

February 10, 2012

From: Radley Reep
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To: All Volunteers at Lost Lake Park

Next Volunteer Day: Saturday, February 18, 2012

Time: 8:00 AM to noon (Please note the earlier startup time.)

Meeting Place: The kiosk at the entrance to the campground – north end of the park

Tasks: We will do a variety of things:

- ⊕ Pick up small branches and rake up leaf litter
- ⊕ Clean up the river edge in the swimming area
- ⊕ Check for hazardous conditions (mark the areas with caution tape)
- ⊕ Check the picnic tables and table pads for damage and note the damage on maps and in our database
- ⊕ Smooth out the ground around picnic table pads as well as areas where root balls have been removed

If you plan to participate on February 18, please reply by email at LostLakePark@gmail.com. Upon arrival, each volunteer who has not previously signed a liability waiver will need to do so, and any person under 18 who is volunteering for the first time will need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

It's a good idea to wear heavy-soled shoes and to bring gloves, water and snacks.

We want to thank you sincerely for your interest in the condition of Lost Lake Park over the past 3 months. Our organization has received dozens and dozens of inquiries from individuals and business companies.

The December 1st windstorm did far more damage to the park than first realized. The biggest job has been to remove fallen trees and to trim damaged trees. The County first received volunteer help from the Sheriff's Search and Rescue teams and has since hired 3 teams of tree trimmers, who are working in the park most everyday. Waterlines have been repaired, and the restrooms are again working. The total amount of time spent on cleanup may top 3,000 hours. Fortunately, the County will be able to recover a good portion of the expense of cleanup through an insurance claim, which may exceed \$250,000. There is still a lot of repair work that needs doing – roofs to be repaired and a restroom to be rebuilt.

You are perhaps wondering what's to become of the wood. The County is working on a plan for its disposal but has yet to inform the public what the process will be. At present, the wood is cut into 18" lengths, which are piled throughout the park. Most of the smaller debris has been chipped. Some trees still need cutting.

You are also probably wondering when the park will reopen. It could reopen right after our cleanup event on the 18th. A lot will depend on what the park looks like after our volunteer event and whether the remaining root balls and the holes around them constitute a hazard.

So what does the park look like? Well, at first it looked like the aftermath of a hurricane. Then it looked like a logging camp. Now it looks rather empty and forlorn. But trees will be replanted, and the existing trees will branch out where trees have been removed. Come and see for yourself on the 18th.

The County says there is a good chance that the park will reopen the following day, on Sunday, February 19. Reopening the park will depend on how good the park looks after we're done on Saturday, so the more the people who can help out, the better. Please be sure to respond by email: LostLakePark@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continuing support!

We thank Micki Beston, Allen Doerksen, Clary Creager and others for recording events on film.



On December 1, 2011, a windstorm severely damaged around 175 mature trees.



The windstorm also damaged picnic facilities, waterlines and restrooms.



Crews have been cleaning up the smaller debris – chipping branches and raking leaves.



We will do the final cleanup of the day-use areas. Be prepared for most any type of work.



Cut wood is piled throughout the park. Root balls need removing, and holes need filling.



The river is as beautiful and wonderful as ever. (Photo of swimming area taken 2 weeks ago)