



2018 Greenway Annual Report

Grand Forks, ND & East Grand Forks, MN



The Red and Red Lake Rivers Greenway will protect residents of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks from flooding, provide opportunities for economic growth, improve and restore ecological stability of the river corridor, link residents and tourists to four seasons of recreation and transportation facilities, provide linkage between the cities, preserve and promote the history and culture of the region through education, and improve the quality of life for future generations.

•Written by workshop participants (residents of Grand Forks, ND and East Grand Forks, MN) and prepared by Greenways, Inc. and the US Army Corps of Engineers as part of the Greenway Plan of September 2001.



Riverside & Sherlock Swimming Pools

Both greenway pools were operational this year and came in handy during the hot summer. Attendance at Riverside Pool was down from 2017 by just over 3,500 swimmers. This may be the result of Sherlock Pool reopening after closing in 2017 for repairs.

2018 Pool attendance:

Riverside: 13,160

Sherlock: 14,452



Red River State Recreation Area & Sherlock Campground

Attendance continues to increase as visitors discover this urban camping gem. Besides being walking distance to downtown activities, shopping, and restaurants, visitor also enjoy the historical buildings and neighborhoods in area. The #1 draw for visitors remains the miles of hiking & bike trails.

Campground attendance:

Total overnight guests:

27,039

Total # of sites rented:

11,718



River access and boat ramps

Improvements were made to the "Whopper" John Little boat ramp near the north pedestrian bridge in Grand Forks. Crews placed and leveled riprap at the end of the ramp to provide a more stable footing for trailers during low-water times.



Rydell SkatePark

Phase 1 of the new Rydell SkatePark opened in September and the skaters and bicyclists have been flocking to it all season. Fundraising has already begun for Phase 2, which will feature a quarter pipe, single kinked grind rail, and volcano transition. Visit www.gfparks.org for more information about the park and how you can help Phase 2 become a reality.



Winter Recreation

The snowmobile route was closed in GF and rerouted in EGF again this season because of work on the Kennedy Bridge. The route is expected to reopen for the 2019 - 2020 season.

The ski trail in GF were groomed into loop systems in Riverside Park and the downtown area to avoid the construction area.



Trail installations and overlay repairs:

Nothing improves a ride, run or walk on the trails like smooth pavement.

The trail from Lincoln Drive Park to Elks Drive in Grand Forks was resurfaced in early July.



Tree Work

2018 could be called the Year of the Windstorm. Two windstorms wreaked havoc on summer schedules and impacted both old and new growth trees. The Red River Recreation Area Campground and Lincoln Drive Park were both hit hard by these storms. Crews also continued cleaning back vegetation throughout the Greenway system.



Vegetation Management

Having so much open green space along the river is great but comes with its own challenges. Unwanted vegetation, whether noxious or just obnoxious, can get out of hand quickly along the riverbank.

In East Grand Forks, the invasive species battle concentrated on leafy spurge & common tansy removal. Burdock and thistle were targeted in Grand Forks.



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