

## ! 2019 PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY OVERVIEW

As a department, we strive to “Create Community through People, Parks & Programs.” With citizens’ support, recommendations from our nine-member volunteer Park & Recreation Board and multiple community partnerships, our department strives to create an environment that promotes healthy living initiatives, sustainability, enriching programming and promotes tourism. The Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department encompasses 21 full-time employees and over 145 seasonal employees throughout the year. Our Parks system includes 21 parks and over 770 acres of parkland, open spaces and facilities. Our staff and volunteers are truly ambassadors to our community on a daily basis as we showcase what Brookings has to offer to residents and visitors alike.

Our department has seven divisions that are instrumental in being able to offer a variety of offerings, facilities and services to the community.

- Dakota Nature Park
- Hillcrest Aquatic Center
- Recreation
- Parks
- Larson Ice Center
- Forestry
- EdgeBrook Golf Course

### Key Projects

	Description	Status
1	Dakota Nature Park – Reseal & Preserve Nature Center	100%
2	Hillcrest Aquatic Center – Facility Assessment, Pool painting	100%
3	Recreation – Community Games Event planning & development	75%
4	Parks – Playground replacements at Southside Park & Pioneer Park	100%
5	Parks – Replace Southside Park Softball Fencing	100%
6	Parks –Sexauer Campground grill replacement	100%
7	Parks – Resurface Hillcrest Tennis Court + Pickle ball lines	100%
8	Parks – Bob Shelden Field Design & Cost Estimation	75%
9	Parks – Southbrook light pole replacement	100%
10	Larson Ice Center – Replacement of ice system & rink floors	100%
11	Forestry – Recognized as a “Tree City USA” for 39 <sup>th</sup> consecutive year	100%
12	Forestry – Planted over 300 boulevard trees	100%
13	EdgeBrook Golf Course – Chip seal customer parking area.	100%
14	EdgeBrook Golf Course – Concrete maintenance area	100%

## Successes

- Positive Aquatic Center facility report
- Successful Ice Arena construction project
- Increased ice rental use
- Transition to a new Office Manager and Director
- Relocation of “Stickworks” art to Dakota Nature Park
- Successful Eagle Scout projects
- Brookings Area Senior Games
- Increased participation for swimming lesson program
- Continued collaboration with multiple community partners
- EdgeBrook Golf Course Hosted High School District Cross Country Meet

## Challenges

- Inclement Weather – delayed many projects, closed facilities and cancelled programming activities
- Staffing temporary and part time positions
- Lack of City-owned gym space
- Closures at Sexauer Campground due to flooding
- Community Garden flooding issues
- July Storm Damage
- 50 meter pool heater mechanical issues
- Cold and wet Spring causing delayed opening at EdgeBrook Golf Course

## Looking Ahead

### LARSON PARK PLAYGROUND

- Playground equipment replacement

### HILLCREST PARK SHELTER

- Construction of an additional group shelter

### SOUTHBROOK SHADE STRUCTURES

- Installation of shade structures

### PIONEER PARK TRAIL

- Overlay of park trail

### LARSON PARK DISC GOLF

- Complete Disc Golf course redesign

### EDGEBROOK GOLF COURSE

- Maintenance building parking area upgrades, clubhouse painting

### BICYCLE COMMITTEE

- Bicycle education initiative, trail easement acquisition, grant opportunities

### PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

- City/County building art installation, Bob Shelden project art selection



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