WOOD DALE PARK DISTRICT

2024 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS



WOOD DALE PARK DISTRICT

Active Places. Friendly Faces.

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Mission Statement

Serving the community with quality recreational experiences that provide a fun and healthy lifestyle.

Vision

Aspire to create positive memories and endless opportunities for the community.

Values

Accountability, Communication, Fun, Partnerships, Quality, and Team-Oriented.

History of Wood Dale Park District

Wood Dale Park District was organized in 1967, covering a 6-mile area that serves most of the City of Wood Dale, along with portions of Bensenville, and Itasca. Today, the District serves an estimated population of 13,770 and manages approximately 139 acres of parkland across 15 park sites and facilities. These include an Executive golf course with a banquet facility, a golf driving range and entertainment space, a water park, and a community center. The District offers a wide range of recreational and leisure-time programs and events for all age groups, ensuring that there are opportunities for everyone to engage in healthy and fun activities.

Role of the Board of Commissioners

Wood Dale Park District is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners, elected at-large by the community. The Board is responsible for overseeing the District's operations and policies, making decisions that help guide the District's growth and services. Day-to-day operations are managed by the Executive Director and the dedicated Park District staff. Since its founding, the Board has been pivotal in shaping the Park District's development, ensuring that the facilities and programs meet the evolving needs of the community. Their leadership continues to be essential in maintaining the District's commitment to providing exceptional public spaces and services that benefit Wood Dale and its surrounding areas.



Dorothy Lange
President



Georgia Schroeder
Vice President



Eugene Wesley
Treasurer



Denice Sbertoli
Secretary



Greg Stimpson
Commissioner - In Memoriam



77

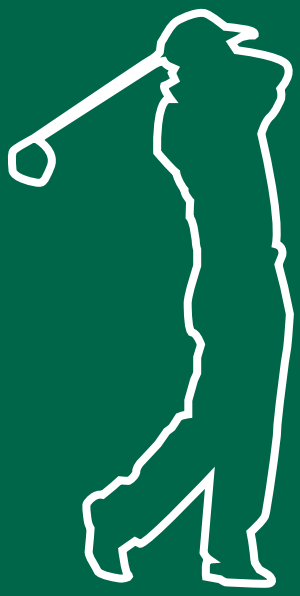
Team members were hired

185

Programs offered to the community

2,280+

Attendees joined us at community events



4,714,219

Golf balls hit at 390 Golf Experience

29,576

Golf Rounds at Salt Creek Golf Club

111

Weddings, events, and golf outings were held at Salt Creek Golf Club

180

Rentals at Woodlands at White Oaks Park, Recreation Complex, and Fields

367

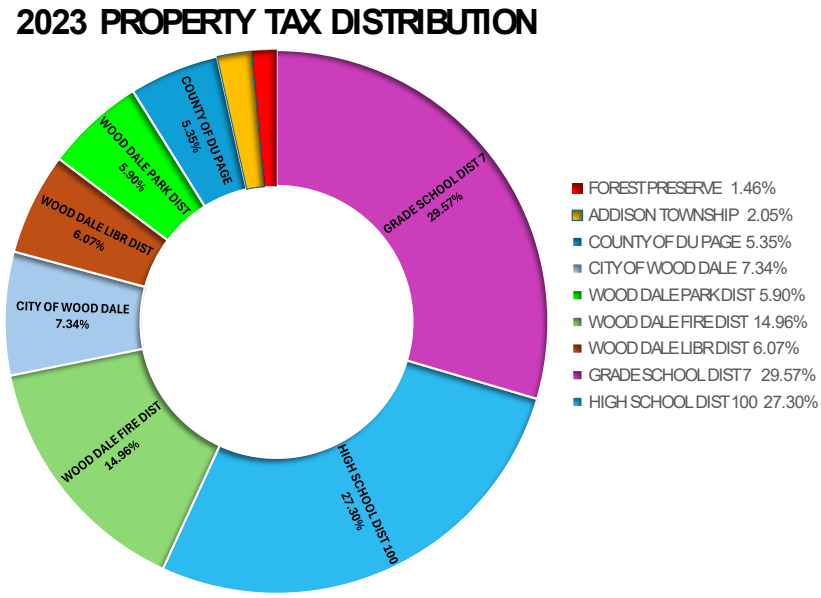
Private events were hosted at 390 Golf Experience

Financial Overview

In this section, we provide a summary of our revenue and expenses for the year. This analysis gives you a clear view of how we manage resources to provide high-quality programs and maintain facilities that benefit the entire community.

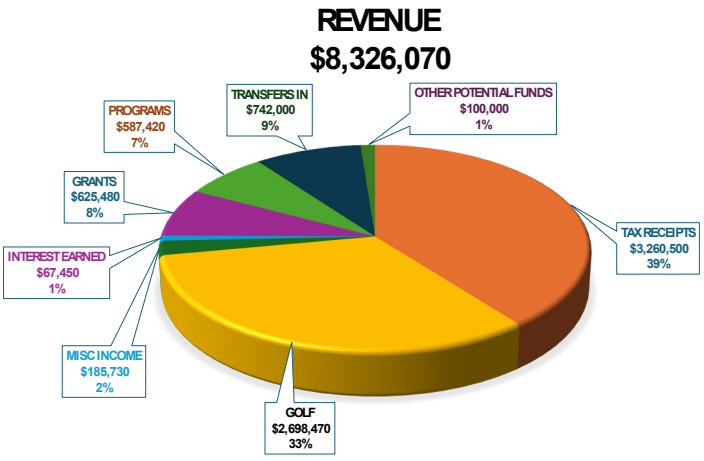
Understanding Your Tax Bill

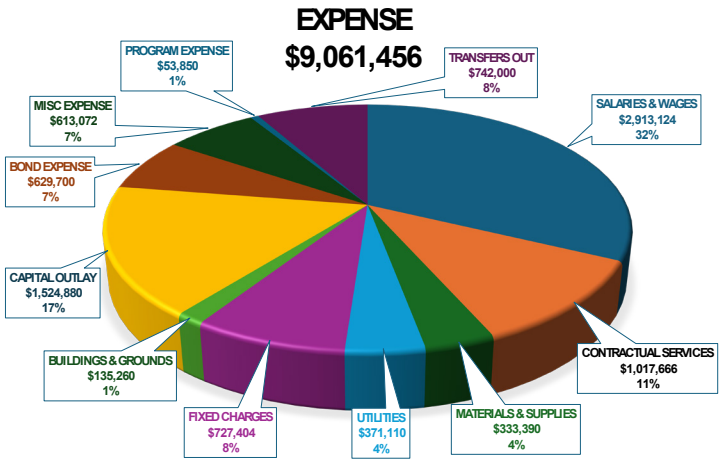
We've created a pie chart to show how your 2023 tax bill (paid in 2024) is allocated among the various taxing districts in Wood Dale. This breakdown helps you see the Park District's share and how your contributions support the programs and services we offer.



Revenue and Expenses Analysis

The Revenue and Expenses Analysis provides an overview of the Park District's financial performance, highlighting key revenue sources, expenditure allocations, and budget management strategies to ensure fiscal responsibility and sustainability. These numbers represent the Fiscal Year 23-24: May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024.





Securing Additional Funding

We actively pursued and secured grants and alternative funding to enhance our offerings while minimizing the financial impact on taxpayers. These funds help us continue to improve and expand our services to the community.

IAPD PowerPlay! Beyond School Grant recipient. We were awarded $1,000 to use towards materials/supplies for the proposed program that took place during After School Bunch.

Rainbow Playschool Fundraiser brought in $1,503. Funds are used to purchase new learning materials, crafting supplies, and other enhancements for the Rainbow Playschool program.

Thank you to our 2024 Sponsors and Donors

A special thank you to everyone who provided generous support through sponosrships and in-kind donations throught the year. Your support played a vital role in making our community events and programs a success.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or donor, visit www.wdparks.org/get-involved/sponsorship-and-advertising/

Platinum Sponsors:
Itasca Bank & Trust Co. - Scarewalk
Itasca Bank & Trust Co. - Veterans Breakfast

Gold Sponsors:
Wood Dale Bank & Trust - Flashlight Dinosaur Egg Hunt
Wood Dale Bank & Trust - Earth Day

Silver Sponsor:
Woods Heating and Air Conditioning - Winter Bash
Wood Dale Public Library - Unplug IL

Senior Club Lunch Sponsors:
City of Wood Dale
Cookie Garden
Humana
Itasca Bank & Trust Co.
Parlay Sports Bar
Sweet Baby Rays
The Pizza Kitchen, LLC
Wintrust Village Bank & Trust
Wood Dale Police Department

Senior Club Thanksgiving Luncheon In-Kind Donors:
Bentley's Pancake House
Christy's Pancake House
Classic Cinemas Elk Grove Theater
Helen's Deli
Jewel-Osco
Local Bar & Grill
Marino's Pizzeria & Cafe
New China Pearl
Pat's Place
Target
The Pizza Kitchen
VIP Express Car Wash
White Cottage Pizza

Program and Event In-Kind Donors:
Bobo's Snacks
Chicago Cubs
Chicago Fire
Chicago Red Stars
Chicago White Sox
City of Wood Dale
Cookie Garden
Cooper's Hawk
ECOS
Freddy's Frozen Custard
Gourmetgiftbasket.com
K1 Speed
Let's Roam
Lou Malnati's
Pizzo Native Plant Nursery
Portillos
Raising Canes
Sam's Club
Schaumburg Boomers
Windy City Bulls
Wood Dale Bank & Trust
Woody's Sports Bar



Kuehne & Nagel generously donated funds for the purchase and installation of 11 trees at Terrace Park, which were planted by a contractor in the fall. A commemorative plaque was installed, and a photo event was held on November 12, 2024.

Wood Dale Park District made significant improvements in 2024 to meet the needs of our community. From hiring team members, upgrading facilities, to expanding programs, we remained committed to creating spaces and opportunities for everyone to enjoy.

Staff Updates

Wood Dale Park District employed 77 new hires this year. Of the new hires, there were 4 full time, 18 part-time, and 55 seasonal employees.

New Full-Time Team Members:
Brian Dober - Golf Facilities Manager
Mindi Schwartz - Recreation Supervisor
Joe Fritz - Assistant Golf Director
Norbert Pawlik - Building Maintenance
Karen Levang-Evinger - Recreation Coordinator (Part-Time)

Promotions/Transitions:
Brian Dober - Promoted to Director of Golf Operations
Mallory Laye - Food & Beverage Operations Manager, transitioned from part time to full time
Shaely Sanetra - Transitioned to Marketing Specialist
Chloe Shepardson - Extended School Coordinator (Part-Time)

Summer Hiring Event was held on two days in the Spring. Both days provided an opportunity for interested candidates to attend walk-in open interviews for Summer Camp and Pool positions.

The internal Culture Club committee hosted nine events to boost staff engagement. These occasions encouraged social interaction and teamwork, strengthening the team's bond.

2024 Awards and Recognition

Wood Dale Park District continued to excel in delivering exceptional programs, services, and facilities, earning recognition from the community and beyond.

The District was received the Daily Herald's Readers' Choice Top Pick award. Awards were determined by a four week poll on dailyherald.com with more than 63,000 votes cast by readers.

2024 Daily Herald Readers' Choice chosen as a Top Pick:
Wood Dale Park District: Best Park District
390 Golf Experience: Best Golf Driving Range
Salt Creek Golf Club: Best Golf Course (Public)

The Beach Waterpark received the 2024 Platinum International Aquatic Safety Award from Ellis & Associates. The award is based on our performance as evaluated during the unannounced audits this season and we consistently "exceed" Ellis & Associates and industry standards in risk management and aquatic safety excellence. Not only did the district receive this recognition, but also the full reimbursement for the cost of audits.

Salt Creek Golf Club was recognized by The Knot as Best of Weddings and received the Couple Choice Award from the Wedding Wire. The Knot Best of Weddings accolade represent the top 5% of the highest and most-rated wedding professionals.

Strengthening Community Engagement

390 Golf Experience continued their relationship as the official partner of the Chicago Wolves. This partnership provided us advertising to the entire Chicagoland market in addition to attending three games providing information and giveaways.

390 Golf Experience was featured in a segment on The Golf Scene on NBC Sports for their summer and winter special episodes.

390 Golf Experience and Salt Creek Golf Club had the privilege of working closely with various local agencies, organizations, and educational institutions. These partnerships have been integral to our mission of fostering a vibrant and inclusive golfing community.

Salt Creek Golf Club collaborated with local schools, contributing to the development of young talent and promoting the sport of golf within an educational setting.

Wood Dale Park District was a sponsor for the City of Wood Dale annual Prairie Fest event and the Wood Dale School District #7 Pura Vida 5K Fun Run.

Wood Dale Park District, Salt Creek Golf Club, and 390 Golf Experience had a table at Wood Dale Public Works Open House where attendees received information and giveaways.

Wood Dale Park District and the City of Wood Dale held another cooperative Summer Movies Series featuring three movie nights showing *The Little Mermaid (2023)* at the Beach Waterpark, *Indian Jones and the Dial of Destiny* at White Oaks Park, and *Super Mario Brothers* at Wood Dale Rd. & Commercial St.

Wood Dale Park District participated in the City of Wood Dale's Memorial Day Parade, Prairie Fest, Tree Lighting, and Trunk or Treat events.

The *Scarewalk* haunted trail event brought together 88 volunteers who participated as actors, guides, and scene leads, creating a thrilling experience for over 1,300 attendees.

5th/3rd Bank Midwest Region volunteers helped get the Community Garden planter boxes ready for the garden season.



Program and Event Highlights

The Park District expanded its offerings with new events, enhanced programs, and strengthened community partnerships.

In addition to existing special events, the Recreation team held ten ***new*** special events in 2024:

- Winter Bash
- Shamrock Search
- Flashlight Dinosaur Egg Hunt
- Adult Egg Hunt at 390 Golf Experience
- DJ on the Deck at the Beach Waterpark
- Blues, Brews, & BBQ
- Looking for Leaves Scavenger Hunt
- Mother/Son Glow Dance
- Pizza Pop-By from the Grinch
- Holiday Light Contest

Summer Camp Swim Lessons were offered for the first time since 2019. These lessons were convenient for families, since park district staff bussed the participants to lessons and back to the Recreation Complex for the rest of the camp day.

Recreation staff assisted with leading activities at two new Wood Dale School District 7 events at the Jr. High including Family Open Gym Night and Family Game Night.

Recreation staff worked with the Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) to make it accessible for families to register their child for both the park district's Rainbow Playschool and afternoon Preschool at ECEC. Park District staff walk registered participants next door to ECEC.

A new Senior Resource Fair was offered for Wood Dale Park District Senior Club members and their guests in July.

390 Golf Experience continued to host the Winter and Fall Golf Leagues, which was widely well received with over 20 teams participating in each.

The Grinch made a visit to 390 Golf Experience visiting patrons in their bays and hitting some golf balls during the *Breakfast with the Grinch* event.

Salt Creek Golf Club hosted the Illinois Junior Golf Association Parent/Junior Tournament that welcomed 70 players from across the Chicagoland area. Of those participating, 40 warmed up by hitting a bucket of balls at 390 Golf Experience.

Salt Creek Golf Club continued our popular Grillin' & Chillin' events featuring live music and outdoor grilling on the scenic back patio.

Salt Creek Golf Club hosted a Bears Viewing Party and Golf event in September to kick-off the football season.

Salt Creek hosted a Memorial Scramble and Turkey Shoot with 60 participants in each event.

Park & Facility Enhancements



Recreation Park has made great progress, with the playground, challenge course, shelter, and retaining wall installed. Final enhancements, including new pickleball and tennis courts, asphalt paths, and sidewalks, are set for completion by Spring 2025.

Significant progress has been made at Central Park, with nearly all play equipment, sidewalks, and the new shelter installed. The project will conclude in early 2025.

Planter boxes and a compost bin were constructed and installed by staff at the new Community Garden at Community Park. A Community Gardens sign and benches were installed, water tank and garbage cans were placed by the garden boxes.

A new camp cell phone was purchased for better parent/guardian communication throughout the camp day.

An electronic countertop kiosk at the front desk was installed to view Seasonal Brochures.

Four basketball hoop height adjusters were installed in the gymnasium.

Staff purchased three new portable pickleball nets.

New park signs were installed at Terrace Park, Brookwood Park, and the Beach Waterpark.

Three additional light poles and LED fixtures were installed in the Beach Waterpark parking lot.

Park staff installed workout equipment, playground surfacing, and a basketball standard at Terrace Park.

The concessions stand at Community Park was repainted by park staff.

The splashpad pump and motor were replaced at the Beach Waterpark. The foot-valves were replaced on the splashpad pump, two waterside pumps, and main pump.

390 Golf Experience installed new netting and buidling sign at the facility.

The roof and gutters were replaced on the Salt Creek Golf Clubhouse.











WOOD DALE
PARK DISTRICT

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