



Wisconsin Park & Recreation Association

Park Design Awards

2016 Entry Form

Agency West Bend Parks, Rec. and Forestry
Address 1115 S. Main St.
City West Bend State WI Zip Code 53095
Agency Contact Cory Gritzmacher Title Parks Project Manager
Email gritzc@ci.west-bend.wi.us

If a consultant is submitting the award, please complete section below:

Consultant Name _____ Title _____
Firm _____
Email _____

Project Title Regner Fish Pond
Date Completed May 2015

Under \$250,000

1. Innovation-provides a new approach to problem solving , exhibits new technology

The Regner fish pond had filled in with sediment over the last 40 years. The pond had become a place where a healthy fish population could not survive. It once was a safe and great place for fishing for all ages.

In the fall of 2014 The City of West Bend decided to insource the project and not outsource to a private contractor. The City of West Bend Park, Rec and Forestry Staff took on the challenge to dredge the Regner Fish Pond. The result was the project got done under the projected costs. Department staff solicited and attained several large donations to aid in funding the project through the NPRA Crowdfunding Site. The extra cost savings, donations and utilizing city resources made this project exceed expectations of the community.

2. Functionalism-responds to user's needs, accessibility for all populations.

The Parks sponsors a Kids Free Fishing Clinic every spring but, it was held at a county park. The county park was not handicap accessible and was outside city limits. The Regner fish pond was not a suitable site for the fishing clinic. There was limited access to the pond due to the overgrown shrubs, invasive plants along the banks and no handicap access. The pond is now a safe and accessible place for fishing within the city limits. We installed a 40' fishing pier with benches, pole holders and it meets ADA standards. The pier was made possible by the cost savings of doing the project with city staff. We installed a new ADA ramp and concrete sidewalk from the nearby parking lot that leads directly to the new pier. We now have a safe and handicap accessible place to hold our fishing clinic in spring of 2016.

3. Aesthetics-proper scale is achieved for site, relationship to surroundings, considers the overall site development.

The 2.3 acre Regner fish pond is located at the eastern edge of a 90 acre park. There is a soccer field located on the north side and to the south, baseball fields with a large parking lot. The site is easily accessible from the main entrance to the park. We have several sidewalks and bike paths that lead to the Regner fish pond. We have installed 6 Memorial Benches and several Memorial Trees around the pond for rest and relaxation.

We also removed a line of overgrown shrubs that bordered a nearby road to increase the visibility of the pond from the street to the north. When we reinstalled the soccer field, corrected some previous drainage problems and improved the overall quality of the playing surface.

- 4. Community Benefits**-responds to identified needs of public, public input on project, improves image of community.

The community was in need of a safe environment for Urban Fishing. The fish pond had become filled in with cattails and had become an eyesore in Regner Park. The public supported the project through donations to our Crowdfunding Campaign for the fish pond dredging. Several community groups not only contributed funds but, volunteered to construct fish cribs for the pond as well.

The reinstallation of the soccer field gave the community another site for recreation activities. We also installed new soccer goals in the area. We turned an unusable fish pond into a safe and great place for kids to learn how to fish. This would have not been possible without the support of the community sponsors: Kiwanis Early Risers, West Bend Friends of Park and Recreation, West Bend Fire Fighters Charities Inc., Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource, West Bend Barton Sportsman's Club, Regner Rejuvenation Committee, Holy Angels School, Manitou Americas Inc.

- 5. Environmental Stewardship**- use of recycled materials, mechanics which are environmentally compatible(solar, low volume flush, high pressure sodium bulbs) use of native plant materials

The spoils were hauled away to a nearby park. The access to a nearby park resulted in lower trucking costs and time. The fill will be graded into the hillside and later developed into a Pump Track for a local mountain group. The pier decking, benches and railing are constructed of materials that use recycled plastics. The stone that was used to construct the haul road for the project was reused to enlarge the holding area for wood chips. The current area was too small to handle the volume of wood chips that is being generated from the removal of dying Ash trees.

The fish cribs that were installed in the pond were constructed with recycled materials. The logs were from the Ash street trees that have been removed due to Emerald Ash Borer. The Christmas trees that were stuffed into the cribs were recycled as well.

- 6. Maintenance**-considers ease of maintaining, durability of materials, minimize need for special equipment or special tasks, safety of maintaining site.

The site is now easier to maintain. We removed the invasive, dead and dying plant material around the site, allowing the banks to be mowed on a regular basis. The regular mowing has made the banks of the pond safer for younger children while fishing.

The pier that was installed is made from a composite material, which is maintenance free and the steel structural support is galvanized. We had the pier designed to be in the pond year round. This reduced the yearly maintenance of removing the pier during the winter months. We installed an aeration system that will reduce the weed and algae growth in the pond. We will be using the DNR Urban Fishing Program to assist with fish stocking and develop a sustainable fish population over the next few years.

We will be working with City of West Bend Sewer and Engineering Departments to install several sediment interceptors on the storm sewer pipes that drain into the pond. The interceptors limit sediment build up and the need for dredging in the future.

Regner Park Fish Pond Erosion Control





Regner Fish Pond had become full of sediment and was unable to sustain fish habitat. The last time the pond was dredged was 1970 . The water depth prior to dredging was less then 18”.





The soccer field that bordered the fish pond was used as a temporary fill site. The top soil was stripped and haul road was installed. The soccer field was restored in spring when the project was complete.





Cattails had taken over the pond . We started pumping water out of the pond January 1 2015 . The two 6" pumps ran non stop for 30 days to keep the water levels down for dredging operations. That totals 112,320,000 gallons of water we pumped to keep the site as dry as possible.



The start of the first day of dredging was January 5 ,2015





Approximately 13,000 excavator buckets of sediment were hauled out of the pond. That is over 1,300 truck loads and over 30,000 cubic yards of sediment. This was the site in mid January 2015.



Fish Cribs were constructed by Park Staff with assistance by The Kiwanis Early Risers. The logs are from ash trees that have been removed due to Emerald Ash Borer. Christmas trees were recycled to provide fish habitat.





Spoils were hauled to a nearby park by Park Staff. Nearly 2,600 dump truck loads were hauled off site to a nearby park.





The Final week of dredging!





Final day of Dredging February 7th , 2015!





Seeding the soccer field and sign installation May 2015.





This project would not have been possible without the help of volunteers and donations from Community Groups.



OPERATION DREDGE & FISH

Budgeted Costs: \$190,969

Site Preparation (Reger & GBH): \$11,475.00

Erosion Control	\$	1,025.00
Signage	\$	120.00
Site Prep, equipment & materials	\$	9,420.00
Storm Sewer Protection	\$	910.00
Forestry Operations	\$	-

Dredging: \$90,844 w/o Forebay: \$82,844

Equipment Rental & fuel	\$	51,922.00
Dewatering	\$	11,022.00
Swamp Mats	\$	8,500.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$	380.00
Pond Haul Road	\$	1,820.00
Rip Rap	\$	9,200.00
Forebay	\$	8,000.00

Hauling & Restoration: \$71,290

Equipment Rental & Fuel	\$	29,400.00
Haul Trucks Fuel	\$	27,360.00
Restoration Material, seed, soil, etc.	\$	14,530.00

10% Contingency: \$17,360

Estimated Costs: \$144,010

Site Preparation (Regner & GBH): \$ 11,475.00

Erosion Control	\$	1,025.00
Signage	\$	120.00
Site Prep, equipment & materials	\$	9,420.00
Storm Sewer Protection	\$	910.00
Forestry Operations	\$	-

Dredging: w/o Forebay: \$72,844

Equipment Rental & Fuel	\$	51,922.00
Dewatering	\$	10,072.00
Swamp Mats	\$	4,500.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$	380.00
Pond Haul Road	\$	910.00
Rip Rap	\$	5,060.00
Forebay	\$	-

Hauling & Restoration: \$50,270 (12 days hauling)

Equipment Rental & Fuel	\$	21,700.00
Haul Trucks Fuel	\$	18,240.00
Restoration Material, seed, soil, etc	\$	10,330.00

7% Contingency \$ 9,421.00

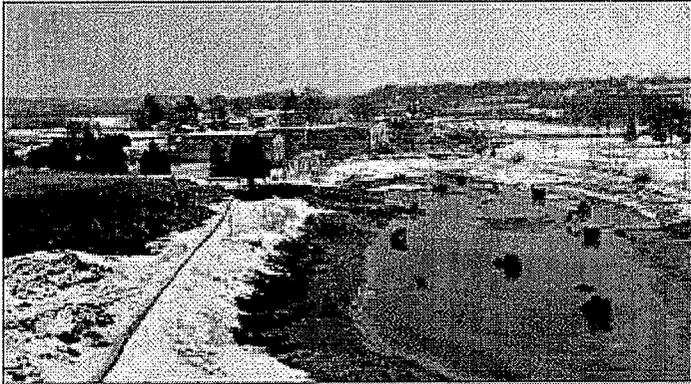
Donations: \$41,500

Kiwanis Eary Risers	\$35,000.00
Others	\$6,500.00

Washington County Memorial Park cemetery on Tuesday afternoon in West Bend. Rasmuss, with the West Bend Cemetery Association, said they removed five trees on Tuesday that had signs of the bugs. **John Ehlike/Daily News**

Dredging done, work continues on fish pond

With a goal of stocking fish in an 8-foot deep, 2.7-acre Regner Park pond in the fall, the West Bend Parks and Forestry divisions continue their work. Parks and Forestry staff finished removing 39,915 cubic yards of material from the Early Risers Kiwanis Children's Fishing Pond on Saturday in the heart of West Bend. "The parks staff will continue to haul the removed material to Glacial Blue Hills Park," Parks Superintendent Mike Jentsch said in a news release. In the spring, he said pond bank restoration as well as work on the Regner Park soccer field and Glacial Blue Hills Park will begin. Parks and Forestry is working with the state Department of Natural Resources to stock trout in the pond. "In August, we will conduct oxygen testing and, if all goes well, in fall we would like to stock the pond with bluegill, crappie and largemouth bass. An additional goal for 2015 will be the installation of a handicap fishing pier," Jentsch said.



New structures constructed by the Kiwanis Early Risers Club are seen at the bottom of the Regner Park Kid's Fish Pond in this undated photo in West Bend. The structures will provide cover and spawning areas for fish. **Submitted photo**

IN BRIEF

Emerald ash borer confirmed in Outagamie County

MADISON (AP) — Wisconsin agriculture officials say emerald ash borer has been confirmed for the first time in Outagamie County. The destructive tree pest was found on private land in Appleton. Officials said the discovery was not surprising, because Outagamie County is under quarantine for emerald ash borer because of its proximity to an infestation in the Village of Sherwood in Calumet County. While the finding does not change anything from a regulatory standpoint, officials said it should remind county residents of the importance of not moving firewood from Outagamie County to counties that are not under quarantine. A tree trimming crew working in a private yard in Appleton noticed extensive woodpecker damage, one sign of infestation. Samples were collected last month, and the USDA confirmed emerald ash borer last week.

West Bend, Habitat for Humanity honored by DNR

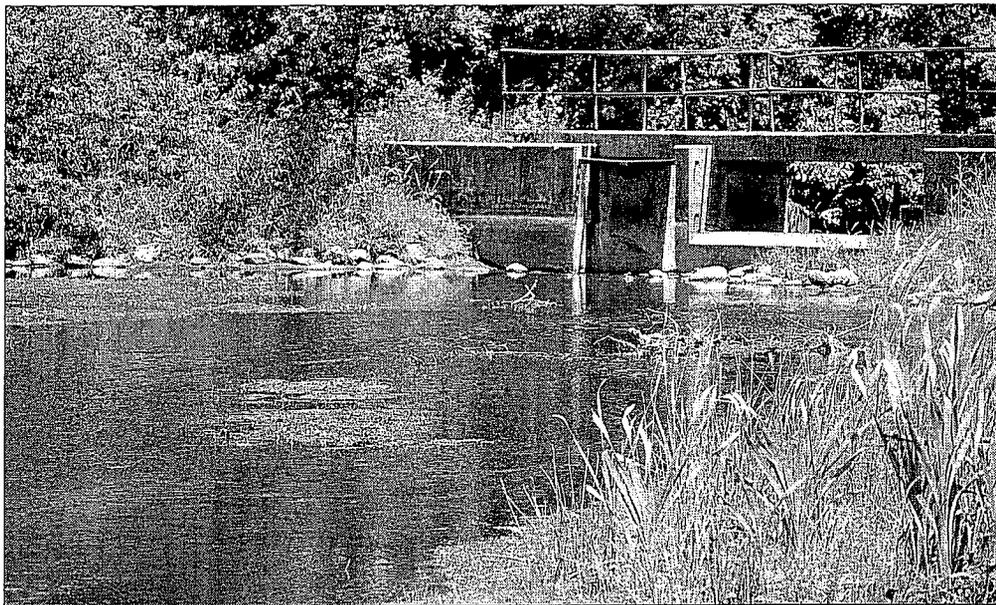
MADISON (DNR) — The city of West Bend and Habitat for Humanity of Washington and Dodge Counties was recently recognized by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The city and Habitat for Humanity received the Project Partnership award. The award recognizes outstanding projects completed through partnerships to provide services or benefits to the urban forest. The city of West Bend and Habitat for Humanity of Washington and Dodge Counties were recognized for strategic utilization of trees that were removed as part of an emerald ash borer response plan in a "Logs to Lumber" program.

DNR to stock trout in children's fishing pond

In April, the Department of Natural Resources will stock 500 trout in the Early Risers Kiwanis Children's Fishing Pond; that's the pond to the south of Park Avenue that was dredged over the winter. "Using water from Silver Creek, it took just 48 hours to fill the pond, which is now 8 feet deep," Parks and Forestry Superintendent Mike Jentsch said. "The fish cribs are in and all the structure is in and we're rechecking with our fish biologist on the oxygen levels." Early oxygen readings show 10 to 11 parts per million; a healthy fish population needs about 9.5. Over the winter, crews removed about 36,000 cubic yards of material, including a mix of 45 yards of silt along with 3 feet of gravel. "The creek is natural but about 80 years ago that same area was dredged to form a carp-rearing pond," Jentsch said. Excavated material was hauled to Glacier Blue Hills and added to two hillsides. "Mountain bikers will meet with parks officials to tell us how they want it incorporated into the bike hill and hopefully we'll also make another sledding hill," Jentsch said. He said some car parts were recovered from the pond. "Brake drums, brake pads, a beat-up bicycle frame, a couple bottles and just one or two tires, so it actually was pretty clean," he said. Jentsch thanked the Kiwanis Early Risers for its \$50,000 donation and the city crews that completed the work. Early figures on construction costs were \$65,000. The surface of the pond measures 2.7 acres. "We are still in a holding pattern for stocking bluegills and largemouth bass," Jentsch said. "Once the thaw happens the soccer field will be restored."



Today's May 1968 photo is courtesy Mike Weston. The photo was taken behind Ted Lauck Chevrolet. "This is now the parks building," said Weston about the facility on North Main Street. "The guy on the bike is Mike Swift and Bob Weston is the other guy. We used to fish down there all the time as kids since we only lived a couple blocks away." Archives at the Washington County Historical Society show Robert "Bob" Weston was 11 years old and a pupil at Holy Angels School. He is displaying a 22-inch northern he caught at the pond. If anybody has photos of the old fishing hole, send to Judy Steffes at 262-334-4526 or 630 S. Sixth Ave., West Bend 53095 or judy_harley@yahoo.com. **Submitted photo**



Larry Polenske/For the Daily News

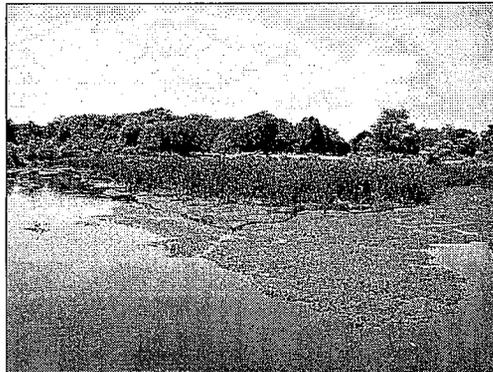
The dam on the east side of Regner Park fishing pond is open. When the pond is dredged, the dam will be closed and the pond will fill to about 8 feet deep.

Regner pond in for big renovation



LARRY
POLENSKE

Huntin'
For Fun



Larry Polenske/For the Daily News

The Regner Park fishing pond is now a mud flat filled with vegetation. When dredging of the pond is complete, it will be 8 feet deep.

It will be back to the future for the Regner Park fishing pond in spring. If things go as planned, the pond will be 8 feet deep and full of fish.

When I was a kid, the pond was a popular fishing hole for local youth. I and many other young anglers spent countless hours fishing for bluegills from the pond's shore during the summer. Once in a while, a small bass was caught and I remember pulling in a 15-inch northern one day. That catch put me at the top of the honors list among the rest of my cohorts.

West Bend Park Recreation and Forestry Director Craig Hoepfner said research done as part of Regner Park's 75th anniversary celebration indicated the pond was originally used for raising carp.

"The Wisconsin Conservation Commission, which build the carp-raising pond, placed several carloads of carp in the pond and fed them with hopes of selling to New York markets," said Hoepfner, reading from a report. "Unfortunately, thou-

sands of carp died during the winter."

The pond then primarily became a storm water retention pond that doubled as a fishing hole. Like most ponds created by damming a stream, the Regner pond was prone to problems with sedimentation.

Hoepfner said the pond was dredged in the 1970s, but over the last four decades, it has again filled in with silt.

Today, Regner pond is more a rabbit hole than a fishing hole. When the dam on the east end of the pond was opened and drained, it revealed a big mud flat formed from years of sediment deposited from the stream that flows through the pond into the Milwaukee River.

Vegetation quickly took

over the mud flats and the only water in the former pond is the stream that is a couple feet wide and maybe a foot deep. The only fish present are a few remnant minnows.

There are still loose ends to be tied, Hoepfner said, but the project to dredge and renovate the pond is on schedule. All the required permits have been issued and dredging is planned to begin in winter.

The dredging is estimated to cost around \$170,000, but it could be less if the city can do some of the work. Hoepfner said the sewer utility might be able to get some credits from the Department of Natural Resources if the pond results in a reduction of phosphorus runoff.

The West Bend Early Risers Kiwanis has pledged

\$50,000 for enhancements to the project. That donation will be used to build two fishing piers and construction of fish cribs.

"I think we will probably see some other groups get involved, too," Hoepfner said.

It is hoped this renovation project will keep the pond in good shape for many years.

"We are going to try to take some steps to make sure that we don't have to do this again every 20 or 30 years," Hoepfner said.

A storm interceptor or similar device will be placed on the upstream side of the pond. Hoepfner said silt will deposit in that device rather than in the pond. The sewer utility can use their jet equipment to vacuum the interceptor every couple years as needed.

"It's something we put in on the edge of our swim pond because we have sand there," Hoepfner said. "It has worked out well there so we are looking at using similar technology."

The Regner fish pond is designated as an urban fishing water with special regulations and an extended season. The DNR will plant trout in the pond after it is renovated and youth fishing clinics will be conducted.

I never caught a trout in the hundreds of hours I spent fishing at Regner pond in my youth. Maybe I will take trip back to the future next year to add that species to my Regner fishing resume.