and the new playground equipment arriving shortly. The situation is being reviewed and there will be further discussion at the October meeting.

Dana provided an update regarding Public Beach Access recently approved by the Planning Commission and set for discussion at the October City Council meeting. If approved, will take effect in November, 2023. Dana also updated the status of the Jetty pathway which is on target for completion this fall at a cost of \$375,000. Dana discussed the Tree Subcommittee and their work in updating the permit process for planting and removing trees located in the City Right of Way.

The Bandon Recycling Group will hold their first event on October 18th at the Public Library Sprague Room from 5 to 7 pm. They can recycle clean, dry, and label free #2, #4, #5 and #6 plastic containers and lids.

Dana reported that the playground equipment will be installed this December/January due to shipping delays for the nature play items.

The rubber mulch in the playground will be removed to the Beaver Hill Disposal and replaced by Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF) prior to the installation of the new playground equipment.

Dana has arranged for a line item in the City's budget to reflect the voluntary donations made to Parks and Recreation. There will be a box at the City Hall counter to collect donations. An insert that accompanies the monthly utility bill may be developed to encourage donations.

Laura requested that the electrical outlet that had been removed from the pole near the pickleball court be reinstalled. Dana is looking into expediting that reinstallation.





## SUPPORTER APPLICATION

### FRIENDS OF BANDON PARKS & RECREATION

First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Park & Rec Supporter \$25

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Partners \$45

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Community Builders \$45

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Sponsors \$100

Interests and skills: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mail Checks Payable to:

Friends of Bandon Parks

c/o GBA

PO Boc 161, Bandon OR 97411

*Connect our Community to Nature*



Bandon City Park

South Jetty Park

Johnson Creek

*Your support helps us share, preserve, and enhance our parks while promoting education and wellness. Thank you for your support.*



**Visit our new website:**

[FOBPR.com](http://FOBPR.com)

And note our new logo!

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Friends of Bandon Parks and Recreation (FOBPR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent allowable by law.

Our tax identification number is EIN 93-2761263. We are committed to sound fiscal management, accountability, and transparency.

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