

Lincoln's parks and playgrounds provide hope for couch potatoes

By Gene Gentrup
Staff Reporter

Couch potatoes wishing to expand their culture beyond the MTV screen and outside the front doors this summer can do so in a number of ways and places, including a lake or on a grill, underwater or through a telescope. It's all part of this summer's activities available to Lincoln's outdoor lovers.

More than 40 parks and playgrounds are in Lincoln, each with its own attractions. Five parks tend to be visited more frequently and offer a number of recreational services.

Antelope Park, 27th and A streets. The park includes a bandstand, baseball diamond, fireplaces, flower gardens, a golf course, open theater, parking lots, picnic tables, playground equipment, rentable shelters, restrooms, running water, swimming pools, tennis courts, and a zoo.

Oak Lake Park, First and Charleston streets. The park includes boating services, fireplaces, fishing, flower gardens, parking lots, picnic tables, playground equipment, running water, and warm-up shelters.

Pioneer Park, S. Coddington and W. Calvert streets. The park includes a baseball diamond, bridge trails, fireplaces, golf courses, horse-riding rings, horseshoe courts, a nature center, open theaters, open shelters, parking lots, picnic tables, playground equipment, restrooms, running water and a zoo.

Wilderness Park, First and Van Dorn streets. The park includes bridge trails and fishing.

Woods Park, 33rd and J streets. The park includes baseball diamonds, parking lots, playground equipment, restrooms, running water, swimming pools, and tennis courts.

Lincoln public swimming pools are now open for the summer. The pools are open every day from 1 to 8 p.m. Lincoln public pools include:

Antelope Park, 2300 N St.
Arnold Heights, 4000 N.W. 46th St.
Ballard, 3901 N. 66th St.
Belmont, 12th and Manatt streets.
Eden Park, 4400 Antelope Creek Road.

Irvingdale, 1900 Van Dorn St.
Meadow Heights Centennial, 900 W. Avon Lane.

University Place, 2000 N. 48th St.
Woods Memorial, 3200 J St.

Golf

Holmes Park, 3701 S. 70th St. Costs are \$7.50 for 18 holes on weekdays and \$5.05 for nine holes. On weekends, costs are \$8.05 for 18 holes and \$5.55 for nine holes.

Jim Ager Memorial Junior Park, 3761 Normal Blvd. Costs are \$3.70 for the nine-hole course, and \$1.70 for those under 17. The course is open from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Mahoney, 7900 Adams St. Costs are \$7.05 for 18 holes and \$5.05 for nine holes. Golfing is open from dawn to dusk and reservations are required.

Pioneers, Pioneers Park. Costs are \$7.05 for 18 holes and \$5.50 for nine holes on weekdays. On weekends, the costs are \$8.05 for 18 holes and \$5.55 for nine holes.

Softball leagues for men's, women's and co-ed teams are now full, according to the City Recreation Department. The department is now taking names for persons interested in playing when teams need extra players. Those wishing to get on the waiting list can call 471-7892.

The bandshell at Antelope Park will feature about 30 outdoor concerts this summer. Admission is free for these concerts, which run through August.

Other outdoor activities include:
Chet Ager Nature Center. The nature center at Pioneers Park is now open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will remain open until Sept. 1. The center features wild geese, a bird garden, 2 1/2 miles of trails and prairie environment that includes a stream and waterfall. Wild animals appear periodically. Special attractions are sponsored periodically. Special attraction are sponsored periodically throughout the summer. For specific information, call 471-7895. Admission is free.

Hyde Observatory. The observatory, located near the entrance of Holmes Golf Course, is open Saturday from sundown to 11 p.m. Beginning June 5, the hours will be the same on Sunday. Two slide presentations are shown throughout the evening. Admission is free.

NU's campus recreation office offers "something for everyone"

By Jeff Apel
Staff Reporter

Something for everyone.

That's the philosophy Nebraska recreation director Stan Campbell said he has adopted at the campus recreation office.

Campbell said the office achieves a 76 percent student participation rate in the fall and spring semesters by offering activities ranging from intramurals to club sports.

During the summer, Campbell said, it's difficult to tell what percentage of students participate because of the large number of individuals who live in Lincoln for a short

period of time.

But Campbell said the summer intramural program is still a success because of the unique social and physical opportunities offered. The summer programs offered by the campus recreation department include co-rec volleyball and softball leagues, an outdoor basketball league, two tennis tournaments and faculty golf and tennis leagues.

This is the first year that an outdoor basketball league has been offered, Campbell said.

Campbell said the campus recreation department also offers 15 trips during the summer, sells tickets for both Worlds of Fun and Oceans in

Kansas City, Mo., and distributes state hunting and fishing permits.

"We think we do a pretty good job of trying to reach everyone's interests," Campbell said. "That's our goal."

Campbell said students who choose not to participate in campus recreation programs are missing out on a major aspect of the university because of the important skills developed through individual and team play.

Not only are friendships formed through participation, Campbell said, but leadership skills and physical benefits are shaped through campus recreation programs.

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