

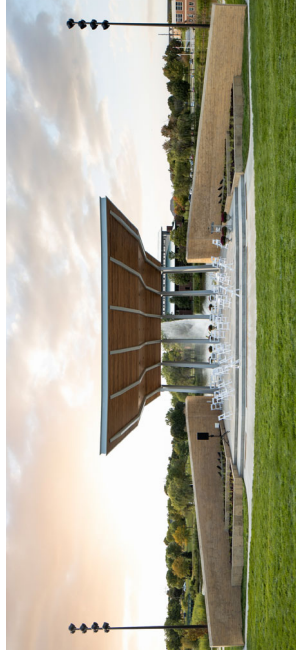
PROJECTS SUPPORTED

West Des Moines Parks & Recreation has put forth plans to develop five signature projects that will transform our parks. The goal of the Five Waters Project is to give residents and visitor of all ages and abilities new ways to paddle, dance, relax, run, explore, cycle, walk, and more in the great outdoors.



JAMIE HURD AMPHITHEATER

Since 2020, Nestled between the pond and rolling green hills of the City Campus, the amphitheater brings people together as our cultural center. Here as a community we share inspiring musical performances and creative showcases.



RACCOON RIVER PARK BOATHOUSE

Since 2020, Offering visitors more ways to explore Blue Heron Lake, the state-of-the-art boathouse with restrooms offers boat rentals, including canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, standup paddleboards and more. The boathouse also serves as a river trail and land trail hub.



ATHENE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

FUNDRAISING UNDERWAY: Spanning the beautiful Raccoon River, the Athene Pedestrian Bridge will serve as a seamless connection for cyclists and pedestrians from Raccoon River Park to Walnut Woods State Park and dozens of miles of future trails. A capital fundraising campaign was kicked off in September of 2021 for the Athene Pedestrian Bridge, the first of two bridges. Construction started in 2023. To contribute, go to our website or use the QR Code on this brochure. In your donation comment type "ATHENE BRIDGE".



MARATHON LOOP

A 26.2 mile trail connecting Valley View Park, Southwoods Park, Raccoon River Park and future parks, the Marathon Loop allows cyclists, walkers, runners, and visitors of all ages and abilities to embrace the outdoors. This nature friendly project also works to protect wildlife and preserve land for future generations. And the best news is - it's already 50% complete!

RACCOON RIVER GREENWAY

Protecting land and wildlife while providing additional river access for paddlers on the ICON Water Trails, the greenway will also allow for camping close to home. As if that wasn't enough, this project will allow exploration of the tree canopy, a whole new way to discover nature. Through a donation and grants, 34 acres were added to the Raccoon River Greenway in 2020.



SUPPORTING AND PROMOTING WEST DES MOINES PARKS, TRAILS, AND RECREATION PROGRAMS



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WEST DES MOINES
PARKS &
RECREATION**



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ABOUT US

Friends of West Des Moines Parks is a nonprofit group organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our mission is to support the development and enhancement of public parks, facilities, and recreation programs for the benefit of the citizens and businesses of West Des Moines, Iowa.

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INVOLVEMENT

VOLUNTEER your time or talents at Friends events, **SERVE** on the Friends Board of Directors, or simply **SHARE** our mission with your friends and neighbors.



PRESERVATION

PRESERVE and **PROTECT** land, plants, and wildlife in West Des Moines to ensure access for future generations.

ENRICHMENT

ENRICH our community by enhancing the quality of life in West Des Moines.

FOSTER

FOSTER an equity-based culture encouraging wellness and access to our park amenities and activities for all.

ENHANCEMENT

STRENGTHEN quality of life initiatives to better attract and retain businesses and employees of all ages.

CONTRIBUTE

DONATE to Friends of West Des Moines Parks & Recreation. Employers and employees alike, be sure to see how your place of business can double and sometimes triple the impact of your contribution through a match!



DONATIONS CAN BE MADE BY

Scanning this QR code or on our website.

www.wdm.iowa.gov/FriendsofWDMPR