

# WELCOME TO RAYMOND PARK!

Vergus Avenue Team took on a challenge to add benches to Raymond Park, which is located on the shores of Spring Lake near Vergus Avenue on Raymond Avenue. This is a park where many neighbors walk on a daily basis and is also site of local fishing, picnics and Spring Lake Association Events.

About two years ago, Vergus neighbor Amber Fellows and her two children were walking in the park and ran into Christian Morkeberg. They exchanged pleasantries and Amber mentioned that the park was so beautiful that it would be great to have a bench to sit on and enjoy during her frequent walks and runs. Noted - Christian thought! Sometime later, Collins Tree Service contacted Christian and donated three hardwood maple trunks to the project. This is just what was needed to get this project set in motion!

In 2020, the City of Prior Lake Maintenance Crew started working with the Vergus Avenue Team as they cleared buckthorn, cleared brush, added mulch and planted native flowers. Christian and Jim Lally worked on the plan to have the trunks cut.

In 2021 the Vergus Avenue Team assembled to strip bark, plane and finish the bench surfaces and create bench stands. They also continued working at Raymond Park; weeding, clearing brush, adding an additional walking path, clearing areas for the four benches and adding mulch.

In June 2021, the benches were placed and are ready for the community to enjoy! We have four benches that are named Bald Eagle, Blue Heron, Beaver and Egret. We will place the names on each bench at a later date. The work at Raymond Park doesn't end here. We will continue to clear buckthorn, weed, clear brush as well as maintain the mulch path. We hope that our community will help by respecting the plants and the wildlife that is flourishing!

This project is a great example of a wonderful neighborhood coming together and working with the city to improve the place we call home!



**The Fellows Family**

**Bald Eagle Bench** | Pictured Left to Right:  
Amber, Lucy, Collin and Jon



**Blue Heron Bench**



**Beaver Bench**



**Vergus Avenue Team**

**Egret Bench** | Pictured Left to Right: Jim Lally,  
Pat Gray, Christian Morkeberg, Stuart Gray, Dennis  
Stuckey, Wes Steffan, Sandy Sauve & Greg Sauve