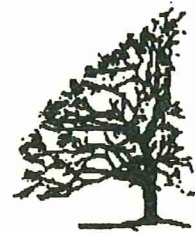


MINNESOTA RECREATION AND PARKS *Foundation*



2008 NEW INITIATIVE GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Minnesota Recreation and Parks Foundation is pleased to announce recipients of the 2008 New Initiative Grant program. This year's recipients are:

- **Winona Park and Recreation**

Timmy Rhythms, A Percussion Discussion is a hands-on recreational tool used for community building and achieving unity through diversity. It is structured to provide facilitated drum circles, rhythm workshops, and fun.

The heart of this program is creativity. Because there are so many ways to approach rhythm, the program will be influenced by the work of STOMP, Kalani, and the people that surround us everyday. Picture a group of youth using basketballs to create a chorus of rhythm. Imagine a circle of community members listening to each other's drum beats and blending in their own. Envision a group of individuals using their own body parts to build patterns of rhythm. The possibilities are endless, and this program will explore them.

- **St. Paul Parks and Recreation**

As part of an Active Living initiative, Saint Parks and Recreation received funding to build a **Core Community Interactive Community Challenge** website, which will be integrated into the City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation website. The Core Community software will allow Saint Paul citizens and City staff to create personal routes and keep track of their progress towards healthier lifestyles. Users will make use of the city's built environment including sidewalks, trails, bike routes, skyways and indoor walking tracks as an inexpensive, city-wide "fitness center". The on-line reporting feature generates details for both the participants and administrators to track progress towards healthier lifestyles.

- **Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board**

Garlic Mustard Goes Gourmet will focus on turning a highly problematic invasive species, garlic mustard, into a marketable commodity while engaging local citizens from field to table. This new initiative will work with citizens in fresh ways to try to build understanding regarding the impacts of garlic mustard invasion on local park lands and to inspire hands-on support for its removal in a creative way. The basic premise for Garlic Mustard Goes Gourmet is to harvest fresh garlic mustard greens in spring and to deliver them to local food co-ops for sale.

- **Fridley Parks and Recreation Senior Center**

Often seniors hear about the new technology but don't know where to start to experience it and/or benefit from it. They feel out of the loop when grandchildren speak of computers, iPods, and the Wii. Fixed incomes prevent disposable income to be used to experiment with new recreation resources. Using our Alternative High School students and teen program, we hope to introduce seniors to this wonderful world of technology as well as foster intergenerational relationships and bridge the generation gap that exists in our building, think of it as a Techno-Mentoring. **Wii Play for Wellness** – the next generation!

New Initiative Grant funding is available each year for programs and services that demonstrate innovation in parks and recreation services for the agency submitting the grant application, with future applicability for other agencies at a local, regional, or state-wide level. Applications are typically available during the first quarter of the year, and funding can be used in an agency's current or subsequent fiscal year. As part of the award, recipients are required to present their program or service at the annual Minnesota Recreation and Park Association Conference.

2007 Grant Recipients:

Dakota Communities

Garden Warrior

Duluth Parks and Recreation

Technology in Trail Watch

St. Louis Park Parks and Recreation
(Collaboration including Plymouth, Minnetonka, New Hope, Robbinsdale, Crystal, Golden Valley, Brooklyn Park, and Edina)

Rink Rat Hockey

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation

Active Living Ramsey County

2006 Grant Recipients:

Brooklyn Park Recreation and Parks

ACTive PLAYhouse

Maplewood Parks and Recreation

Shape Up Maplewood

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

**Exploring Winter in the Park –
Opportunities for Southeast Asian
Communities in Ft. Snelling State Park**

South of the River Recreators (SORR)

GPS Amazing Family Race.

Three Rivers Park District

**Global Positioning Systems in Outdoor
Recreation**

2005 Grant Recipients:

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

**Navigating Through Urban
Landscape, History, and Environment**