

**Forest Preserves of Winnebago County
BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 – 5:30 PM
Forest Preserve Headquarters



A G E N D A

A. ROLL CALL

B. PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE

C. APPROVAL of MINUTES

Minutes for July 16

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, AWARDS, and PRESENTATIONS

1. Introduction of New Executive Director – Daniel Olson

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Draft Budget – Fiscal Year 2025/2026

G. ACTION ITEMS

1. Bills for July
3. Budget Amendment

H. UPDATES and REPORTS

5. Preserve Operations
9. Natural Resource Management
11. Golf
16. Marketing
18. Human Resources
19. Law Enforcement
7. Partner Groups

I. CLOSED SESSION

1. Land Acquisition
2. Lease Agreement

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNICATIONS

1. August 22 - Bat Hike at Blackhawks Springs Forest Preserve starting at 7:30pm.
2. August 29 - Moth Night with Severson Dells Nature Center at Severson Dells Forest Preserve starting at 8:30pm.
3. September 10 - Invasive & Nuisance Plants in the Forest Landscape: Fall Edition at Blackhawk Springs Forest Preserve starting at 5:30pm.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Next regular Board Meeting – 5:30 PM Wednesday, September 17, Forest Preserve Headquarters

Anyone wishing to address the Board must call 815-877-6100 or email ewendlandt@winnebagoforest.org in advance of the meeting.

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County
Authorization to Process Payment of Bills



August 20, 2025

**TO: THE AUDITOR AND TREASURER OF THE
FOREST PRESERVES OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY.**

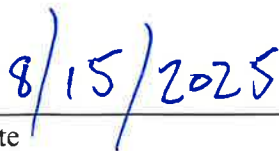
Your Forest Preserves of Winnebago County Board of Commissioners, to whom were referred the following bills in the amount of **\$ 665,166.85** against the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County, have reviewed and approved and therefore respectfully request that orders be drawn on the account of the Forest Preserve District for their payment:

CORPORATE FUND	3001	269,163.76
HEALTH BENEFITS FUND	3185	37,756.25
SOCIAL SECURITY FUND	3192	20,732.39
RETIREMENT FUND	3193	17,293.32
LIABILITY RESERVE FUND	3194	15,350.00
IMPROVEMENT & DEV. FUND	3302	71,124.39
LAND ACQUISITION FUND	3307	4,000.00
CORPORATE FUND	3402	<u>219,746.74</u>
		\$ 655,166.85

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Chapman, Finance Director



Date

RESOLUTION

No. 25-0801

PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR JUNE

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve incurs annual and monthly operating and capital expenditures during its budget cycle; and

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Finance Department compiled the attached invoices relating to Forest Preserve expenditures to be paid for the month of July; and

WHEREAS, our Finance Director, Steve Chapman, has reviewed the invoices and avows them to be accurate and appropriate for payment; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board authorizes the payment of the attached compilation of bills totaling \$655,166.85 to be paid by the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County for the month of July, 2025.

Voting YES _____

Voting NO _____

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted this 20th day of August, 2025.

That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

Jeff Tilly, President
Board of Commissioners

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County

ORDINANCE

No. 25-0802

**Amending the Annual Budget and Appropriations Ordinance
for the period from November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2025**

WHEREAS, the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act (70 ILCS 805/13.4) states “After the adoption of the Annual Appropriation Ordinance, no further appropriations may be made at any other time during that fiscal year except as provided in this Act, provided that the Board of each district may amend such appropriation ordinance from time to time by the same procedure required by this Act for the original adoption of the appropriation ordinance. By a two-thirds vote of all the members constituting the Board, the Board may make appropriations in excess of those authorized by the appropriations ordinance in order to meet an immediate emergency.”; and,

WHEREAS, the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act (70 ILCS 805/6) grants Forest Preserve Districts the “power to acquire lands and grounds”; and,

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County issued \$2,000,000 in Bonds on June 18, 2025 for land acquisition and related costs; and,

WHEREAS, appraisals, attorney’s fees, land acquisition and other costs are allowed to be funded by the Bonds; and,

WHEREAS, in the current budget year, a total budget appropriation of \$100,000 is recommended,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED as follows:

Section 1. That the following line items in the Land Acquisition Fund-2025A (97200) in the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget will be amended in the amount of \$12,000 - Other Professional Services and \$88,000 - Land and will be funded by the Bond proceeds.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon this adoption

Section 3. That the Secretary of the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County is hereby authorized and directed to send two certified copies of this Ordinance to the District Executive Director and one to the Director of Finance.

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County

ORDINANCE

No. 25-0802

**Amending the Annual Budget and Appropriations Ordinance
for the period from November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2025**

Voting Yes

Judith Barnard

Mike Eickman

Gloria Lind

Cheryl Maggio

Jerry Paulson

Emily Porter

Jeff Tilly

Voting No

Judith Barnard

Mike Eickman

Gloria Lind

Cheryl Maggio

Jerry Paulson

Emily Porter

Jeff Tilly

The above and foregoing Ordinance was adopted this 20th day of August, 2025.

Jeff Tilly, President
Board of Commissioners

Preserve Operations

Vaughn Stamm, Director of Operations
Matt Weik & Scott Wallace, Preserve Managers
Bryan Helmold, Facility & Equipment Manager
July 2025 Activities Report

- Brush mowed along roadway at Hononegah.
- Split firewood, filled campground wood bins as needed, and cleaned all fire pits on Thursdays.
- Continued trail maintenance at Clayton Andrews.
- Cleared brush and unwanted voluntary trees from area near Roland Olson parking lot.
- Removed two ash trees from triangle near Hononegah shop.
- Cleaned up outside storage area behind Hononegah shop.
- Repaired broken water hydrant at dump station & water hydrant line at Sugar River campground.
- Repaired showerhead in shower house at Sugar River campground.
- Cleaned up storm damaged trees at Colored Sands on 7/7/25.
- Replaced broken clips on camp posts at Sugar River campground.
- Power washed Macktown outhouses after fireworks lit inside.
- Checked trail systems after storms/high winds.
- Cleaned up storm damage at Atwood Homestead on 7/11/25.
- Hedge trimmed along hard path at Headquarters and sprayed weeds in pavement cracks.
- Delivered equipment to Central Maintenance Shop as needed.
- Cored out around camp posts and laid gravel at Sugar River campground.
- Brush mowed along trail edges and primitive camp at Sugar River.
- Removed 6 dead/dying trees from Sugar River primitive camp.
- Power washed shelters at Kieselburg and Hononegah.
- Performed saw maintenance and cleaning on all saws.
- Removed two dead trees along roadway to Hononegah Towering Pines.
- Met with homeowner about fallen tree from Hononegah Forest Preserve.
- Ground stumps from tree and brush removal projects in various preserves.
- Removed scrub brush from entrance/exit island at Colored Sands Bird Banding station.
- Widened trails at Hononegah (Pushed back brush and logs from edge of trails).
- Widened a portion of Sugar River trail (Pushed back brush and logs from edge of trails).
- Power washed memorial benches at Hononegah and Headquarters.
- Cleaned inside of Macktown Historic District buildings.
- Getz serviced all fire extinguishers on 7/25/25.
- Stained information kiosks at Espenscheid and Indian Hill Forest Preserves.

Preserve Operations

July 2025 Activities Report – Con't.

- Removed two dead trees along rivers edge at Hinchliff.
- Repaired damaged entrance gate at Espenscheid.
- Pressure washed several concrete outhouses and entrance gates.
- Trees trimmed along roadways at Kishwaukee River, Pecatonica River, Seward Bluffs and Trask Bridge.
- Pruned trees and cleaned out storm gutters at the Severson Dells Deer Lodge.
- Repaired damaged urinal at the Severson Dells Deer Lodge.
- Replaced three picnic tables at Espenscheid.
- Restocked firewood at Seward Bluffs Campground and Pecatonica River scout camp.
- Removed elevated slate structures from the Grove play area and placed in storage.
- Brush mowed along roadway at Kishwaukee River.
- Repaired washed out culvert at Seward Bluffs.
- Completed monthly preserve inspections.
- Removal of hazardous trees along the entrance drive at Seward Bluffs.
- Ongoing mowing and maintenance of preserves and trail systems.
- Applied herbicide around signage and parking areas throughout the preserves.
- Removal of storm damaged trees throughout multiple preserves and trail systems.
- Electrical repairs at sites 4 and 38 at the Seward Bluffs campground.
- Pruned low hanging limbs at the Seward Bluffs campground.
- Sanded and painted hand water pumps.

FOREST PRESERVES OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY

November-July

	<u>2023-2024</u>		<u>2024-2025</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total</u>
Small Shelter Res.	49	\$4,165	42	\$3,570
Small Shelter N/Res.	6	\$660	5	\$550
Large Shelter Res.	123	\$13,530	102	\$11,220
Large Shelter N/Res.	5	\$625	9	\$1,125
Electric Res.	153	\$19,125	145	\$18,125
Electric N/Res.	12	\$1,860	20	\$3,100
TOTAL	348	\$39,965	323	\$37,690
ONLINE	236	68%	273	85%
Over 300 Res.	0	\$0	0	\$0
Over 300 N/Res.	0	\$0	0	\$0
Ground Use/Tent Res	13	\$390	11	\$350
Ground Use/Tent N/Res.	1	\$100	2	\$90
Building Use Permits	0	\$0	5	\$500
Commercial Photography Permit	2	\$200	2	\$200
Special Use Permits	2	\$600	8	\$2,410
Rides	12	\$480	20	\$800
TOTAL	30	\$1,770	48	\$4,350
ONLINE	15	50%	25	52%
Equestrian Passes	Number	Total	Number	Total
Yearly Tag Res.	100	\$5,000	88	\$4,400
Yearly Tag N/Res.	45	\$3,150	34	\$2,380
TOTAL	145	\$8,150	122	\$6,780
ONLINE	43	30%	49	40%
Fly Field Passes	Number	Total	Number	Total
Yearly Pass Res.	46	\$1,610	36	\$1,260
Yearly Pass N/Res.	10	\$450	11	\$495
TOTAL	56	\$2,060	47	\$1,755
ONLINE	21	38%	14	30%
Metal Detecting Passes	Number	Total	Number	Total
Yearly Pass Res.	32	\$800	36	\$900
Yearly Pass N/Res.	7	\$245	9	\$315
TOTAL	39	\$1,045	45	\$1,215
ONLINE	7	18%	14	31%
GRAND TOTAL	618	\$52,990	585	\$51,790
ONLINE	322	52%	375	64%

**FOREST PRESERVES OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY
2022-2025
CAMPING REVENUE COMPARISON**

	<u>2022</u> (thru 7/31)	<u>2023</u> (thru 7/30)	<u>2024</u> (thru 7/29)	<u>2025</u> (thru 7/28)
CAMPGROUND				
Hononegah	\$16,669	\$20,252	\$20,471	\$22,933
Seward Bluffs	26,858	30,350	35,776	39,939
Sugar River	<u>47,244</u>	<u>49,670</u>	<u>51,529</u>	<u>50,371</u>
Campground Revenue	\$90,771	\$100,272	\$107,776	\$113,243

SCOUT/YOUTH CAMPGROUNDS

Hononegah	\$160	\$180	\$131	\$45
Pecatonica River	480	490	435	325
Rockford Rotary	275	245	174	145
Seward Bluffs	150	50	0	0
Sugar River	<u>145</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>336</u>	<u>151</u>
Scout/Youth Campground Revenue	\$1,210	\$1,135	\$1,076	\$666

EQUESTRIAN CAMPGROUNDS

Oak Ridge	\$0	\$34	\$227	\$280
Seward Bluffs	<u>462</u>	<u>922</u>	<u>695</u>	<u>1,080</u>
Equestrian Campground Revenue	\$462	\$956	\$922	\$1,360

FIREWOOD

Hononegah	\$1,288	\$1,274	\$2,104	\$1,802
Seward Bluffs	1,344	2,219	2,396	2,245
Sugar River	<u>3,809</u>	<u>4,744</u>	<u>4,260</u>	<u>5,232</u>
Firewood Revenue	\$6,441	\$8,237	\$8,760	\$9,279

<i>TOTAL REVENUE</i>	<i>\$98,884</i>	<i>\$110,600</i>	<i>\$118,534</i>	<i>\$124,548</i>
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NUMBER OF GROUPS AT REGULAR CAMPGROUNDS (DOES NOT INCLUDE EQUESTRIAN AND SCOUT/YOUTH CAMPING)	1,573	1,595	1,559	1,638
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Natural Resource Management

Mike Brien, Director of Natural Resources

Mike Groves, Natural Resources Manager

Keith Krey, Stewardship Coordinator

Liz Hucker, Wildlife Biologist

July 2025 Activities Report

Natural Resource Staff:

- Harvested seeds of bottlebrush grass, shooting stars, sedges, cow parsnip, red baneberry, bulrushes, great angelica, spiderwort, fringed puccoon, scurfy pea, alumroot, white wild indigo, and others from preserves throughout the county.
- Staff spent 238 hours chemically treating invasive weeds, including poison hemlock, bird's foot trefoil, crown vetch, teasel, multiflora rose, and honeysuckle in preserves throughout the county.
- Hauled four truckloads of mulch to Klehm Arboretum from the city yard.
- Hand pulled invasive weeds from the Bell Bowl Prairie salvage at Cedar Cliff Forest Preserve.
- Tractor mowed new prairie plantings at Funderburg and Seward Forest Preserves.
- Cleaned and processed harvested seed as needed.
- Transplanted plants from the Severson Dells nursery.
- Hand seeded restoration areas at Funderburg, Ferguson, and Sugar River Alder Forest Preserves.
- Watered newly planted trees as needed in preserves throughout the county.
- Attended planning meetings for the design of the new natural resource facility with Blakemore Architects.
- Continued working on the FY2025-26 budget.
- Gave staff with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service a tour of several USFWS grant funded projects at Funderburg Forest Preserve.
- Completed monthly grant reports and began reimbursement requests for two awards.
- Continued oversight of several open contracted projects, including installation of nature playground at Klehm Arboretum, tree removals at Atwood Forest Preserve, follow-up herbicide treatments at Kishwaukee Gorge and Funderburg Forest Preserve.
- Continued working on potential land acquisitions.

Wildlife

- Turtle Work
 - Trapped a new male Blanding's turtle in a southwestern preserve, the first ever caught at the site. The individual had a health checkup completed by veterinarians with Brookfield Zoo and the University of Illinois, was fitted with a transmitter, and then released at the point of capture.
 - Continued telemetry of tagged Blanding's and ornate box turtles.
 - Scouted new locations for Blanding's turtle trapping.

Natural Resource Management

July 2025 Activities Report – Cont.

- Smooth Green Snakes
 - Completed surveys of artificial cover objects in preserves with historical populations of smooth green snakes, a species considered in greatest need of conservation under the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan.
 - Documented several nests at a north central preserve, the first ever recorded from the site.
 - Collaborated with Dr. Allison Sacerdote-Valet on her northern Illinois smooth green snake surveillance project.
- Kestrels
 - Checked on kestrel fledglings post banding.
 - Organized release of 6 rehabilitated kestrels from Northern Illinois Raptor Rehab Center (NIRRC) at Deer Run Forest Preserve.
 - Received donation of new kestrel boxes from NIRRC.
- Deployed and monitored camera traps for otter at Deer Run and Pecatonica Wetlands Forest Preserve.
- Deployed acoustic bat monitors at three sites.
- Met with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff to discuss pollinator monitoring.
- Abigail assisted Sand Bluff Bird Observatory with the creation and posting of a volunteer job description.
- Cleared culverts and water control structures at Deer Run Forest Preserve that had been blocked by beaver.

Stewardship Coordinator:

- Held seven restoration workdays at Four Lakes, Cedar Cliff, Kishwaukee Gorge, and Funderburg Forest Preserves.
- Performed maintenance on volunteer tools and equipment.
- Maintained bluebird bird nest boxes in several preserves.
- Attended webinars hosted by The Stewardship Network and Get Connected.
- Served as a judge for 4H general projects at the Winnebago County Fairgrounds.
- Updated records in volunteer tracking software.

2025 Statistics

A total of 207 volunteers earned 2,591.25 service hours from January 2025 through July 2025.

The monetary value of these service hours equals **\$86,780.85**. As of April 2024, the estimated national value of each volunteer hour is currently \$33.49 (based on the Independent Sector).

Golf Operations

Vaughn Stamm, Director of Operations
Rich Rosenstiel, Clubhouse Manager
Tyler Knapp & Mark Freiman, Golf Maintenance Managers
July 2025 Activities Report

Clubhouse Operations:

- FOP Golf Outing at Atwood Homestead Golf Course with 104 participants.
- Winnebago County AM at Macktown Golf Course, July 12 & 13th with 93 participants.
- Hononegah Boosters at Ledges Golf Course, Saturday, July 18th with 100 participants.
- Durand Men's Open at Atwood Homestead Golf Course, Saturday, July 19th with 152 participants.
- Venetian Golf Outing (dual shotgun) at Atwood Homestead Golf Course, Friday, July 25th with
 - AM= 128 participants
 - PM= 112 participants
- Food permits received & facility inspections by health department are upcoming.
- Multiple New-Hires:
 - Sammy Arnaki- Macktown OA
 - Jack Allen- Macktown OA
- Employee Cross-Training:
 - OA / Cashier / F&B
- Daily Operations.

Golf Maintenance:

Ledges

- Mowed all waterways and pond edges using the boom mower to maintain visibility and enhance course appearance.
- Continued trimming all low hanging branches next to greens, fairways and tees.
- Edged all bunkers throughout the golf course.
- Burned brush pile numerous times.
- Filled tee divots with a sand and seed mixture.
- Continued fertility program on greens, tees and fairways.
- Trimmed and removed trees, along with understory vegetation, behind #5 green to enhance aesthetic appeal and open up sightlines.
- Removed dead trees, overgrown trees and understory vegetation along the creek that separates holes 6 & 7 to open up sightlines, enhance visual appeal and improve air circulation. This will help promote healthier turf conditions and reduce disease pressure.
- Completed debris cleanup across the course following multiple rounds of storms.

Golf Operations

July 2025 Activities Report - Cont.

- Removed geo-tube from prior years' pond dredging project. Work included relocating silt, grading the area for proper drainage and preparing the site for seeding to restore turf.
- Assisted at Atwood with restoring irrigation heads to their designated stations after the completion of the driving range tee renovation ensuring proper system functionality.
- Scouted for signs of plant pathogens on greens, tees and fairways during the period of prolonged heat and humidity.
- Applied plant protectants on greens, tees and fairways in response to prolonged heat and humidity.
- Adjusted irrigation cycles daily in response to unusually high nighttime dew points and temperatures.
- Redistributed sand in bunkers following washouts caused by heavy rainfall.
- Hand watered localized dry spots on greens and collars.
- Irrigation repairs including various pilot valves and a drive motor replacement.
- Removed invasive trees from prairie restoration area adjacent to #10 tee complex.
- Met with a police officer and filed a report on July 27th following vandalism on four greens.
- Mechanic repairing and servicing Ledges and Macktown equipment.

Macktown

- Interviewed and hired Scott Young as full time Macktown Golf Mechanic on 7/28/25.
- Scouted for signs of plant pathogens on greens, tees and fairways during the period of prolonged heat and humidity.
- Applied plant protectants on greens, tees and fairways in response to prolonged heat and humidity.
- Redistributed sand in bunkers following washouts caused by heavy rainfall.
- Completed debris cleanup across the course following multiple rounds of storms.
- Removed and cleaned up large fallen oak tree located behind #15 tee complex.
- Repaired and tested multiple, aging irrigation pedestal timing mechanisms.
- Burned brush pile.
- Removed and cleaned up wind damaged trees on holes #9 and #13.
- Filled tee divots with a sand and seed mixture.
- Continued fertility program on greens, tees and fairways.
- Hand watered localized dry spots on greens and collars.
- Repaired leaky irrigation valves that supplies water for #5 & #13 greens.
- Replaced broken irrigation swing joint in #4 fairway.

Golf Operations

July 2025 Activities Report - Cont.

- Removed old, abandoned irrigation supply lines from #3 tee complex and #15 greenside bunker.
- Prepared golf course for Winnebago County Amateur Tournament.
- Edged bunkers and relocated sand for proper playing depth.

Atwood

- New driving range tee complex phase I renovation completed.
- Relocated a section of irrigation pressure maintenance line to facilitate asphalt paving project.
- Scouted tees, greens and fairways for the presence of plant pathogens due to heavy disease pressure from adverse weather conditions.
- Implemented treatment options to maintain healthy turfgrass.
- Restored bunkers to playable condition after 5-inch rainfall.
- Pumped water from bunkers multiple times after severe weather.
- Edged bunkers and relocated sand for proper playing depth.
- Removed large storm damaged tree near #3 tee area.
- Applied soluble fertilizer to tees and fairways.
- Adjusted greens program for adverse weather conditions.

**Forest Preserves of Winnebago County
Golf Course Revenue & Sales
November - July**

	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>
<u>Atwood Homestead</u>				
Green Fees	\$145,389	\$160,283	\$182,619	\$189,904
Cart Rental	\$112,704	\$121,619	\$142,953	\$146,220
Merchandise	\$18,075	\$22,265	\$19,249	\$21,351
Gift Card	\$487	\$575	\$599	\$878
Discount Gift Card	\$38,345	\$46,767	\$56,607	\$68,279
Capital Improvement Fee	\$13,992	\$14,651	\$15,132	\$14,863
Food & Beverage	\$51,787	\$72,094	\$67,066	\$77,656
Golf Club Rental	\$0	\$360	\$670	\$100
Video Gaming & ATM	\$3,074	\$2,736	\$2,872	\$288
Total Atwood Revenue	\$383,853	\$441,351	\$487,766	\$519,538
<u>Ledges</u>				
Green Fees	\$159,109	\$174,663	\$173,898	\$197,563
Cart Rental	\$120,143	\$135,149	\$133,980	\$154,386
Merchandise	\$17,199	\$20,837	\$16,814	\$20,076
Gift Card	\$111	\$245	\$0	\$750
Discount Gift Card	\$44,031	\$53,256	\$54,947	\$65,349
Capital Improvement Fee	\$15,496	\$16,644	\$16,672	\$16,448
Food & Beverage	\$72,998	\$88,287	\$87,950	\$95,589
Golf Club Rental	\$0	\$320	\$340	\$580
Video Gaming & ATM	\$2,144	\$1,048	\$4,545	-\$347
Total Ledges Revenue	\$431,231	\$490,449	\$489,145	\$550,393
<u>Macktown</u>				
Green Fees	\$102,508	\$121,916	\$125,856	\$139,180
Cart Rental	\$81,497	\$98,790	\$98,589	\$109,217
Merchandise	\$10,489	\$13,435	\$10,156	\$11,982
Gift Card	\$0	\$0	\$144	\$250
Discount Gift Card	\$49,666	\$63,096	\$62,287	\$75,409
Capital Improvement Fee	\$10,144	\$12,389	\$11,806	\$11,647
Food & Beverage	\$57,411	\$71,355	\$71,731	\$68,737
Golf Club Rental	\$0	\$120	\$80	\$150
Video Gaming & ATM	\$1,905	\$2,639	\$2,018	\$0
Total Macktown Revenue	\$313,620	\$383,741	\$382,666	\$416,570
<u>Headquarters</u>				
Gift Card	\$2,554	\$1,430	\$3,120	\$1,250
Discount Gift Card	\$30,923	\$27,966	\$29,150	\$28,988
Golf Passes	\$293,510	\$314,585	\$327,640	\$352,645
Capital Improvement Fee	\$32,820	\$32,338	\$32,880	\$35,400
Tournaments	\$12,561	\$16,818	\$18,610	\$18,825
Private Golf Cart Registration	\$11,650	\$11,650	\$10,150	\$9,500
Total Headquarters Revenue	\$384,018	\$404,787	\$421,550	\$446,608
Total Golf Course Revenue	\$1,512,722	\$1,720,327	\$1,781,127	\$1,933,109

Option not available for that season

**Forest Preserves of Winnebago County
Golf Course Revenue & Sales
November - July**

	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>
<u>Rounds Played</u>				
Atwood	13,944	15,533	17,309	18,946
Ledges	13,925	15,575	15,239	17,630
Macktown	11,764	14,302	14,298	15,011
Total Rounds Played	39,633	45,410	46,846	51,587
<u>Golf Passes</u>				
Premier Card Res.	31	28	28	33
Premier Card Res.-Refer-A-Friend	36	37	47	50
Premier Card Non-Res.	1	2	2	3
Premier Card Non-Res.-Refer-A-Friend	3	1	1	4
Player Card Res.	189	164	162	173
Player Card Res.-Refer-A-Friend	252	278	279	294
Player Card Non-Res.	11	9	11	15
Player Card Non-Res.-Refer-A-Friend	24	20	18	18
Student Card Res.	68	73	102	113
Student Card Non-Res.	5	10	10	7
Team Pass	1	0	1	0
Practice Range Res.	25	19	21	0
Practice Range Non-Res.	0	0	0	0
Total Passes	646	641	682	710
<u>Private Golf Cart Registration</u>				
Outside Storage	3	3	2	2
Home Storage	15	14	13	12
Total Private Golf Cart Registration	18	17	15	14

Marketing & Communication Relations

Sarah Lorenz, Communications Coordinator
July 2025 Activities Report

Marketing/Advertising:

- General visitorship (Mid-West Family targeted display ad running seasonally).
- GoRockford advertising (Outdoor Activities, Family Fun).
- Meta ad (Facebook & Instagram) ad ran 6/19-6/23 to attract out-of-town visitors to sites.
 - Reach: 17,964
 - Views: 28,131
 - Engagement: 218
- Summer edition of Nature's Notebook printed and published digitally.
- Developing welcome and regulation signage to be posted at the entrance of the Nancy Olson Children's Garden at Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden.
- Work has begun on the 2026 wall calendar and the Fall edition of Nature's Notebook publication.
- Designed and ordered branded magnets as 815 Day scavenger hunt prize.
- Created bluebird nest box signs for Stewardship Coordinator Keith.
- Completed and printed golf capital improvement posters for clubhouses.
- Continued work on welcome and regulation signage to be posted at the entrance of the Nancy Olson Children's Garden at Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden.

Media Relations:

- 2025 Preserve Passport metrics:
 - Active teams as of 8/8: 78 (+3)
 - Submissions as of 8/8: 2,174 (+90)
- Interview and site tours conducted with Shaw Media for Lake Lifestyle magazine article.
 - Thank you to Vaughn Stamm for assisting
 - Article will publish in September issue of the magazine
- Press release, media alert sent promoting the opening of Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden's natural playground.
- August digital newsletter to be sent to subscribers on 8/21.
 - September digital newsletter scheduled for 9/18
- Developed digital nature-themed scavenger hunt for Rockford Day / 815 Day.
- Attended IPRA Communications & Marketing Summit 8/7.

Marketing & Communication Relations

July 2025 Activities Report – Cont.

Events/Programs:

- Walk With U program at Blackhawk Springs 8/2, Walk-Up Fishing Clinic with IDNR 8/6, 815 Day (included digital nature-themed scavenger hunt + 15% discount on merchandise).
- Ribbon cutting celebrating the opening of the natural playground in Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden's Nancy Olson Children's Garden 8/18.
- Upcoming: Bat Hike 8/22, Moth Night 8/29, Invasive & Nuisance Plants in the Forest Landscape: Fall Edition with Illinois Extension 9/10, Guided Hike at Roland Olson 9/24.

Presentations & Tabling

- Tabled at Winnebago County Fair 8/13 – 8/17
 - Thank you to all staff and board members who helped work the booth!

Social Media (July– August 8, 2025)

- FPWC Facebook: 5,536 followers (+61)
 - Reach: 14,590 (-54.5%)
 - Engagement: 1,266 (-29.7%)
 - Views: 58,814 (-32.6%)
- FPWC Instagram: 1,978 followers (+29)
 - Reach: 2,535 (+27.5%%)
 - Engagement: 755 (-20.3%)
 - Views: 14,302 (-5%)

Human Resources

Jody Kennay, Human Resources Manager
July 2025 Activities Report

Orientations June 11 - August 13	6 Sessions
Seasonal and Full Time Hires Attending Orientation	11 Attended (Total since March 18th is 140)
Full-Time and Seasonal Open Requisitions	3 (Golf Course Maintenance, Golf Course Mechanic, Natural Resources Assistant)
New Hires	3 Seasonal (Outside Attendants) 3 Full Time (Maintenance Supervisor, Ranger, Golf Course Mechanic)
Resignations	3 (Seasonal - back to school) 2 Full Time
Employee Appreciation Picnic Preparations (August 19th at Atwood Homestead Forest Preserve)	Catering (hamburgers, brats and chicken) "Getting to Know You" pre-lunch game Welcome and Appreciation - Vaughn Corn Hole Championship after lunch Introduction from Dan

Projects:

- **Updating New Employee Orientation** (Discovering quality videos, what do other FPs do, use of/purchasing videos, working with Legal on topic requirements, etc.).
- **Starting Compensation Study** (current state, pain points, research, other Preserve information, compensation analysis, etc.).
- Determining process for **Seasonal Workers offboarding**.
- Gain agreement on Insurance **GPT program options** and communicate with FT employees.

Law Enforcement

July 2025 Activities Report

Brief Activity Summary

- There were 0 Criminal arrests
- There were 11 Calls for service inside of the Forest Preserves
- There were 4 Reports written
- There were 0 Ordinance violations (citations) written
- There were 1 Written warnings
- There were 14 Verbal warnings
- There were 5 Airfield permits
- There were 10 Equestrian bridle tags
- There were 13 Fishing license checks
- There were 48 Occupied shelter house patrols
- There were 52 Campground patrols
- There were 33 Patrols on trail systems
- There were 67 Directed patrol hours