

Jump In & Join Our Pool!

Focus Groups will be held on several topics throughout the year. We seek your participation and interest. Some general areas for discussion are:

- Comprehensive Planning and Steering
- Financial Planning
- Land Acquisition
- Policies and Practices
- Active Riders
- Tennis Courts
- Conservation Initiatives
- Riding Center Policy
- Spring Creek Forest Preserve

Join a Focus Group!



<http://www.bc-pd.org>

This Site's For You

The Park District Web Site has been functioning for several years and its use is steadily increasing. We have had over 9,500 hits to date. Here you will find information about the Park District including news, contact information, forms for downloading, meeting schedules, and maintenance schedules. There is information about the tennis courts, the rebate program, and extensive information about the Park District Riding Center. News about Park District projects and initiatives and announcements regarding scheduling of upcoming projects and improvements can be found on the web site. Each page has an electronic feedback form hoping to encourage your questions, input, and suggestions. The web is such an effective means of communication since it is so updateable and, as such, we are able to keep information current. In addition, it is extremely economical. North Star Net of the North Suburban Library System (NSLS) provides free web hosting to community organizations. We plan to continue to expand this valuable communication tool and hope it will invite your participation. Is there something you would like to see on the site?—Please let us know. Please visit!



The Riding Center is enjoyed by enthusiasts of all ages. Spring is a wonderful time to stop by the Riding Center and "Horse Watch"—a traditional sport in Barrington Hills.

Barrington Countryside Park District

P.O. Box 1393
Barrington, IL 60011

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Barrington Countryside Park District Newsletter



Volume 1, Edition 1

Fall 2005

Spring Creek Forest Preserve



Park District Successful in Initial Discussions

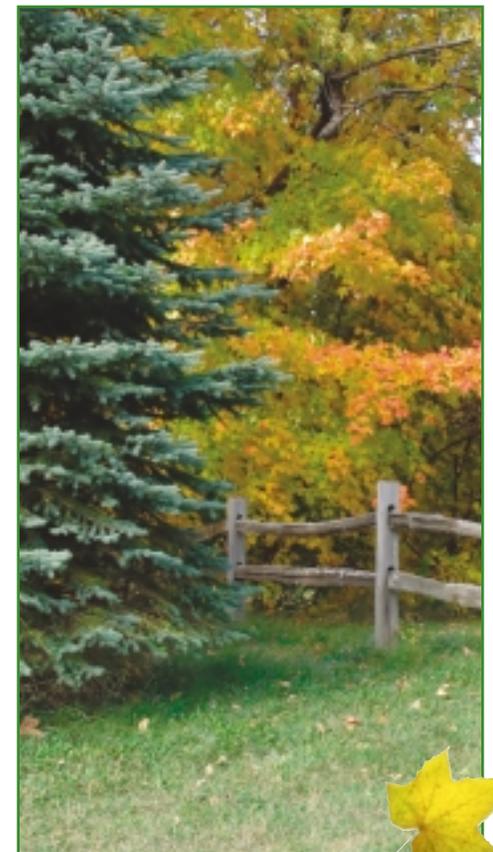
With the assistance of Gregg Goslin, the Cook County Commissioner for the 14th district, which includes the Spring Creek Forest Preserve, and with the cooperation from Forest Preserve District officials, the Barrington Countryside Park District entered into an interim agreement for parking at the Riding Center. Parking became a problem at the Riding Center last year after the Cook County Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance banning parking on grass in all Cook County Forest Preserves. The grass area behind the Riding Center has traditionally served as the parking lot for people riding and walking in Spring Creek Forest Preserve. That area is Forest Preserve land. The interim agreement allows parking within a roped off area designated by the Forest Preserve.

acknowledged that the Barrington Countryside Park District does not have authority to enforce the ban on parking on grass.

The Barrington Countryside Park District Board of Commissioners continue to work with Commissioner Goslin and the Forest Preserve to enter into an intergovernmental agreement. The agreement will address the cross country courses and jumps, construction of a parking area, and preservation of the walking and riding trails for use by the community. The process is ongoing and at times is delicate and complex. However, progress is being made and the Park Board Commissioners are committed to keeping everyone informed of the results as they develop. Please feel free to contact Commissioners Richard Lamkey or Fred McMorris to discuss the Spring Creek Valley Forest Preserve.

In the mean time, Barrington Countryside Park District and the Cook County Forest Preserve District continue to discuss the terms of an inter-governmental agreement, which will address several issues, including the cross country jumps and trail system. These discussions began in September 2004, when the Barrington Countryside Park District Board invited the Forest Preserve District to discuss designation of the Spring Creek Forest Preserve as an equestrian and conservation area. After initial discussions, Commissioner Goslin introduced and was instrumental in passing a resolution authorizing the discussions by the Cook County Commissioners. The Park District then established an Advisory Committee, headed up by Richard Lamkey, the Park District President, and Fred McMorris, the Park District Secretary.

In late 2004, the Park District was informed by the Forest Preserve that unspecified encroachments had to be removed before discussions could go forward. In early 2005 the Park District learned that the cross country jumps were considered unauthorized encroachments. Contrary to published misinformation, the Park District was not "...charged with encroachments by allowing vehicles to park on Forest Preserve property." In fact, the Forest Preserve has always



Barrington Countryside Park District

P.O. Box 1393
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(847) 783-6772
www.bc-pd.org

2005 Park District Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at
The Riding Center
361 Bateman Road
Barrington Hills, IL

Scheduled Meeting Dates

2 0 0 5

September 14 ▪ October 12
November 9 ▪ December 14

2 0 0 6

January 11 ▪ February 8 ▪ March 8
April 12 ▪ May 10 ▪ June 14
July 12 ▪ August 9 ▪ September 13

Commissioners

Richard Lamkey, *President*
Jean Maddrell, *Vice-President*
Peter Wessel, *Treasurer*
Fred McMorris, *Secretary*
Maureen Crump, *Communications*

Administrative Assistant

Rosemary Nero

The Hard Facts About Hard Hats

Approximately 150,000 equestrian riders are treated at hospital emergency rooms throughout the United States every year.

FACT Most equestrian riding injuries occur during pleasure riding.

FACT The most common reason among equestrian riders for admission to hospitals is head injuries.

FACT Head injuries are associated with approximately 60% of all equestrian riders' deaths.

FACT A fall from two feet can cause permanent brain damage. A horse elevates a rider's head 8 feet or more above ground.

FACT Your skull can be shattered by an impact of 7–10 kilometers per hour. Horses can gallop at 65 kilometers per hour.

FACT An equestrian rider who has one head injury has a 40 percent chance of suffering a second head injury.

FACT Hospital costs for an acute head injury can be in the range of \$25,000 per day. Lifetime care costs may exceed \$3 million.

FACT Horse racing organizations require helmets and as a result jockeys now suffer fewer head injuries than pleasure riders.

FACT The US Pony Club lowered their head injury rate 29% with mandatory helmet use.

FACT Helmets work. Most deaths from head injury can be prevented by wearing ASTM/SEI approved helmets that fit correctly and have the chin strap firmly attached.



Safety Number One Priority for Park District

Helmet Rule in Effect at the Riding Center



In April 2004, the Barrington Countryside Park District enacted a helmet rule for both sound legal and practical safety reasons. The rule simply requires all individuals to wear ASTM/SEI approved helmets while mounted on Park District property. This rule is consistent with the safety policies that have evolved in the world of equine sports. Both 4-H and the United States Pony Club implemented a non-negotiable helmet policy for reasons of safety many years ago. In 2002, both the United States Eventing Association and USA Equestrian acknowledged the proven safety aspects and passed a mandatory ASTM/SEI helmet rule for Eventing effective January 1, 2003. The Board of Directors of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), which governs all US equestrian sports (<http://www.usef.org>), passed a mandatory helmet regulation at its annual convention last year. The trend of acknowledging the importance of requiring the use of helmets that meet the generally accepted safety standard when riding is clear.

The Park District Commissioners are concerned both with the safety of all users at the Riding Center and with protecting the Park District's property. They are charged with the responsibility of protecting all residents of

the District (whether they use the Riding Center or not) from potential increases in taxes because of any liability arising from an accident at the Park District Riding Center. Wearing approved ASTM/SEI helmets clearly lowers the chance of injury and thus reduces potential liability for all constituents.

The Park District's helmet rule is a phased in policy allowing time for education and adjustment of riding habits and therefore compliance is voluntary at this time. The lack of mandatory, policed compliance with the policy does not, as some have incorrectly stated, increase risk to the Park District. Rather, by establishing the helmet policy each rider has been informed of the danger which they assume if they choose to ignore the rule and ride without an approved helmet. The assumption is that anyone who chooses to ride at the Park District Riding Center tacitly agrees to abide by the policies governing it, including the helmet policy.

If you study the safety benefits of helmets and understand that the Park District's policy is a protection for individuals who ride, as well as for constituents who do not ride, it is clear that the facts supporting the use of helmets are too substantial to be ignored.

Customize Your Recreation

The Rebate Program is available to all residents of the Barrington Countryside Park District. You may choose a program at any park district. The rebate amount is the difference between the in-district and out-of-district fee. Each family in the District is permitted a total of \$140 in rebates each calendar year.

To receive your rebate:

- Fill out rebate application form.
- Provide a copy of your paid receipt.
- Provide a copy of your tax bill or voter's registration card indicating taxes are paid to Barrington Countryside Park District.

You may obtain a rebate form from:

- Web Site: <http://www.bc-pd.org>
- E-mail: bcpdoffice@comcast.net
- Snail Mail: BCPD Rebates, P.O. Box 1393, Barrington, IL 60011
- Phone/Fax: (847) 783-6772

The rebate program allows our residents to take advantage of various classes, memberships, and passes at surrounding Park Districts. Take time to explore the many opportunities available, and enjoy your choice!



District Tennis Courts in Full Swing

With the first sign of good weather, activity at the Park District tennis courts is lively. The courts are located on Community School District 220 Countryside School property. The construction of the tennis courts was through a cooperative agreement between the Barrington Countryside Park District and Community School District 220. This agreement was reached long before the term “intergovernmental agreement” was an important buzz word! Construction of the six courts was completed in 1975 by the Park District on land leased from the School District for a nominal fee. The Park District continues to maintain the courts, providing for a professional playing surface, care of the nets, and installing the wind screens each season. The courts are resurfaced by the Park District as needed. During the school day, Countryside School has the first option for use of the courts. The Barrington High School tennis teams have first priority of play during tennis season. Spring is tennis season for the boys’ team and Fall is tennis season for the girls’ team. At all other times, the courts are open for enjoyment by the constituents. If you have any questions or need assistance about the tennis courts please call the District Office at (847) 783-6772.



Just the Facts

The Countryside Association researched and promoted the creation of the Barrington Countryside Park District. The idea was strongly supported by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Barrington Hills and the Barrington Hills Plan Commission. The referendum in Cook County to create the Park District was held on Saturday July 15, 1967, at Countryside School. Members of the first Board of Commissioners were: Lawrence Bateman, Edward Benninghoven, Fredrick Curtis, Beverly Pattishall, and Marjorie Wellington.

NOTICE

Forest Preserve Parking in Designated Area Only.

Dogs must be leashed on Park District and Forest Preserve Property.

NOTICE



The Board of Commissioners (left to right): Peter Wessel, Jean Maddrell, Fred McMorris, Richard Lamkey and Maureen Crump.

New Park Board

On April 5, 2005, two new Commissioners were elected to the Barrington Countryside Park District Board of Commissioners, Maureen Crump and Peter Wessel. The Board would like to congratulate the newcomers and look forward to working together on the opportunities ahead. We sincerely thank our retiring Board members Nancy Hennelly and Nancy Schmid for their years of dedication. Nancy Hennelly served from 2000–2005 and Nancy Schmid served from 1997–2005. In addition, Jan Nestrud is retiring from her position as Fox River Valley Pony Club representative on the Management Board. We thank her for her years of dedication. She served on the Management Board from 1996–2005. We hope Nancy, Jan, and Nancy now have time to enjoy the many fruits of their labor. Always feel free to contact any of the Commissioners, we are here to listen!

Rosemary Nero: Administrative Assistant Par Excellence

Rosemary Nero has served as Administrative Assistant for the Barrington Countryside Park District since November of 2002. Her duties include running the Park District office, overseeing paperwork and accounting, facility rentals, researching and implementing policies and proposals, and providing general assistance in the operations and management of the District. If you have a question or need assistance, please feel free to contact Rosemary at the District Office at (847) 783-6772. She wants to help!



Barrington Countryside Park District is dedicated to providing our residents with open spaces to enjoy all that nature has to offer.