

MEDFORD PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

HEALTHY LIVES | HAPPY PEOPLE | STRONG COMMUNITY

City of Medford Parks and Recreation is offering a volunteer opportunity for an important community service project which will honor a family whose philanthropic support of youth and community causes in the Rogue Valley is legendary.

Sherm and Wanda Olsrud were instrumental in the process that resulted in the construction of the Bear Creek Park wooden playground thirty years ago. Unfortunately, this iconic playground has outlived its useful life as a safe facility for children, and is to be replaced with a new playground which will be more durable, safe, and child-friendly. It will also be 40 percent larger than the existing one. Instead of wood, the playground utilizes composite materials, which should last 50 years or more.

Construction of the new playground will require some 3000 volunteers working 3 shifts a day, sunrise to sundown, for seven days at the end of September to the beginning of October. Volunteers will be fed a meal at the beginning of each shift, and child care will be provided for those needing it.

A number of organizations have committed to volunteering – business, service clubs, fraternal, and civic groups, as well as individuals, who wish to give back to the Olsruds, who have given so much to our community over the years. It is only fitting that the project be named the **Olsrud Family Community Playground Project at Bear Creek Park** in order to memorialize their legacy.

You can also memorialize your own family legacy by purchasing a fence picket which will become part of the playground, and include a message of up to 22 characters (including spaces and punctuation) for \$100 each. For ordering information, contact medfordparksfoundation.org.

You can view a video of the project or sign up to volunteer at our website playmedford.com, or call and I will answer any questions you may have.

Michael Mace, Volunteer Coordinator

(541) 774-2695



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