



Friends of Bandon
Parks & Rec
January 2023

Message from Christine Hall

Hi Members, Supporters and Especially our Volunteers,

Three Cheers

In 2022, several hundred trees and shrubs have been planted by community volunteers. With a coordinated effort, we are making a difference.

If you look carefully at the picture, you will see native shrubs in pots ready to be planted and a couple of small trees planted last winter.



Winter storms take a toll on City Park.

We can hardly plant new trees fast enough to keep up with the losses.

But with our new trees and shrubs in the ground, we are planting for future generations.

We'll let you know when the next planting and cleanup events are planned.



Before



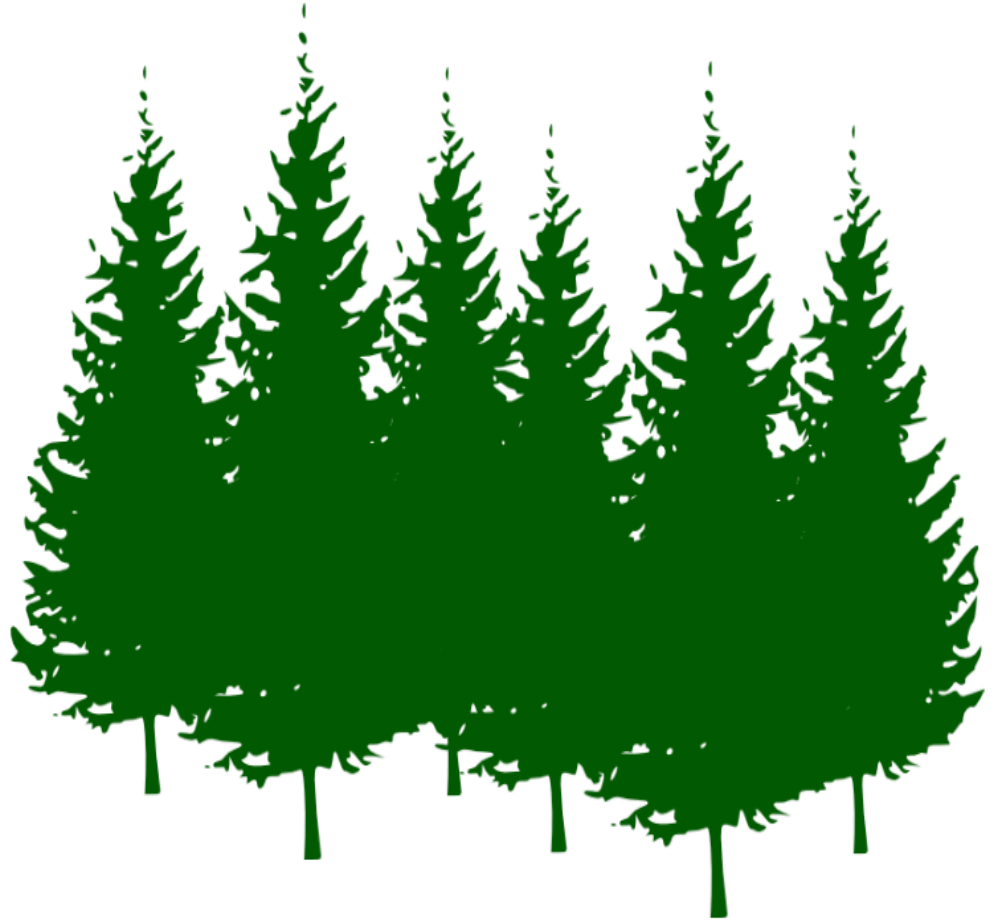
After

Why trees are important!!

I have a friend who presented his idea about how trees are the basis of all things natural. He believes that all life depends on the success of trees everywhere.

I'm not so sure about that but I know without our urban forests and our natural forest lands, our air would be unbreathable, our fish will die and our wildlife will diminish.

Join us in the rain to plant trees and shrubs both at City Park and Johnson Creek. We can do this!



Pickleball Gives Back to Bandon!

Pickleball is taking the nation by storm – and the sport is alive and thriving in Bandon.

The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but it can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players.

Bandon pickleball club members have been playing the game together since the club's inception in 2017. Members rallied their resources together to buy and got donations for new pickleballs, nets and paddles for students at Harbor Lights Middle School.



Pickleball at Harbor Lights

“The school is very grateful for the generosity of the pickleball club” said Evan Godsiff, Harbor Lights physical education teacher and pickleball club co-chair. Godsiff says “The kids are a lot more energized when there is new stuff.”

Debbie Mueller, pickleball club co-chair said, “it’s a fun thing to do.” “I watched somebody play and I thought, I could do that.”

Mueller said that the equipment donation was, in part, a way to say thank you to the Bandon School District. The Bandon pickleball club has also partnered with the City of Bandon who helped by providing places in the city park to play.



Meet the Volunteers Serving on the Park and Rec Commission

What would Bandon or any community do without its volunteers?

Samantha Stanger, Lauea Arnoldt, Steve Friedland, Anthony Trilli and Bob Eck. If you see them, let them know you appreciate their volunteering.

This Commission is quite active in pursuing grants, reviewing tree removal/trimming requests, and planning events like Arbor Day, tree and shrub planting and park cleanup day. They meet monthly.

Currently they have two positions open. Just stop by the City Hall and pick up an application or email:

June@cityofbandon.org



Here are several current and former Commissioners participating in last year's tree planting event attended by over 75 volunteers.

Park & Playground Trends To Watch

by Lauea Arnoldt, Commissioner Park and Rec

I call her our Bandon expert. She is our guest writer this month sharing what she has learned.

I was born with an obvious disability. I know and understand accessibility. Here are a few key concepts to look at in planning for parks:

- Inclusion and Social Equity
- Community Health and Wellness
- Using Outdoor Spaces for Learning and
- Embracing the Natural Landscape.



Inclusion and Social Equity

Create pods that house equipment that the disabled and the older community can use that are incorporated amid the play area.

These areas can be spread throughout the general play area. This creates a feeling of being included with others.



Here's an example of equipment in a play area that gives someone with a disability the opportunity to be included.

Community Health and Wellness

Inserting outdoor recreation with hubs of exercise equipment makes sense, doesn't it? Find a way to get "families" playing together and spending quality time outdoors creates a healthier and more cohesive community.

Universally accessible play/ exercise equipment side by side creates a multi-generational mixing of people.

The result is that we can create a universal experience that all can enjoy in Bandon City Parks.



Embracing the Natural Landscape

Nature play and standard playground equipment can be used together with the natural landscape to create playground spaces, e.g. using tree stumps as play areas.



Using Outdoor Spaces for Learning

Working with our Library by installing kiosks and a meandering path can be hand-in-hand with creating a “move to learn” atmosphere.



StoryWalk in Mingus Park.
Coming soon to Bandon City Park.