



Stewardship Report

2020 Year in Review



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*This report was written and designed
by the Northbrook Park District
Marketing & Communications Division.*



Our **Mission**

To enhance our community by providing outstanding services, parks and facilities through environmental, social and financial stewardship



Our **Vision**

To be recognized as a national leader in delivering innovative park and recreation services based on responsiveness, trust and accountability to our community

Northbrook Park District Board of Commissioners & Executive Director



Mary Ann Chambers
President



Lisa Chalem
Vice President



Matthew Curin



Penelope Randel



Michael Schyman



Jeffrey Simon



Michael Ziering



Molly Hamer
Executive Director

Senior Leadership Team

Greg Baron, Director of Golf Operations
Ed Dalton, Director of Parks & Properties
Eileen Loftus, Director of Recreation
Mindy Munn, Director of Administration & Finance
Wendy Peterson, Executive Administrative Assistant
Joan Scovic, Director of Marketing & Communications

Dear Northbrook Residents,

Looking in the rear-view mirror at 2020, we can see the long, winding, sometimes bumpy road we all travelled through a year of COVID-19. The dedication and resilience of Park District staff smoothed out the road, providing creative and innovative virtual programming to engage the entire homebound community. Our parks, trails and open spaces provided breaks from the computer screen and opportunities to get some fresh air, exercise or a quiet walk. Throughout the year, as guidance, guidelines and restrictions were revised and relaxed, the Northbrook Park District staff provided safe, creative programming and inspiring open spaces to refresh body and soul, proving recreation is essential to the community's quality of life.

2020 was not just a year of challenges. It was also a year of achievements! The long awaited, much anticipated Techny Prairie Activity Center was completed in December. The 44,200 square-foot Net Zero Energy facility for recreation and fitness opened on time and on budget. The center embodies the District's Mission to enhance our community by providing outstanding services, parks and facilities through environmental, social and financial stewardship. From the walking track with bright windows offering sweeping views of the prairie and Anetsberger Golf Course to the spacious fitness floor with the latest equipment, Techny Prairie Activity Center truly is Your Place to Play!

Across town at Heritage Oaks Golf Club, the former Sportsman's Country Club, the work of revitalization and renovation that started in 2019 never stopped. The energy, effort and hard work accomplished in 2020 has set the stage for Heritage Oaks Golf Club to become a premier destination for golf and recreation in Northbrook. Heritage Oaks Golf Club is scheduled to open in August 2021 and will feature a new clubhouse with enhanced dining and indoor golf the community can enjoy year-round.

During renovations at Heritage Oaks Golf Club golfers rediscovered the nine-hole, par-3 Anetsberger Golf Course, creating a record year for golf rounds and memberships. It was wonderful to see so many people enjoy the game surrounded by the beauty and nature of Techny Prairie Park and Fields.

The Northbrook Park District is dedicated to providing outstanding opportunities for recreation through responsible management of our resources. We are anxious to see you in the parks, facilities and special events throughout the coming year. Neighbors become friends in the park!

Mary Ann Chambers, President
Northbrook Park District Board

Molly Hamer, Executive Director
Northbrook Park District

2018–2022: New Places to Play

The Northbrook Park District is committed to thoughtful planning and leadership to create spaces where the community can relax, recharge and connect. Two major projects included in the District's 2018-2022: New Places to Play initiative reached significant milestones in 2020—the completion of Techny Prairie Activity Center and the start of renovations at Heritage Oaks Golf Club (formerly Sportsman's Country Club). These projects provide unparalleled amenities that will enhance the lives of Northbrook residents for years to come.

Techny Prairie Activity Center - Your Place to Play

After breaking ground in July 2019, Techny Prairie Activity Center (TPAC)—the District's newest space for fitness and recreation—finalized construction in December 2020. A Net Zero Energy building designed by Chicago-based architects Wight & Company, the total amount of energy generated with solar panels is greater than or equal to the amount of energy used by the building. Corporate Construction Services directed the construction throughout the building process. With a forward-thinking design and sustainable practices, TPAC offers a place where the community can discover new activities and ways to play.



The First Precast Wall Installed February 2020



Walls and Roof Installed April 2020



Fitness Floor with Cardio, Strength and Functional Fitness Equipment

Looking Inside Techny Prairie Activity Center

The 6,000 square foot cardio, strength and functional fitness area offers scenic views of Techny Prairie Park and Fields. With large windows bringing in natural light and 26-foot-high ceilings, the space is airy and bright—the perfect setting to continue your fitness journey. Overlooking the fitness floor, an indoor track offers a sweeping second-floor perspective of Anetsberger Golf Course and surrounding parkland through strategically placed windows. The 8-laps-per-mile track circles the cardio and strength area, fitness studios and gymnasium, providing an ever changing view around each turn.

The 10,197 square foot gymnasium features maple wood flooring and a soaring wood-paneled wall—an ideal space to host a variety of youth and adult programs and events including basketball, volleyball, pickleball and rental opportunities.

Two state-of-the-art fitness studios located on the second floor offer a variety of options from mind/body classes to low-impact options and high-intensity workouts. Instructors have the ability to set the scene for each class with dimmable and flexible lighting, an integrated sound system, powered window coverings and ceiling fans. Members can also enjoy group fitness programs at home with virtual and livestreamed options through Fitness On Demand™.



Gymnasium



Indoor Track



Fitness Studio A



The Park District held a ribbon cutting event at Techny Prairie Activity Center on December 27, 2020. This ceremony provided an opportunity to recognize staff who played a vital role in the planning, completion and operations of this new facility.

Photos top to bottom, left to right:

The 2020 Board of Commissioners cutting the ceremonial ribbon

Board Vice President Chalem and President Chambers with dedication plaque

Park District staff in front lobby

Recreation Division Manager Angus Shields on the fitness floor

Board Commissioners and District staff at the dedication event



In addition to the sustainable practices employed with construction of the building at Techny Prairie Activity Center, the land surrounding the building has been carefully designed as well.

A 200-foot bioswale has been added to the parking lot at TPAC. This bioswale adds beauty to the landscape, increases the amount of native vegetation to support animals, butterflies, birds and other pollinators, lowers the temperature of a hot asphalt parking lot and reduces the frequency of mowing. In addition, the native plants in the bioswale help reduce runoff and enhance the buffering capacity of stormwater. Plants help filter pollutants from cars, salts, and other substances utilizing their extensive 10-foot root systems before the water is sent to the nearby waterways of the Techny Prairie Basin and the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River on the park's eastern border.

Native grasses and other native plants within the landscaping at Techny Prairie Activity Center help reduce the need for frequent mowing while adding beauty to the area surrounding the building's exterior. A similar planting strategy through the use of native plants has been used over the years in other areas throughout the District, including the Trail Through Time and Heritage Oaks Golf Club.

Creating Sustainable Spaces

From the Net Zero Energy building design of Techny Prairie Activity Center to stormwater and irrigation improvements at Heritage Oaks Golf Club, sustainability is at the forefront of the District's capital projects.

A Net Zero Energy Building

Boasting an ecologically sound, future forward design, Techny Prairie Activity Center was built as a Net Zero Energy building—a highly energy efficient facility featuring 833 photovoltaic (solar) panels installed on the roof to generate energy that is greater than or equal to the amount of energy used annually. Other design elements include Polyisocyanurate insulation with high R-values for greater thermal resistance, high-performance, triple-paned windows that are purposefully placed throughout the building, a high-efficiency HVAC system and LED lighting. These details contribute to the overall efficiency of the building.

To help fund the design, construction and materials to achieve Net Zero Energy Building status, the facility was awarded a \$1.78 million grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation. The Net Zero Energy Building Program awards grants to nonprofit, government and higher education organizations for exemplary buildings that maximize energy efficiency.

Recycling and Water Use Reduction

During renovation and construction at Heritage Oaks Golf Club, materials were reused and recycled whenever possible, all the way down to pulverizing asphalt for the new Clubhouse foundation.

“Everything we removed, we put someplace else, whether it was soil or asphalt,” said Ed Dalton, Director of Parks and Properties. “It’s designed to be a balanced site.”

Ponds at Heritage Oaks Golf Club were enlarged and deepened to improve both storm water management and the irrigation system to preserve water resources. Bioswales were added to funnel stormwater runoff.

A new type of grass, creeping bentgrass, was planted on the course. This grass is more resistant to disease and day to day wear and will add to the beauty of the fairways and greens.



Heritage Oaks: Enhancing the Legacy

This Northbrook Park District property, with its tree-lined 27 holes of golf, practice range equipped with TrackMan technology, golf academy and indoor golf simulators, offers something for everyone. With the elevated Acorn Grill + Terrace overlooking the Audubon-certified courses, Heritage Oaks Golf Club welcomes you—for golf, for a meal, for a timeless experience.

The Northbrook Park District embarked on the renovation and construction project at Heritage Oaks Golf Club, formerly known as Sportsman's Country Club, based on survey feedback from residents who listed it as a priority. This property is a tremendous asset to the community and the top goals for the project were to improve the golf courses and create an inviting year-round destination for all.

The Northbrook Park District Board of Commissioners allocated \$13 million for this project. Course and range improvements were designed by Libertyville-based Jacobson Golf Course Design, Inc. The District hired RATIO Architects of Chicago to design the clubhouse and Gewalt Hamilton Associates Inc. of Vernon Hills to provide civil engineering services for the property. Corporate Construction Services of Downers Grove served as construction manager and advisor overseeing both the course renovations and clubhouse construction.

The projected opening date for Heritage Oaks Golf Club is late summer 2021.



Board Tour



New Bentgrass Growing on the Fairways



New Forward Tees on the Classic 18



Anetsberger Golf Course: A Hidden Gem

Enhancements underway at Heritage Oaks Golf Club prompted golfers to find an alternative place to play golf in Northbrook. As a result, 2020 is the year players discovered one of Northbrook Park District's hidden gems, Anetsberger Golf Course. The scenic nine hole Par 3 course located at Techny Prairie Park and Fields had a record year—with more than 23,000 tee times booked in 2020.

In May, golfers headed to Anetsberger after courses were allowed to reopen by the state. The use of online tee time reservations allowed for minimal contact with staff and the course provided ample physical distancing and open space for individuals, couples and families to enjoy the game and the outdoors.

Head Golf Professional John Billiter believes players were drawn to Anetsberger's beauty, tranquil atmosphere and the appeal of a course that could be played in 90 minutes.

"When other activities weren't taking place, golf was available," Billiter said. "Between people having flexibility due to working from home and there not being other recreational activities, golf did really well. That was the message we heard nationwide—golf was rediscovered in 2020."

Nearly 200 season memberships were sold, including adult, senior, family and youth memberships. Anetsberger also hosted a women's league with 244 rounds played.

While many golfers are looking forward to the reopening of Heritage Oaks Golf Club in August 2021, Billiter said Anetsberger will likely maintain its newfound popularity for many seasons to come.

"I think we're going to have a different business than what we've had over the last 10 years solely because we introduced this facility to people in 2020 who had never before experienced it." Billiter said.

Maintaining Facilities, Continuing Construction

While the community stayed safely at home in the spring, staff members were busy behind the scenes ensuring buildings remained in top shape during the stay at home order. Tasks included sanitization, particularly of high-touch areas such as doorknobs, monitoring HVAC systems and plumbing to keep water circulating and essential landscaping and grounds maintenance. For the first time, both indoor ice rinks were melted at the Northbrook Sports Center, since the facility was not in use and skaters were only allowed to participate in virtual, off-ice activities.

Among the most difficult and emotional tasks for staff was the temporary removal of swings and basketball hoops at playgrounds. Once the state moved into Phase 4 of Restore Illinois in June, equipment was reinstalled and playgrounds were opened so the public could enjoy them.

Construction was considered an essential activity during Governor JB Pritzker's stay at home orders. This allowed work at Techny Prairie Activity Center and renovations at Heritage Oaks Golf Club to continue, ensuring both projects stayed within their timelines.





Enjoying Nature: An Essential Activity

In the early weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic, Northbrook Park District did its part to encourage the community to avoid large gatherings and stay home as much as possible. At the same time, the District wanted people to feel free to stay active and enjoy the outdoors. While playgrounds and basketball, tennis and pickleball courts were off limits, trails and pathways remained open. Signage was added to parks and facilities with safety guidelines while directional signage helped ensure spacing and limit contact between patrons.

"It was disheartening to tell people to go outside and use the parks, but not all the amenities," recalls Ed Dalton, Director of Parks and Properties.

At the same time, Dalton said, without some of the traditional park activities available, people had the opportunity to experience the gorgeous green space and trails throughout the District and connect with nature. With many people working and learning from home, they suddenly had the time to explore the many gems in the District's outdoor areas.

"Nature was rediscovered during this pandemic and rediscovering the outdoors and spending time with family is something that will remain long after COVID-19," Dalton said.

Books and Nature: An Outdoor Collaboration



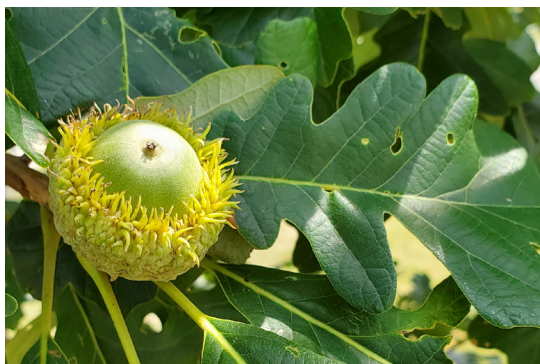
Northbrook's first Book Stroll was the result of a cooperative effort between the Park District and the Northbrook Library. Located first in Techny Prairie Park and Fields' Trail Through Time and later moved to Village Green Park, the Book Stroll featured the classic children's book *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen. Community members were able to enjoy reading the pages of a classic children's story as they walked along the trail while also using their imagination to go on their own "bear hunt" in the park.

"The Northbrook Park District was excited to partner with the Northbrook Public Library to provide a lovely natural setting for the Book Stroll at the Trail Through Time and Village Green Park," said Director of Marketing & Communications Joan Scovic. "The Book Stroll allowed families the opportunity to spend time together, enjoy a story in the park, get some exercise, and take a break from all of the screen time during COVID-19."



Growing a Greener Tomorrow

In September, the District teamed with Go Green Northbrook to plant 22 trees at Salceda Park, including American Hornbeam, American Plum, Hackberry, Shagbark Hickory, Chinkapin Oak, Shingle Oak, Wahoo and Umbrella Tree Magnolia. The project replaced trees lost to the Emerald Ash Borer in the last few years, as well as Austrian Pines and several Crabapple trees that were declining in health. Go Green Northbrook worked with Ed Dalton, Director of Parks and Properties, to apply for a grant from the Chicago Region Trees Initiative, located at the Morton Arboretum, which provided 20 of the trees. Go Green Northbrook raised funds for the purchase of two additional trees.



Northbrook Park District celebrated the mighty oak during Oak Awareness Month in October, also known as OAKtober, with videos, contests and education. Nearly 800 oak trees populate the District, helping to provide shade, animal habitats and environmental benefits.

Delivering Outstanding Services

Staying Connected Virtually

As families stayed home in 2020, the Northbrook Park District brought the fun to them. Through ingenuity and creative planning, Recreation staff worked to convert in-person activities to virtual programming for the community to enjoy. Launched in April, the Connect-2-Play series provided a variety of activities delivering learning and engagement.

Zoom soon became a platform for popular events such as Kids Game Show Hour and Northbrook Family Trivia Night. These events helped support local restaurants by awarding gift cards as prizes.

Other popular activities included guided painting classes with Recreation Supervisor Taylor Witter, who also provided a variety of craft and STEM activities. Recreation Supervisor Cameron Edelman started a popular LEGO program, Performing Arts Supervisor Drew Kambach taught dance and theatre classes, while Recreation Supervisor Nancy Eschker kept preschoolers busy with virtual cooking activities and science experiments, often delivering items personally so parents didn't have to go out for needed supplies.

“We wanted to get the message out to people that whatever type of program they were looking for at home, we were going to find a way to provide it,” said Katie Kotloski, Recreation Division Manager. “Staff surpassed expectations, tapping into their own talents and broadening their skills to deliver playtime, education, arts and active fun, just as they would in person.”





Staying Connected

Recreation staff worked to provide a sense of excitement and fun and transformed the annual Spring Bunny event into a Bunny Stop, allowing families to drive through and take a photo with the Bunny while remaining in their cars and staying physically distanced.

“I cried happy tears so many times that day,” Recreation Manager Kotloski recalled. “People were thrilled to see us and see the Bunny. It felt so good to be back with the community again, even from a distance.”

The District continued to add more in-person outdoor events as state and local health regulations allowed, including Outdoor Paint Nights, Movie in the Park, Family Campout, Music at Meadowhill and the Halloween 3K Fun Run.

In the parks, staff developed new guidelines for outdoor tennis and pickleball and offered local businesses the opportunity to operate on District property to provide additional services to residents. Staff members also served as Park Ambassadors to monitor the increased activity in the parks.



Fun in the Sun

As warmer weather approached and the state moved into Phase 4 of Restore Illinois, the Northbrook Park District worked to provide summer camp opportunities with a few adjustments. Face coverings were required, and desks borrowed from School District 28 helped children adhere to physical distancing requirements. Campers enjoyed plenty of outdoor time at the Leisure Center and Indian Ridge Park.

“At the end of each day from camp, Jayden raves about what a fun day he had,” said Northbrook resident Russell De Leon, whose son attended Camp Creative at the Leisure Center. “In addition to sports, he likes the outdoor mini adventures and the arts.”

Along with camp, children stayed active in several outdoor athletic activities, including soccer, baseball, t-ball, lacrosse and flag football, as well as outdoor gym and multisport classes throughout the summer.

Serving Seniors

While COVID-19 restrictions and stay-at-home orders kept people at home, Recreation Supervisor Laura Wassinger wanted to make sure local seniors weren't isolated.

Wassinger contacted Senior Center members to keep them connected, remembering birthdays and sending personalized cards to brighten spirits. She also organized virtual programming specifically for seniors including bingo, lectures and coffee discussions via Zoom.

Momentum—the bimonthly newsletter sent to Senior Center members—was redeveloped to include increased personal mentions, photos and added activities including themed word searches and Sudoku puzzles. Resources and workshops were added, including information about obtaining assistance from the Northfield Township Food Pantry and how to use platforms such as Zoom and social media to stay connected to fellow members and loved ones.

A drive to collect cloth face coverings for Senior Center members was held to support those with a need. Wassinger delivered fabric and thread to the members of the Crafty Ladies, a popular Senior Center sewing group that volunteered to assist with the drive. Face coverings were also collected in a donation drop box.

Once seniors could return for in-person programming, the Senior Center was moved to the Village Green Center, creating a dedicated space for seniors with plenty of room for physical distancing and a patio for outdoor activities.

In August, the Senior Center hosted its first in-person events but then reverted back to virtual programming in November due to revised COVID-19 protocols.





The Show Must Go Online...and Outdoors

Even when the Northbrook Theatre stage was dark, Performing Arts staff were determined to continue what they do best—providing instruction for participants and entertainment to the community. Northbrook Theatre Youth Company worked virtually with actors ages 8-14 to deliver Beat by Beat Production's *The Show Must Go Online!* and presented the show via YouTube in September.

Northbrook Theatre Youth Company's first in-person show in 2020, *We Are Monsters*, took place Halloween weekend outdoors at the Ed Rudolph Velodrome. With the size of the Velodrome providing adequate space for physical distancing, the site provided the District an ideal outdoor entertainment venue.

The Velodrome also hosted the Music at Meadowhill concert series in the summer inviting families to enjoy live music outdoors.

"We knew families were missing traditional concert events like Tuesdays in the Park and the Velodrome offered an excellent alternative location," said Performing Arts Manager Erin Sweet. "We used pre-registration to ensure attendance followed guidelines and the audience could enjoy the shows comfortably while remaining physically distanced. We were excited to bring this outdoor entertainment to the community!"

A Show of Strength: Teams Elite

After placing first in their division at the Spring Cup in Milan, Italy in 2019, Teams Elite Junior returned to Milan for a second time in February 2020. The synchronized skating team earned a silver medal and a coveted spot in the 2020 International Skating Union (ISU) World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships in Nottingham, Great Britain.

On February 1, Teams Elite Junior placed fifth overall against some of the best synchronized skating teams in the world at the French Cup in Rouen, France. After traveling to Great Britain to skate in the World Junior competition, the pandemic shut down the event, forcing the skaters to return home. Teams Elite Junior still finished strong with a combined Spring Cup and French Cup score of 363.14 points placing them third in the ISU Challenger Series.

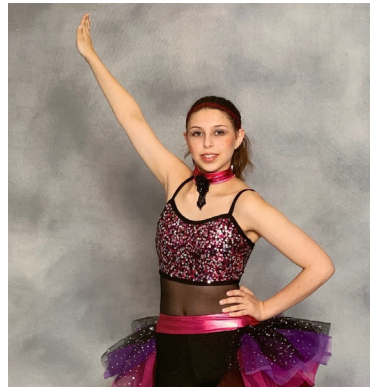
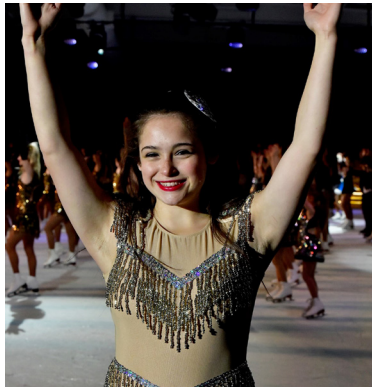
Other Teams Elite wins for the 2019-2020 season included:

- First place for Preliminary, Pre-Juvenile, Juvenile, Intermediate and Novice in the 2020 Midwestern Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships.
- First place for Juvenile and Novice in the 2020 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships, with Junior earning second place and Intermediate, third place.



Northbrook-On-Ice Celebrates Its Legacy

For graduating high school seniors, headlining Northbrook-On-Ice as an Icette is a dream they've had since childhood. A Northbrook tradition since 1969, the Icettes is a high-level skating/dance program created in the style of the Ice Follies, featuring dazzling costumes and theatrical dance production numbers. In April, Icettes received news the annual show that has been a Northbrook Park District experience for more than 50 years could not take place due to COVID-19 restrictions. Skaters came together and made the best of a difficult situation, demonstrating the strength, inspiration and positivity the Icette program personifies. On Mother's Day weekend, when the show has historically taken place, the Icettes held a drive-through parade starting at the Northbrook Sports Center, with fans holding signs in their yards and on street corners to show their support. Senior Icettes were also showcased on the Northbrook Park District's Facebook page and in a Mother's Day tribute video on the District's YouTube channel.





Hitting the Courts, Returning to Play

Tennis and pickleball enthusiasts were able to return to their favorite racquet sports in mid-May following safety guidelines. This included the six new pickleball courts at Stonegate Park, the District's first dedicated space for pickleball, allowing for walk-on play and select programs to take place with physical distancing. By June, the District reopened Batting Cages, Northbrook Dog Park and the Ed Rudolph Velodrome.

Just in time for the community to enjoy additional outdoor amenities, the District made improvements to the Meadowhill Park basketball court, repairing cracks and adding a new color coating. Similar work was done at the Velodrome, select tennis courts and the practice wall at Wood Oaks Green Park.

Community Collaboration

Glenview-Northbrook Coronavirus Task Force

A key partnership began in February 2020 when the District joined with other community agencies to form the Glenview-Northbrook Coronavirus Task Force. The task force included the Northbrook Park District, Glenview Park District, Village of Northbrook, Village of Glenview, area school districts, libraries and other local leaders who came together to keep the community informed of developments throughout the pandemic--from face covering mandates and limits on group sizes to how to help agencies like the Northfield Township Food Pantry. The group met weekly, starting with in-person discussion in February, moving quickly to virtual meetings in mid-March, sending updates and important information to the public via a website created by Northbrook Public Library staff, social media and Community Collaboration emails. The communication among these community leaders was integral as the task force worked together throughout the pandemic to develop strategies, inform the public and provide opportunities for the collective community.

Northbrook Park District Executive Director Molly Hamer and Director of Marketing and Communications Joan Scovic worked with Glenview's Executive Director Michael McCarty and Director of Brand Strategies and Community Engagement Jena Johnson to write an article detailing this key partnership and how these agencies communicated during a crisis. The article was published in the November/December 2020 issue of *Illinois Parks & Recreation Magazine*.



Partnering for Education

Northbrook Park District expanded its partnerships with local school districts in 2020 as the community faced a unique school year of hybrid and remote learning and a need for alternative spaces to accommodate guidelines.

Among these efforts was a partnership with Northbrook School District 27 to provide space at the Leisure Center for kindergarten students to ensure the school district's youngest students could attend school daily while having more space to physically distance. The Park District obtained the facility, formerly Indian Ridge School, from District 27 in 1984 after the approval of a referendum to purchase the school and surrounding land, bringing a longstanding partnership full circle. The District also moved Senior Center programs out of the Leisure Center facility to provide a safer, separated location dedicated to senior users.

With working parents in need of childcare during the pandemic, the Park District created Community TIES, a day program for children in grades K-8 with hybrid school schedules. Held at the Northbrook Sports Center, the program offered e-learning assistance, arts and crafts and physical activities from September to December.

Several locations were willingly shared with area schools to meet their needs including space at Village Green for the students of St. Norbert's School and use of the gym at Greenbriar School as an additional classroom. The Park District's outdoor space was used in the fall by School District 28 with the placement of tents at Meadowhill Park allowing students to learn in the fresh air while staying physically distanced.

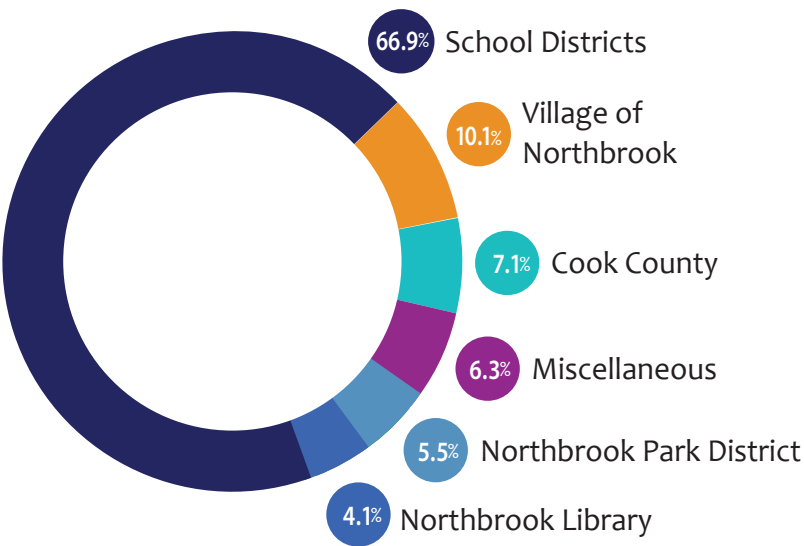
The Park District's long running Adventure Campus continued, providing before and after school care to School Districts 27, 30 and 31, with flexible scheduling to accommodate hybrid learning.

Fiscal Integrity

Park District programs and services are funded largely through user fees, while property tax revenue primarily funds operational and maintenance costs of park amenities and facilities. The District’s tax rate for the 2020 fiscal year was \$0.416 per \$100 of assessed value, compared to \$0.455 in the previous year.

Overview of Northbrook Property Taxes

The Park District represents 5.5% of the total property tax bill for Northbrook residents.



Finances at a Glance

Fiscal Year	2010	2020
Population	34,688	33,170
Tax Rate	\$0.334	\$0.416
Total Budget	\$23,692,033	\$42,532,749
Outstanding Debt	\$11,750,000	\$11,615,000

Revenue & Resources

For the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020, revenue totaled \$18.8 million. The largest sources of revenue were derived from property taxes (64%) and user fees (16%).

64% **Property Taxes**

Taxes collected from property owners based on an assessed valuation and tax rate

16% **User Fees**

Fees charged for recreation programs; reviewed annually by staff

11% **Developer Impact Fees & Grants**

One-time alternative revenue sources used to fund current and future capital projects

5% **Other**

Revenues including surplus property, investment income and miscellaneous reimbursements

4% **Facility Rentals**

Fees charged to rent District facilities, such as ice rinks, athletic fields, meeting rooms and picnic areas

Expenditures

For the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020, expenses totaled \$34.4 million. The Park District funded \$20.3 million in capital improvements during the fiscal year.

59% **Capital Projects**

Projects identified within the District's 10-year Capital Improvement Plan including construction costs for Techny Prairie Activity Center and Clubhouse at Heritage Oaks Golf Club

16% **Salaries and Wages**

Personnel costs for the District's full-time, part-time and seasonal employees

10% **Contractual Services**

Expenditures for services provided by outside contractors such as mowing services and program providers

6% **Benefits**

Expenditures for employee health insurance premiums and employer costs associated with Social Security, Medicare and pension benefits

6% **Debt Service**

Principal and interest payments owed on outstanding debt issues

3% **Supplies**

Materials and supplies needed to provide recreation programs and park maintenance services

Noteworthy District Achievements

Excelling in Finance

The District continues to receive recognition for its strong financial foundation. For the 27th consecutive year, the District received the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting** from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

For the past 18 years, the District has received the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The award reflects the commitment of the District to meet the highest principals of government budgeting.

Moody's Investor's Service assigned a Aaa rating to Northbrook Park District's \$5.9 million General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2020. The bonds were used for the new Techny Prairie Activity Center. This rating reflects the District's large tax base, strong operating reserves and liquidity and low debt and pension burdens. With a stable financial outlook, Moody's expects the District will maintain its healthy reserves and low debt burden.

Awards and Grants

Northbrook Theatre received \$13,900 in grant funding from the Illinois Arts Agency.

The District's Human Resources Division was recognized with the Exceptional Workplace Award from the Illinois Park and Recreation Association.

The District's Marketing & Communications Division was recognized with three awards from the Illinois Park and Recreation Association.

- First Place for Public Relations – Teams Elite Media Coverage
- Most Engaging (Showcase 10th Anniversary Category) – 2017 4th of July Parade 90th Anniversary Balloon entry
- Retro Brochure: Best Photography (Showcase 10th Anniversary Category) – 1989 Spring Guide

The Marketing & Communications Division was also recognized with two awards in the IAPD/IPRA Give Us Your Best Shot photo contest.

- Third Place – Northbrook Community Musical Photo – “Newsies Unite” by Sally Norlie
- Third Place – Teams Elite Junior Photo – “Death Spiral” by Joy Stuart

