

## Recreation and Parks Department

### Strengths:

- The Department employs very dedicated and skilled staff who have knowledge that funds are not available for everything that is needed in the Department. Therefore staff is innovative and thrifty while providing top-notch care, to the best of their ability, of parks and facilities.
- The ownership of park land and lake frontage that is available to the community and visitors that is a mixture of open space forest and beach, which also provides developed amenities for organized recreation is a huge strength for the District. In addition, there is land that can be used for more development of new recreation opportunities or can be maintained as natural open space according to wants and needs in the future.

### Weaknesses:

- Striving to meet the expectations of the public, community and district but knowing that there is not sufficient funding to keep up with deferred maintenance and capital improvements tends to hang over the Department.
- The lack of adequate funding for parks in a District that provides sufficient funding for the other Departments.

### Opportunities:

- The change in management and a renewed sense of focus on recreation provides an opportunity to move forward with planning for the future. There is hope that the board and management team can reach a consensus about where the Department will be in the next five-plus years, how to fund that future, and how to work together to make it happen.

### Threats:

- Without sufficient funding, capital assets will continue to deteriorate potentially costing more in the long run.
- Safety issues may cause a need to close facilities.